# SEABÉE NEWS SERVICE

PREPARED BY THE BUREAU OF YARDS AND DOCKS FOR BATTALION NEWSPAPERS AND BULLETIN BOARDS

ISSUE NO 19 9 MAY 1944 ·

# SEABEES INVALUABLE, SAYS ADMIRAL KING

"The accomplishments of the Seabees have been one of the outstanding features of the war."

High praise from any man, the words are especially significant because they were written by Admiral Ernest J. King, USN, Commander in Chief, United States Fleet. Admiral King voiced his strong approval of the work done by the Navy's Construction Battalions in his recent report to the Secretary of the Navy.

"In the Pacific," the Admiral said, "where the distances are great and the expeditious construction of bases is frequently of vital importance, the construction accomplished by the Seabees has been of invaluable assistance.

"Furthermore," he continued, "the Seabees have participated in practically every amphibious operation undertaken thus far, landing with the first waves of assault troops to bring equipment ashore and set up temporary bases of operation.

"In the Solomons Island campaign," Admiral King said, using Guadalcanal as an example, "the Seabees demonstrated their ability to outbuild the Japs and to repair airfields and build new bases, regardless of conditions of weather.

"Other specialized services performed by the Seabees," added the Commander in Chief, "include the handling of pontoon gear, the repair of motor vehicles, loading and unloading of cargo vessels, and in fact every kind of construction job that has to be done."

# GOOD FOR SEAPLANES NOW

A Seabee battalion landing on Ebeye Island in the Marshalls found the old Japanese hangar damaged beyond repair. The boys lined four bulldozers abreast and pushed the twisted steel structure some 300 feet into the ocean.

# MONTHS LOPPED OFF PACIFIC WAR, SAYS NEWSMAN

Allied successes in the Pacific during the last few months have saved us considerable time and lopped months from the war, in the opinion of George F. Horne, war correspondent for the New York "Times".

"Americans have demonstrated to the oriental enemy that we are capable of a kind of audacity and sustained energy he did not suspect," wrote Horne. "He expected us to attempt the slow, painful, island-by-island comeback, but instead we dared to

plunge hundreds of miles over some of his strongest bases, leaving them to rot away.

"No matter what their condition as to materials, ships, planes, and men, the Japanese are going to fight us to the tattered end," the "Times" correspondent continued.

"There are two schools of thought as to the seeming weakness and passivity of the enemy lately. One has it that losses in planes and ships have placed Japan in a critical condition not fully appreciated among the United Nations. The other is that he is hoarding his strength for a terrific stand somewhere this side of Japan.

"His plane losses have been unbearably high," Horne said, "and it is to be doubted if Japanese industry can come anywhere near replacing them. American submarines and planes have also taken great toll of shipping, both merchant and war vessels, while our sea and air strength increased.

"Japan's destroyer and cruiser losses may have inspired the enemy's naval timidity. Authorities are cautiously keeping to themselves what we know of the enemy's present naval strength, but, no matter what it is, we have superiority, and by the time the battles move within striking distance of Japan's own central naval stations the superiority will have increased further."

# ARTIFICIAL QUININE PRODUCED

Artificial quinine, goal of American chemists for nearly 100 years, has been produced by two 27-year-old members of Harvard University's research staff. If the new synthesis can be processed successfully in large quantities, Seabees and other men in the Pacific, whose duty stations have placed them under the constant threat of malaria, will be by far the greatest beneficiaries.

The synthetic production of this most desirable anti-malaria chemical comes as the second answer by American scientists to Japan, which, by the occupation of Java in 1942 cut us off from the world's principal source of quinine. Synthetic rubber was the first answer to Japan's challenge after the occupation of Malaya.

The two young chemists, Dr. Robert B. Woodward and Dr. William E. Doering, took less than fourteen months to complete their work. Their new synthetic material is a precise duplicate of natural quinine and cannot be distinguished from it. In this respect it is completely unlike atabrine and plasmochin, which are used as partial substitutes for natural quinine in the treatment of malaria but actually have no chemical resemblance to quinine.

#### DARE DEATH TO AID COMRADES

Four Seabees who remained with their wounded comrades in the dense jungles of Bougainville, even after combat troops in the area were ordered to withdraw, have been commended for their outstanding courage by Major General A. H. Turnage, Commanding General of a Marine Division.

The Seabees; Joseph P Scraggs, SF1c; Walter T. Sims, SF1c; Kenneth W. Peterson, S1c; and James A. Boroski, S1c, were members of a detail assigned to blaze trails in advance of the Marines front lines during the early phases of the campaign when a Japanese mortar shell exploded nearby, killing one and wounding six of the party.

The four, joined by CCM Joseph R. Bumgardner who was in charge of a detail building advance bridges in the vicinity and who was cited by General Turnage for his action (SNS Issue No. 14), disregarded the continued heavy Japanese mortar barrage to administer first-aid and comfort to the wounded until rescue parties were able to effect their evacuation.

# PAGING EMILY POST

There's a story making the rounds about a new recruit who was stationed at the gate of an N. C. T. C. with instructions to admit no car unless it carried a special tag. So he stopped them all, including a high-ranking officer. The officer ordered the driver to go on, whereupon the gate guard said: "I'm sorry, sir, but I'm new at this. Who do I shoot -- you or the driver?"

## BLACK OR WHITE TIE?

Resting comfortably in his "Island X" foxhole while Jap bombers tried to erase the American base, Seabee Alphus "Buzz" Barton eagerly opened a newly arrived letter from home. "You are cordially invited," it read, "to attend the Alpena (Michigan) High School Junior Prom".

## STRANGE ISLAND

Marines who fought for and won the beachhead at Empress Augusta Bay last November and December would never recognize the prize today.

Where the Third Marine Division landed and beat its way inland despite jungle and Japs, the Army is now in control. Improvements have been made so fast that Staff Sgt. Bill Burnett, a Marine Corps Combat Correspondent, revisiting the perimeter, feared he had been dropped off on the wrong island.

"The roads," he said, "are completely strange to me. Last November only the Piva trail twisted through the undergrowth. Later Marine Drive was the main highway, but now a maze of roads has made every point easily accessible.

"The jungle which the Naval Construction Battalions first attacked to build Cape Torokina's air strip has almost disappeared. On the higher level of the Piva strips, revetments and roads are numerous.

"The setup is so permanent is appearance that upon hearing a remark about the landing fields the Seabees built, one soldier, new to the scene, exclaimed:

"I thought the Japs built 'em and we just had to capture 'em!"

"The sites of Marine battles at Piva Forks and along the Koromokina River have been cleared. Huge gardens have been planted in some places, supplying fresh vegetables to the camps.

"Americans no longer sleep in foxholes, though one is always within diving distance. Many of the camps have screened-in tents with wooden floors. Washing clothes and bathing in the streams is no longer necessary, now that electric washers and shower baths have been installed. Post exchanges, movies, and field post offices are easily available.

"Along the front lines, now almost a perfect semi-circle around Cape Torokina, pillboxes have grown up from mere holes in the ground. Each is sandbagged thoroughly, and protected by a thick log roof. In most cases pillboxes are connected by trenches or tunnels.

"This is security and comfort on a beachhead which is only a fraction of the size of the island -- a beachhead that was clinched last month when the Army withstood everything the Japs could throw at it in four days and killed more than 5,000 Japs in the process."

#### LONG WAIT

After almost two years in New Caledonia and the Solomons, a GI was sent back to the States. He was complaining because headquarters gave him two hours notice to get ready to leave.

"How that hour and 55 minutes dragged until those trucks came," he said.

## BRITISH IMPRESSED

When the commanding officer of a British vessel reports that a unit of Navy Seabees is better disciplined than any other outfit he's ever transported, including British and Australian naval personnel, that's high praise!

This commendation came to Seabees of CBMU 574 from Captain A. Ian Robertson, R.N.R. as relayed by Commander B. V. Wilson, Royal Navy, (retired), British Naval Liaison officer, who also forwarded the information that the Captain's own crew complained when the Seabee passengers were disembarked.

"The Seabee cooks were so good that his own ship's company have been complaining ever since that the standard of cooking has fallen since the Seabees left the ship," wrote Commander Wilson.

- 4 -

Captain Robertson, himself, declared: "Their behavior was splendid, and various artisans gave the Ship's Staff a hand in several ways; they were most useful and cooperative."

To this praise was added that of Vice Admiral Ben Moreell, CEC, USN. In forwarding the commendations to Lt. H. H. Lippincott, CEC, USNR, O-in-C of the 574th, the Admiral wrote: "It is my desire to add my congratulations for the fine spirit exhibited by your men."

#### CHRISTMAS IN APRIL

After long service in the Aleutians, John C. Mills, CM3c, expected to be home on leave by Christmas, he wrote his wife last fall. John didn't make it, as he had hoped, by December 25th, but when he arrived at Easter time, he found the Christmas tree lights still burning and his gifts still gaily wrapped. As a token of her belief that her husband would soon return, Mrs. Mills had kept the holiday tree standing, fully decorated, for more than four months.

# BOUGAINVILLE BATTALIONS PRAISED BY MARINE "C.O."

For maintaining and repairing the Piva and Torokina airfields and installations under "constant bombardment", an entire Seabee Regiment has been commended by Major General R. J. Mitchell, USMC, Commander Aircraft, Solomon Islands.

"The constant vigilance of this unit," the commendation said in part, ".... was highly instrumental in permitting aerial operations to continue with the least amount of delay and inconvenience.

"The Commander Aircraft, Solomon Islands, passes a 'well done' to the Seabees in successfully accomplishing a difficult task."

The letter of commendation was forwarded with three endorsements. Captain H. S. Sease, USN, Commander Air Center, Torokina, congratulated the regiment; Major General O. W. Griswold, Army C. O., added, "I am pleased to forward this communication to an organization whose skill, tireless efforts and cooperative attitude are outstanding"; and Captain O. O. Kessing, USN, Commander, NAB, Torokina, wrote, "Forwarded with heartiest congratulations. The -- Regiment has been outstanding during the entire occupation of this island."

#### PREDICAMENT

There was hell to pay when the "sweet smelling water" a Seabee persuaded a native chieftain to pour on his head turned to a mass of white froth and the tribesmen thought their leader had gone beserk.

So Lamont C. Linebaugh, BM3c, frantically grabbed an interpreter and poured out a fast explanation of the reaction of soapless shampoo when water is applied. Then, anxiously, he watched the chief's face.

Linebaugh could see the old boy still liked the stuff's "pretty smell". But the idea of an unnecessary bath in any shape or form .... well, it was a tough decision for a native to make.

The chieftain pondered a moment. Impulsively his hand moved toward, then grasped the "magic bottle". After a long, decisive sniff he accepted the gift.

The Seabee's heart slid back quietly down his throat.

## AVENGER

Seabee Norbert J. Warner, 29, of New Albany, Kentucky, has two good reasons for wanting to participate in the invasion of Europe. Warner, now stationed in Ireland, has lost both brothers in this war. Chester, 24, was serving in the Army when he was killed in the invasion of North Africa. William, 19, a Marine, was picked off by a sniper as he waded ashore in the invasion of the Marshalls.

## PONTOON TUGS SPEED CARGO HANDLING

The 11th Special has abandoned the use of self-propelled pontoon barges in favor of smaller pontoon tugs towing strings of motorless barges. The new system, in the opinion of Carpenter Joseph F. Sheridan, CEC, USNR, has resulted in marked savings, both in time and manpower.

The pontoon tugs, made up of two pontoons in width and seven in length, can handle from two to five barges at a time. The barges may be one-hundred tonners, four pontoons in width and twelve in length, or fifty tonners, three pontoons in width and seven in length.

The tugs, each of which needs only one man to operate, run twenty-four hours a day. Although transports in the harbor are frequently anchored two and a half miles apart, the Seabees now are able to unload five at a time in addition to vessels they are loading or unloading at the docks.

## OUT OF MY WAY!!!

Seabees at an advanced South Pacific Base have not lost their sense of humor despite numerous Japanese airraids and alerts.

Over the entrance to a much-used foxhole is the following rhyme:

"Through these portals
Pass the world's fastest mortals."

#### ONE MAN'S MEAT

The sensational discovery that members of the ex-cannibal tribes are wild about Spam has provided Elton (Pug) Caudle, SF1c, with one of the best souvenir collections in the Solomons.

Over a period of months, the Seabee has traded cans of Spam for battle shields, war clubs, mahogany canes inlaid with mother of pearl, carved wooden combs, bows and arrows, and assorted spears. The standard rate of exchange has been one can of Spam for each native product wanted.

Caudle also has made capital of the islanders' love of white mens' clothing. For a Navy skivvy shirt (35¢ in the ship's store), a pair of cotton underdrawers (same price), and a pair of Navy blue denim pants cut off at the knee (worn for eight months; price when new, \$1.10), the Seabee received the following canoeful in trade:

Two grass skirts, five pineapples, four papayas, a native cane, 40 to 50 "cat's eyes", 30 to 40 pounds of sea shells, and 200 bananas.

#### HIGH MEN ON A TOTEM POLE

In their spare time over a period of a few months, Seabees in the Aleutians not only learned to imitate but to improve upon an art the native Aleuts have been perfecting for untold years -- the carving of totem poles.

According to Comdr. Kenneth A. Lake, CEC, USNR, Seabee craftsmen have been specializing in carving 14-inch lengths of wood into the familiar "gods" piled one upon another. An expert paint job completes the totem pole, and there remains only the pleasant task of palming it off to island visitors as the genuine article. Commander Lake recalled that Howard F. Gilliam, MM2c, was particularly adept as a totem pole maker and that his creations far surpassed the best native product.

#### WON T GET WRONG ANSWER TWICE

Do the natives of the islands prefer the Americans to the Japs? Seabee Oliver T. Davis, stationed in the Solomons, answers the question by telling of one Malaitan who dashed into camp and announced excitedly, "I save American, I save American. I hear plane come down. I go out and I say: 'Jap or American?' If he say Jap I hit him with ax, go back."

# AND ON THE SEVENTH DAY THEY SHALL REST (?)

Seven days after they landed on a barren Pacific island, the men of a Seabee battalion were drinking ice water, enjoying shower baths, eating in a new permanent mess hall, and living in a sturdily built camp. The new "luxury" facilities were

provided by the Seabees without the loss of a single hour's working time from their "priority" jobs, the construction of an airfield and a network of military roads.

The men, members of the 61st Battalion, had been preceded on their previous "Island X" by several other Seabee units. On their new base, which they had occupied close on the heels of assault troops, they relished the prospect of showing what they could do with a project all their own.

Their second day on the newly-won outpost, the 61st'ers had the camp area cleared, the camp laid out, and pyramidal tents erected. That night the galley served hot food and fresh bread to Marines who had been living on field rations since they made their assault landing.

The one moment the construction men may have regretted their building speed came when, with all facilities completed, a camp inspection was announced for the end of the week.

# IAP MIXER STILL MIXES

Landing on "Island X", from which the Japanese had departed in somewhat of a hurry, the 107th Battalion decided to make use of enemy equipment as well as its own.

A Japanese cement mixer, shell torn and peppered by bullets, was the Seabees' first candidate for rehibilitation. With the help of a borrowed welding outfit and a twenty foot length of four inch pipe contributed by one of the ships in the harbor, the salvage experts patched the cement churner together, when the mangled gasoline engine defied "Can Do" treatment, however, the improvisers simply powered the machine from the revolving rear wheel of an International Truck.

With salvaged Japanese concrete and coral aggregate as their raw materials, and the revitalized mixer as their equipment, the Seabees has a concrete galley floor poured within forty-eight hours after landing.

## IN REVERSE

One Seabee who hopes to get <u>out</u> of the States when the war ends is Robert G. Irwin, CCM. Irwin, a resident of Alaska, hopes to return to the North as soon as possible after he is mustered out. His reason? No rationing and no state income taxes.

#### PIPES AND ASHTRAYS

Anti-aircraft shells the Japs shot at our planes in their futile defense of Munda are now serving as an ingenious drainage system for a 1,500-bed hospital the Seabees have built there.

This novel use of the shell casing was reported by the Commanding Officer of the battalion which performed the trick. He is Cmdr. Horace R. Whittaker, CEC, USNR

Altogether, the Commander said, approximately 2,000 feet of brass pipe was made by cutting off the base of each shell casing and fitting into the resulting tube the projectile end of the casing, whose diameter was slightly smaller. First tested as a drainage pipe for the operating room, its success prompted similar piping for the rest of the hospital.

Cmdr. Whittaker said the idea was developed by two of his officers who wondered what could be done with the huge pile of salvaged Jap shell casings. They are: Lt. William G. Nichol, CEC, USNR, and Lt. Walter S. Douglas, CEC, USNR.

Not satisfied with just the piping, some of the Seabees spend their spare time converting the burned off ends of the casings into attractive ash trays.

## LATE SHOW

Seabees working the swing-shift at Guadalcanal are attending a special late midnight show because a movie operator noticed that they were never in his audience.

The operator, George Silva, EM2c, asked and received approval from the commanding officer of a Seabee Battalion for a show from one to three in the morning, according to a dispatch by Staff Sgt. Solomon Blechman, Marine Corps Combat Correspondent.

Servicemen with insomnia flocked to the show in ever increasing numbers, causing traffic congestion and keeping sleepers in the camp awake. Business got so good, Silva said, that we had to limit admissions to Seabees only. We made an exception New Year's Eve and had a traditional show, but without the paper horns and hats.

# GENERAL COMMENDS SEABEES FOR RESCUE

Four Seabees of the First Section of the Eighth Special Battalion were among six officers and men commended by Brigadier General W. E. Dunkelberg, U. S. Army, Commanding General, for disregarding the "hazards of high winds and dangerous surf" to aid in the rescue of the crews of two beached barges.

General Dunkelberg's citation to Buford E. Lassiter, CBM; O. E. York, BM2c; J. C. Atking, SK3c; and Robert H. Wright, S1c, praised the Seabees for their able assistance and "unselfish courage".

(Salvatore Patti, CM3c, also was a member of the rescue crew but inadvertently was omitted in the citation.)

A detail of sixteen Seabees of the Eighth who assisted in the construction of an airfield received commendations for their excellent work from Lt. T. A. Lane, CEC, USNR, the 22nd Construction Battalion's officer in charge of mat laying and grading.

## SHOOTING AT A MILLION

Men of the 99th Battalion are proving as level-headed in their post-war planning as they are in building a vital airfield or front-line road. The Seabees, whose battalion was commissioned only last July already have purchased \$745,000 of maturity value in war bonds, an average nest egg of \$750 for every officer and man in the outfit.

#### THUMB FUN

Having seen previous service with the Army and Marines, CBM Jim Faruggia considered himself an expert on bush wild-life. The Seabee, now on Woodlark Island, didn't expect any trouble as, in approved sniper fashion, he carefully wormed his way to within reaching distance of a grounded parakeet.

At the crucial moment, the Bos'n dropped his helmet over the unsuspecting bird. Rolling his tongue over visions of succulent barbecued parakeet, he reached under the tin hat to grasp his quarry.

His feathered opponent was not to be taken so easily. Closing his sharp beak around Farrugia's thumb, the angry bird held on while the Seabee yelled for an armistice. After several painful minutes, the parakeet condescended to let go of his "captor".

Interviewed later by the island press, the Chief said, "I can't see what's funny about it."

# SEEK FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH ON "ISLAND X"

We laughed it off as a typographical error when we read in a Scranton, Pa., newspaper that Seabee Harry Hodge Jr., S2c, "not yet 118", is the youngest member of his outfit." But now comes word from Excursion Point, Alaska, that Seabees there have elected a favorite pin-up girl: Adeline Dewalt Reynolds, an 83-year-old grandmother!

#### FREE-WHEELING

A motor scooter built entirely from spare parts and scrap is helping CCM Robert Stannard and MM1c Fred Good solve the problem of getting around the 55th Battalion's expanding camp area.

The puddle-jumper's motor came from an old compressor; its transmission, from a dismantled motorcycle; the rubber-tired wheels, from unused wheelbarrows; the saddle, from a salvaged airplane gunner's seat; and the brake, operated from the ends of the bicycle handles, was cut from four-inch pipe.

The scooter, built by the machinists in their spare time, gets around 80 miles to a gallon of gas and can attain a speed of 20 miles per hour.

# SAVES MATE, WINS RE-RATE

Quick thinking and presence of mind in cutting the power switch at the 79th battalion's concrete plant, thus averting fatal injury to J. R. Olsen, CCM, whose arm had become trapped in the conveyor belt, won a commendation for Philip A. Riverin, S1c. Lt. Cmdr. A. T. Brown, besides commending Riverin, raised his rating from S2c to S1c.

# WINS THE NATIVE VOTE

Judging from an experience of James Carella, CM3c, the Seabees are among the most efficient exponents of Uncle Sam's good neighbor policy.

"We were doing a wiring job on "Island X" when we missed one of our fellows," Carella related. "After hours of searching, we discovered him in the midst of a group of natives, having his feet bathed, his brow cooled with cool water from a nearby stream, and relaxing completely while an awe-struck 'subject' kept insects away by fanning the air with giant palm leaves.

"My mate had won the natives' friendship with candy bars, peanuts, chewing gum and trinkets," the Seabee continued, "he was a king of the jungle if ever there was one."

# EXPERTS MISS AGAIN

With 302,000 board feet of lumber turned out between the first week in February and the first week of April, the 105th Battalion's portable sawmill at "Island X" is confounding the "experts" who said it couldn't be done.

When the mill was first set up, it was hoped--but not expected--that the mill could turn out 8,000 feet per day. Today, the mill is averaging 10,800 feet daily and during one period of two hours and twelve minutes, the crew turned out 6,131 feet of lumber and still was going strong when they ran out of logs.

Despite the fact that portable saw mills are not designed to use water on the circle saws, CCM T. H. Graham, in charge of the mill and its twenty-one man crew, decided to experiment. Result: both the softest and hardest logs now can be cut satisfactorily.

# THEME SONG "CARRY ME BACK...."?

Seabees in the tropics have formed an Old Dominion Club to "extend Virginia culture into the Pacific". Subject for the first session of the club was "Virginia's Beautiful Women", according to a Marine Corps Correspondent. Less enthusiastically attended were the sessions on "Scenic Wonders of Virginia", and "The Home of Robert E. Lee".

# OUT OF PRACTICE

Back in Australia after months in South Pacific jungles, Adrain Paris, MM1c, wrote, "We are proving rather difficult to civilize. We don't like being all together in barracks and we don't like spring beds. Hardly any of us can sleep well. We are hollering for our tents and cots again."

#### SHORT SPORT SHOTS

BASEBALL:. .Giants broke major league records in 26-8 win over Dodgers. .all 26 runs were batted in. .Phil Weintraub batted in 11 with two doubles, triple and homer, scored 5 times himself. . Mel Ott walked 5 times, scored 6. Dodger pitchers handed out 17 bases on balls. .Dodger fans threw vegetables, bottles. .hit Giant outfielder Joe Medwick, put him out of second game. Leo Durocher talked himself into \$100 fine by arguing with umpires during game. . After setting new AL record and tying major league record with nine consecutive wins since season's start Browns drooped 4-3 game to end streak. .Senators pulled triple-play against Yankees. .George Myatt, Senators second baseman, tied modern record for consecutive hits in one game when he had perfect day with six for six. . Jimmy Wilson quit as Cubs' manager . . Cubs won first game, then dropped next nine. . Roy Johnson temporarily took over Wilson's post, Wilson signed on with Reds as coach. Lou Boudreau, Indians' manager, rejected for service because of old ankle injury. . Yankees' pitcher, Spud Chandler, accepted by Army for limited service. . Tucker Stainback, Yankees' outfielder, broke leg sliding into base. Phillies rookie Charlie Schanz held Giants to one hit, hit triple with bases loaded to win game. Navy accepted Rube Melton, Dodger pitcher. . Johnny Hopp, Cards outfielder, rejected. . Browns signed Denny Galehouse, former regular pitcher, to play with club on week-ends only. Galehouse holds position in war plant. .Buddy Rosar, working in essential industry in Cleveland received permission from draft board to play home games with Indians. . Hal Wagner, A's catcher, reclassified from 2-B to 1-A when he quit war job to join A's, called for induction exam. .Ted Williams, former BoSox slugging outfielder, earned Navy wings. . Tigers swapped infielder Don Heffner to Los Angeles for Pitcher Jake Mooty. RACING: . Seventieth running of Kentucky Derby main topic of conversation in racing circles. Field reduced to 19 probable starters. Stir Up regarded as favorite. .. Winterbook favorite, Pukka Gin, ailing, scratched. .Gramps Image, Man o' War offspring, who won Chesapeake Stakes at 29-1; Rounders, who took Philadelphia Handicap; and Broadcloth, an easy victor in Derby Trial; all well backed. FOOTBALL: Frank Leahy, who coached Notre Dame to mythical national football championship last year, received commission as Navy lieutenant. Lt. Raymond (Ducky) Pond, former Yale coach, assigned to coaching duties at Georgia Pre-Flight. BOXING: . "Saint Thomas" Reed, heavyweight scored TKO over Gus Dorazio. . Nick Latsios, whipped Ray Rovelli, in 10. . Chalky Wright Koed Clyde English. . Willie Pep outpointed Jackie Leamus in 10.

TRACK: Penn Relay champions: NYU, quarter-mile; Michigan, distance medley; Dartmouth, sprint medley; Army, mile; NYU, one-half mile; Michigan, 4-miles;

and Dartmouth, two-miles.

SIDELINES: .. Former world champion mile runner Glenn Cunningham accepted by Navy despite examining physician's suspicion that Glenn's legs might not stand gaff of military service. .doctor noticed scars left by severe burns received when miler was child. ."Can you get around all right?" doctor asked. .Cunningham answered simply, "Yes". .Hugh East, former NY Giant and Jersey City pitcher, tossing 'em for Endicott Seabees. .114th Batt. representing USNTC, Lido Beach, runner-up in Third Naval District Boxing tournament.