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128th heavy news

SLIME AND SLIDE.

Vol. 2 No. 6.

March 12 '43.

EDITORIAL: SECURITY.

When this war is over much will be written about it. Theories will be advanced to prove how we won it and at what cost. Figures will be tabulated and analysed to show the comparative strength in men and materials on each side. One thing in particular will be studied and quoted - casualties. It will be possible to determine what casualties occurred to civilians, what casualties to soldiers, what casualties were due to sickness and how many men died in the field or died of wounds and so forth. There will, however, be one cause greater than all others to which casualties will have been due. At the same time it will be quite impossible to determine how great the number due to that cause will have been due. That cause will be lack of "Security"

Properly used by the enemy, one round from a Field Arty gun may cause a number of casualties to our side, perhaps ten or more. Improperly used by one of ourselves a few words spoken, or written in a letter home, may cause hundreds of casualties. How many ships have been sunk and crews and equipment lost by careless words? No one will know. How many casualties have resulted from the non-arrival of that equipment? No one will ever know that either. But these are just the obvious and well quoted cases. Everybody in the Army knows something that would be of value to the enemy, and which, if the enemy knew it, he could use to our disadvantage. We can rest assured that the enemy does endeavour by devious means to know as much about us and what we propose to do as he can. This then puts everyone in the Army in a position of trust. A position which requires that we take every care to avoid letting any outsider whatsoever know anything about our organisation, our equipment or our plans. Let us not betray that trust. Let us understand and observe the principles of "SECURITY".

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SONG OF A SCONE.

A whistle blows in the early morn,
Shortly after the break of dawn,
Feet on the floor, hit the deck,
Does he think we're a god-damned wreck
I never argue when I'm right,
Because I glory in my might,
Beneath the shadow of my rank,
My mind grows old, and soft, and dank.

REFRAIN: Don't do your scone,
Or believe you me,
On the mat you'll be.
I specialise in Mess Parade,
I put all others quite to shade,
I toot my whistle without thought
For Routine Orders - and get caught.

Snooping round from tent to tent,
Proving the theory of ape descent,
Didn't you hear what I bloody well said?
Why in the hell are you still in bed?
Left foot inches twelve apart,
Yelling voice that makes you start,Aint this old schamozzling great.

In the future lads there'll be check
parades
Then you'll see of wet I'm made,
Correct reply you'll make you see
I've washed my ears so answer me.
Why not wear a moustache straight?
One night upon my couch I lay,
But gunners soon began to play,
My bed went up and I went down
My speech next morning won renown.

A certain phrase is out of bounds,
My ears can't stand its dulcet sounds,
Believe you me I'm out of luck,
When my echoes run amok.
Alas for friends who've gone before,
Farewell to words we'll hear no more.
Now to gunner and to rookie
The humble scone becomes a cookie.

CORRIGENDA:

We regret that in the process of reproduction the theme of the sketches on page three remains rather obscure. For your enlightenment the caption reads "A Day in the Life of a Mosquito."

- In the poem "New Caledonia Blues":-
- Verse 2 Line 4 - After "battle" - Insert "fronts".
- Verse 4 Line 1 - After "married" - Insert "man".
- Verse 4 Line 4 - After "him" - delete "the".
- Verse 5 Line 8 - After "blackest" insert "cloud".

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SOCIAL NOTES.

Reinforcements.

Marched in ex Hospital to Mr. & Mrs. V.H. Du Chateau one brand new recruit. The new arrival has been given the substantive rank of gunner. Gnr. Du Chateau Sen. is automatically transferred to the 2 list.

Sporting Notes.

Congratulations to our athletic representatives who so nobly upheld our Regt. name at the Bde. Sports. Special mention to our R.S. M. whose coaching was responsible for the winning of the tug of war contest. We sympathise with him in his great disappointment over there being no horizontal championship event, as we all have seen him training so assiduously the last few weeks for this contest. He was a sure winner.

From reports furnished by the fortunate tourists who have returned invigorated from the waters and beaches of 204, it is evident that all the "country cousins" up here are anxious to participate in the hospitality and comfort of old King Cole's Paradise Rest Home.

THE BOOK OF NOWONDAH.

And it came to pass in those days, that for the second time Nowondah the scribe was smitten by the plague—even the Blitz—so that he was constrained to gird up his loins and run to the closet, and he did run -

Now there had been during the day, certain men who did destroy the dung-house with fire and burn it to the ground, so that when Nowondah was come, he fell down and smote his breast saying "Woe is me, for I have no throne on which to sit" and the heavens did open and rain did pour forth.

But time was short, so Nowondah did rise and did go unto a nearby tent and did say, "Tell me, I pray thee, where is the closet?" and the other did say "Verily, he is in the orderly room." Then quoth Nowondah "I mean not that closet O fool - I would enthrone myself". Then said the other "It is yonder by the creek - Thou art the fourscore and tenth that did ask this question today." but Nowondah did not hear these words, but departed hastily, heeding not, and he did journey until he did find it, and did enthrone himself, rejoicing.

Thus said Nowondah.

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SPORTS' RESULTS.

100 yards. QUINN. (10 3/5.)
 220 yards. QUINN. (23 4/5.)
 440 yards. PARKER (58 3/5.)
 880 yards. TILLY (2.19 4/5)
 1 Mile. SKINNER (5.19.)
 3 Miles. WAYMAN (18.10.)
 Tug of War. *****

Shot Put. MURISON (34' 4")
 Discus Throw. HOSKWAY (-)
 Long Jump. * MIDDLETON (18' 11")
 Hop, step & Jump. MURISON (40' 1 1/2")
 High Jump. * MIDDLETON } 5' 4 1/2".
 NIX
 Bicycle Race. * HANSEN

NEWS, VIEWS & ABUSE FROM 202.WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Evidently there's quite a lot in a name. Especially a name painted up neatly over a tent or a camp road. At 202 BHQ every street and tent has a name. At B Troop most of the tents rejoice in names which illustrate the skill of our professional signwriter, Arthur GRAYSON and the wit of our gunners. For instance, there you find: "Mosquito Mansion", "Angels' Rest", "Duck In", "Chisel Inn", "Racketeers Retreat", "Sleepy Holler" and "Peacehaven". The home of the ration store manager is labelled "OUTA-KAI".

SERGEANTS OF "SLEEPY HOLLER".

"SLEEPY HOLLER" is the sign hanging outside a tent at 202 B Troop. Please stop and puzzle out the sense of humour of the five sergeants who invented the tent name. One of them is Sgt. Bill Clavis, one of our G.P.O.A's who "hollers out" an early morning ditty of "Feet on the Floor", "Rise and Shine a Watch". That is bad enough for our sleepy gunners; but should some of them turn over and go to sleep again, they are sure to be awakened by the cry of "Feet on the Floor B Troop", or the despairing enquiry of "Anyone for Sick Parade"? The other five occupants of "Sleepy Holler" all too frequently land the job of "Hollering" this out. They are Sgts. Jim Vivian, Bill Bridger, Jack Rolfe, Jerry Gibb. The first three are immensely popular with their various gun crews, while the last mentioned is an instrumentalist of notes.

PERSONALITIES OF "PEACE HAVEN"

They call their tent "Peace Haven", but sometimes it is not so peaceful. Who lives there? Why, such a bevy of doves of peace as Sgts. Hughie Chamberlin, Les. Smith, Dave Liddell, Bert Otto and Doug. Calvert. Of these the bonniest baby is our 14 stone Sgt. Hughie. He is ornamental as a G.P.O.A. and one of these days may also be useful - although some gunners doubt it. Especially do they wish him ill when he yells out "B Watch, Feet on the Floor". Les. Smith and Dave Liddell have half shares in our No. 4 gun; Bert Otto is licensee of No. 3 Gun and Doug. Calvert runs a kind of "fruit machine" known as the "FREE-DICTOR".

PERSONALITIES OF BHQ.

S.M. DAN JONES IS STILL GOING strong at B.H.Q. "Dan" was a conspicuous figure during skirmishes at Judgeford, and during the landing in and conquest of NEW CALLY. A good fellow "Dan". Really too good to be a Sgt-Major.

GEORGE SUTTON runs a bargain basement at BHQ where you can get (or try to get) anything from a needle to an anchor. George specialises in gents new and second hand suits, boots and shooting irons. Try Sutton's lease and lend, no deposit plan when your pants wear out.

IKE REID is one of the best known citizens of BHQ. Ike's duties include those of supervising the sanitation of the tent city. Hence the signs reading "IKE'S DYKES" and "IKE'S TWINS". IKE filled a similar role with distinction at Judgeford and with the aid of daily fatigue men was grease-trap engineer.

The famous "Lady with a Lamp" has nothing on BDR. VIC. NEWMAN, whose RAP tent at BHQ is the scene of daily kill or cure miracles. Vic. is the mildest-mannered man who ever prescribed Aspros, painted a throat or authorised Excused Duty.

CRICKET.

Recently Hyde Park was the scene of another titanic struggle when teams from 203 and 208 BHQ tried conclusions. The result was a substantial win for 203. The first innings scores being: 203.95, 208. 41. Special mention must be made of the outstanding effort of S/Sgt. Vangioni who retired with 49 against his name.

WHO'S WHO - PROMINENT PERSONALITIES IN DOG TROOP.

FLAYNE NATHAZIEL, Lieutenant. Leading "huskies" of the "Dog" Troop. Scares young gunners by shouting at them unexpectedly. Said to know nothing whatsoever about anti-aircraft but reputed to be particularly well read on kit lay-outs. Claims to be the founder of 25 hour day, also is organizer of "panics" for C.R.A. Lives in state of superb luxury. Has personal servant. Possesses "natty" moustache. Nickname, Tiger. Comes from Oua Tom jungle.

Religion. Attends church only for prestige purposes.

Hobbies. Early stand-to's and late nights. A staunch teetotaler. Fondly imagines he can play Bridge. Definitely not a good creek jumper. Often tries motor cycle riding unsuccessfully. Highly qualified at hip-holding. In all an "ultra-ultra Pakka Sahib."

PLEASE NOTE.

1. The title of the News has been changed for Security reasons.
2. Local winners are shown in the sports' results with an asterisk.

FRICM ERIC O, Gunner. Probably one of the cleverest men in the troop. Can count up to ten. In civil life helped to ruin the banking business where he was a coin collector. Now one of the performing "dogs" on the prediction act. Age early 30's. Young yet, but shows promise.

Nickname. "Snow", his soul being white as the driven. Also called "Prof" on account of well cultivated command of "gringo" language. **Religion.** Attends church when he can be found.

Hobbies. Extraordinary big words and Bridge. Speaks in English tongue but is understood by very few of the officers and sergeants. However still gets "hypotenuse" mixed with "hipopotamus". Claims his initials stand for "Ely Culbertson". Opposing players state they stand for "Easily Caught". At tender age of 10 years learnt correct way to trump his partner's ace.

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YOU OUGHT TO READ THIS. IT'S A LETTER TO MY WIFE.