

Life of Writers at Front Isn't Bad

By Raymond Clapper
SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA THEY must be producing me by easy stages into the rough jungle life of the Pacific war. I feel my air-cooled hotel in Australia for New Guinea. I figured I was going to be diving into a green hell. I got some heavy machine Corps field shoes, put away my rackete dress leggings and a mosquito head-net, and began taking atabrine.

At 3:30 A. M. Col. Philip La Follette called for Frank Mason, special assistant secretary of the Navy, and me. Mason was wearing a sun helmet and I knew when La Follette came into the modern hotel lobby and said:

"Livingstone, I presume." We traveled to New Guinea in a C-47, which is the cargo model of the Douglas DC-3 which is the truckhorse of the Pacific war as well as in the Mediterranean.

From our rear headquarters in Australia to our forward headquarters in New Guinea is as far as from Natal to Dakar and half the route is over water. The war out there is being run over that long distance with high staff officers shuttling back and forth. In fact, it is such a normal bit of commuting now that you don't even bother to require passengers to wear Mae Wests.

Out here airplanes are the chief means of transportation. To get from New Guinea headquarters to forward headquarters would mean a six-week trip over mountain and jungle by horseback. The plane is only 15 minutes by air, so whole divisions are moved that way.

My first day in New Guinea was RE ALL THE NEW ON PAGE 4

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CONVERGE FORWARD GAGLI

British Placated By Red Broadcast Of 'Peace' Denial

Incident Appears Closed As Moscow Gives English Answer

LONDON—(AP)—British newspapers, which yesterday expressed high indignation over Pravda's publication of a rumor of British-German peace talks, appeared placated today by the Moscow radio's broadcast of the official British denial.

Moscovites Talk About Peace Story

MOSCOW—(AP)—The Russian press gave the people the news today of the British Foreign Office's denial of a peace proposal meeting as reported by Pravda's Cairo correspondent Monday, but made no editorial comment.

Will Make More Planes

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The nation's 1944 aircraft production program calls for a 50 per cent increase in manufacture of combat planes on top of the record amount of 1943 output.

Jewish Refugees En Route To Palestine

BARCELONA—(AP)—A special train carrying 711 Jewish refugees from northern France is being transported by the British occupation left half in order for the refugees to board a ship for Palestine.

Twining's Men Go To School Each Morning For "Lessons"

By HAL BOYLE
HEADQUARTERS, 15th AIR FORCE, Italy, Jan. 18—(AP)—America's new heavy bomber 15th Air Force already is in long, as at a quiet and quite grown up—but the men who run it still go to school each morning.

This is Maj. Gen. Nathan F. Twining who made a name for himself in the Southwest Pacific and succeeded Douglas as commander of the second largest Air Force in the world when Douglas was promoted to head the largest—by the British—based Eighth.

Gen. Twining's wife and three children now reside at Charlotte, N. C.

Gen. Twining strides briskly across the room and sits down in a chair next to his operations general. That's the signal for class to begin.

Converge On Ancient Apian Way

Secure Three Bridgeheads

By WES GALLAGHER
ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, ALGIERS—(AP)—British troops of Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's Fifth Army, advancing under intense mortar and machine-gun fire, have crossed the lower Gargigliano River at three points converging on the ancient Apian Way, for centuries the main coastal highway to Rome.

Hitler Haven Tale Heard

WASHINGTON—(AP)—A published report that a haven had been prepared in Argentina for Adolf Hitler brought from Secretary of State Hull today a statement that this and other rumors of pro-Axis activities in the Western Hemisphere might be dealt with by the State Department when this nation decides whether to recognize the new Bolivian Government.

ICC Places Blame In Coast Line Wreck

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The Interstate Commerce Commission today said "failure to provide adequate protection for derails" caused the December 17 wreck of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad near Lumberton, N. C., in which 100 persons were killed and 187 injured.

War's "Lone Eagle"

LONDON—(AP)—Maj. James H. Howard of St. Louis, a former "Flying Tiger" who fought 30 Nazi planes in 11 hours and 45 minutes over Cebu last Tuesday to protect a formation of Flying Fortress bombers, was today named Mustang pilot-mate today as a one-man air force.

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Inflict Serious Defeat On Nazis

LONDON—(AP)—Russian troops tearing a great hole in to Nazi defenses on the Leningrad front have advanced seven to twelve and one-half miles and captured the fortress town of Krasnoye Selo, fifteen miles southwest of Leningrad, Marshal Joseph Stalin announced today.

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Howard was credited officially with two Nazi planes destroyed, two probable ones and one damaged in reports compiled after the raid, but bomber crews insisted they had seen the lone American fighter shoot down six enemy aircraft.

The spectacular dogfight began just as Howard's group was taking the target. Conspicuously in and out of clouds and under bombers at 400 miles an hour, Howard burned out three of his four 50-caliber machine guns in the furious action. Not one of the bombers was protecting was lost and his own plane was marked by only a single bullet-hole.

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\$1,120 Pay Bill Beaten

WASHINGTON—(AP)—A \$1,120 must-hike-out bill, offered by Representative Plocher, Republican, Missouri, today was defeated by a House as the House voted on a bill to increase the minimum amount of payments to honorably discharged members of the armed forces.

Service Law Called For

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Secretary of War Stimson today asked Congress for national service legislation today with the assertion that industrial unrest and "lack of a sense of patriotic responsibility" on the home front has "aroused a strong feeling of resentment and injustice among the men of the armed forces."

Save Paper—Don't Burn

Waste paper now ranks with steel, iron, aluminum and rubber as No. 1 war essential. Every newspaper, magazine, newspaper and magazine, wrapping, carton, cardboard box, even the smallest scrap of paper, must be saved to bolster the fast-diminishing stock piles of the paper mills.

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