



R.C.A.F. Algerian Internees are Freed

SIX HAVE RETURNED TO GREAT BRITAIN

Anglo-American Occupation of N. Africa Brought About Their Release From French Confinement

EFFORTS TO ESCAPE ALWAYS THWARTED

ANGLO-AMERICAN occupation of North Africa meant the release from prison in Algiers of six R.C.A.F. internees. The six are: F/O Roy Green, of Montreal; P/O Jack Hardy, of Winnipeg; Sgt. W. W. Chisholm, of London, Ont.; Sgt. J. D. Shanahan, of Toronto; F/O L. J. Rymal, of Leamington, Ont.; and Sgt. Jimmy Templeton, of St. John's, Nfld.

Gone for ever are any romantic dreams they may have had of desert glamour. Instead, they are left with the memories of hot days and cold nights, poor food, inadequate water for washing and drinking, monotonous hours, with no recreational facilities and punishments for abortive efforts to escape.

Welcome Tidings

F/O Green and F/O Hardy told of how the welcome tidings came to them over a B.B.C. broadcast on the radio; the prison's lone luxury. The news was immediately put into the little news-sheet which was sent to patients in the hospital. The Camp Commandant flatly refused news and insisted that a senior Allied officer sign the communique before it was distributed. He and the French guards were afraid to listen to the B.B.C. While flying over Bizerta, Hardy and Green were attacked by a nightfighter. They picked out a small lake and forced landed. Eight and a half hours later the French picked them up and took them to hospital.



F/O Green

They eventually reached an internment camp at Laghouat, 225 miles due south of Algiers. The camp was 2 1/2 acres in size and housed 400 men.

Food Bad

"Our food," recounted Green, "consisted of a cup of alleged coffee at 6 a.m., a bowl of thin macaroni soup, a few lentils at 11 a.m., and another bowl of the same soup and a piece of meat at 5.30 p.m. Most of the chaps refused the meat as it was so bad they couldn't swallow it."

Hardy especially wanted to thank the Red Cross for the parcels, without which he did not know how they could have carried on.

Escape was always uppermost in the prisoners' minds. The whole camp participated in the work for one escape, and the work lasted for seven months. They worked night and day on a tunnel, and when it was completed 29 of them made a break, but were all rounded up in three days.

According to Sgt. Worth W. Chisholm, the desert nomads made a business of collecting rewards for the capture of escaping prisoners. They knew their desert well, and soon tracked the escapees down in the barren wastelands. Some of the boys had been in confinement for two years.

Chisholm's arrival in the Algerian internment camp was the result of a forced landing in the sea. A French fishing

"BULLY" HAS A BEEF

The most-jailed member of W/C W. W. Bean's squadron to date is "Bully," English bulldog mascot. Recently he climbed on a bus at the camp gate and, after spending the day transferring around the countryside, ended up in a cell about 15 miles away. After a series of frantic telegrams, a lat-man was sent to fetch him, and "Bully" was so excited to see a friendly face that he spilled the ink on the police sergeant's desk in a wild jump at his rescuer. The fine of sixpence has not yet been paid.

boat picked them up, but would not take them into the boat; instead, the Frenchmen towed their dinghy to shore.

Sgt. Jimmy Templeton spent 15 days in cells for an attempted escape. He worked on the tunnel mentioned by Hardy and Green. Electricity for night work was secured by stealing wire and running an extension from the barrack block to the Sgt. Chisholm tunnel.

They got safely through the tunnel to the desert, but their absence was soon discovered, and Arab guards took up the chase in pursuit of the escapees and the reward of 1,000 francs for each prisoner's return, dead or alive.

The cells' punishment was severe. They were not allowed water to drink, wash or shave for five days, and their beds consisted of the softest piece of a cement floor they could find. The news of the Allied occupation came to them on November 3, and on Friday the 13th—"anything but an unlucky day"—they set off for Algiers, arriving back in England on November 23, just 15 days after the occupation.

OSHAWA XMAS GIFTS TO CHADBURN'S UNIT

Word that gifts of cigarettes and boxes of food are on their way from the people of Oshawa has been received by S/L Lloyd Chadburn, D.F.C., of Aurora, commanding officer of the R.C.A.F. fighter unit which has been adopted by the Motor City. In a cable from Mayor W. H. Gifford the adoption of the overseas Spitfire squadron by the city was confirmed.

"Ten thousand cigarettes and 190 boxes all addressed to you for distribution. Best of luck," read the message in part.

The legend "City of Oshawa" is being painted on the aircraft of the squadron in honour of the adopted city. Titled to arrive as Christmas gifts, the parcels from Canada are eagerly awaited by the members of the squadron, who come from every part of Canada.



Sgt. J. D. Shanahan, of Toronto, and F/O L. J. Rymal, of Leamington, Ont., find these chairs in England more comfortable than those they had in the internment camp in which they were confined in Algeria. Along with other British and Canadian internees they were released with the Anglo-American occupation of North Africa. (Official R.C.A.F. Photograph.)

THREE MORE CANUCKS HONoured THIS WEEK

Badly Hurt, Sgt. Bruyere Grabbed Comrade Who Fell Out

"On 6th November, 1942," reads the latest Air Ministry citation to be released, "P/O Alexander Doucette and Sgt. George Bruyere were captain and wireless operator respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack an objective in N.W. Germany in daylight."

"On the outward flight the aircraft was attacked by three enemy fighters. Sgt. Bruyere was seriously injured, sustaining a broken leg and wounds in the chest, arm, forehead and left hand. A member of the crew, going to his assistance, stepped on the escape hatch and fell through, but Sgt. Bruyere caught him and assisted him back to safety."

"When the engagement with the enemy aircraft was terminated, P/O Doucette flew on and attacked his target. On the return journey Sgt. Bruyere, despite his critical condition, advised his colleagues on the operation of his wireless equipment."

"In extremely difficult circumstances both P/O Doucette and Sgt. Bruyere displayed indomitable courage and unwavering devotion to duty."

Doucette, who comes from Sudbury, Ont., has been awarded the D.F.C. while Bruyere, a Montclairer, has gained the D.F.M.

Another D.F.M. winner, F/S Thomas Templeman, of Edmonton, "was the captain of an aircraft which attacked an objective in the Rhineland one night in June, 1942. On the return flight his aircraft was attacked by two Ju. 88's and severely damaged. In most hazardous circumstances, this airman displayed great fortitude," according to the official citation.

AID FOR THE AIDER

Here's a note of bitter irony. Cpl. Philip C. Curry, of Ottawa, electrician in the premier Canadian fighter squadron, was severely burned about the hands one recent Saturday afternoon.

Though in hospital, where he'll be for some time, he had already made sufficient progress in two days to see the point of a good joke played on him by Fate.

Monday morning's mail brought, from his late employers in Hull, Que., a large envelope containing a certificate of proficiency in all of things, First Aid to the Injured!

SOLOES AFTER FEW HOURS

After some hours' dual instruction at an English E.F.T.S., Sgt. Lyon Kay, of Westmount, Montreal, soloed. He had hoped to become an operational fighter pilot, but now he is to be posted straight to a special course for the training of instructors.

Up until a few months ago, Lyon Kay was an exceptionally capable fitter on S/L Keith Hodson's R.C.A.F. fighter squadron. He had been trying to retransfer to air crew even before leaving Canada, but the authorities would not release tradesmen for flying duties at that time.

Sgt. Kay had been in the air before he retransferred to air crew, but as a passenger. F/L Ian Ormiston, D.F.C., and S/L Vaughan Corbett, D.F.C., used to take him up for flips in the squadron "Maggie."

Sgt. Kay also gave credit for his solo performance to his Fleet Air Arm instructor, who gave him every encouragement and assistance.

GRIDIRON FINAL IS TO BE BROADCAST

It looks as if the R.C.A.F. will be Dominion Rugby champions this year whatever way you look at it. On Saturday two R.C.A.F. teams will clash for the all-Canada championship. The eastern Toronto Hurricanes will meet the western Winnipeg Bombers at Toronto. The game will be broadcast on Sunday at 2.15 over the Forces wave-length instead of the usual National Hockey League game.

POWELL BEST TRAIN BUSTER

Train Busting Team of Powell and Tape Broken Up

Last week P/O L. W. "Pip-squak" Powell, of Edmonton, added four more to his total of enemy locomotives shot up. That total now stands at 16, all scored recently.

Powell spotted his first two trains in a marshalling yard in occupied France. Despite heavy flak he closed in and attacked successfully with cannon and machine guns. Coming out, he discovered two more locomotives and attacked from a low level.

This score makes him the leading Canadian fighter pilot in this particular type of attack on enemy transportation, a type which was carried out with particular intensity in recent months.

On many of his exploits Powell was accompanied by Sgt. W. H. "Bill" Tape, of Lethbridge, Alberta. The movement of Tape from S/L J. C. "Knobby" Fee's squadron broke up the team which was becoming known as specialists in "train busting." Tape had taken part in 10 train busting operations and had completed 40 hours of operational flying before being posted to the Middle East, where he arrived recently.

ITALIAN TOWN BOMBED AGAIN ON SATURDAY

R.C.A.F. Crews Say Damage Is Bigger Even Than Previous Week's

TWENTY HUGE FIRES

Bigger fires than after previous week's raid on the same target were left burning in Turin by R.A.F. bombers on Saturday night's raid, according to R.C.A.F. air crew taking part in the operation with R.A.F. squadrons.

Flying through thick cloud over France, the big bombers met clear weather over Italy and readily identified their target through smoke clouds.

One Halifax crew, captained by Sgt. Jack Bissett, of Winnipeg, included four other Canadians, Sgt. Bob White, of Perth, Ont., the navigator; Sgt. Frank Zuluf, of Millerton, Ont., bomb-aimer; Sgt. Leo McKinnon, of Fivelstoke, B.C., the wireless operator, and Sgt. R. A. Shannon, of Winnipeg, the rear-gunner.

Great Trip

"It was a great trip," said Bissett, who wears a rabbit's foot charm received from his father recently, and who has made three operational trips. "We didn't have any trouble with our engines, and we didn't have to wait for our parachutes. Their flares were already lighting up the city. As we came over the Alps we also saw the flashes of the first bomb bursts."

"Incendiaries were dropping all over, almost in a pattern like the spokes of a wheel. By the time we left they had started at least twenty huge fires. After dropping our own bombs, we made a circuit of the city to look it over through the heavy smoke pall. Light and heavy flak were pouring up."

"We saw whole rows of buildings on fire, seething as though they were bubbling with molten metal," said White.

"I got a shock while pressing my face against the perspex for a good look, when flak recalled by a few inches away," recalled Shannon.

DEVASTATION SHOWN IN GENOA RAID FILM

Canucks Who Were There Saw Newsreel, "Live" Raid Over Again

Nearly a fortnight after taking part in a raid on Genoa two R.C.A.F. members of a Lancaster crew made the same trip again, getting a greater thrill out of the second trip than they did out of the first.

It happened this way. On Sunday, November 15, Sgt. Erwin E. Osler, a bomb-aimer from Regina, and F/S Paul Fortin, wireless operator, of Ft. Flon, Man., and Montreal, flew with a raiding bomber to Genoa. They had a cameraman of the R.A.F. Film Unit along that night, formerly a cameraman in a British film studio. He and his camera were fitted into the underside of the Lancaster.

Throughout the raid he took shots of the devastation below, and so good were the pictures he obtained that they were released in London newsreels this week and are to be given a world-wide showing.

On the day they were released the two Canadians in the crew with which the cameraman flew were on leave in London and had the unusual experience of repeating the raid.

"As I watched the pictures I thought I was doing the run all over again. It was a real thrill," said Sgt. Osler. "I felt like getting up and yelling that the pictures had been taken from our 'kite.'"

The shots are clear and steady, except as the big bomber turned to make her run on the target. Streets are clearly visible in the glow of many fires in the first glimpse. Bombs can be seen falling away to earth. Searchlights stab up like white-hot poker and ack-ack fire, while not plane, is clearly visible. The plane turns to make the bombing run, steadies away and goes dead for the target. A stick of bombs falls gracefully away to end in a terrific explosion. As the bomber turns away, the blazing city passes from the camera's eye.

The picture is run through three times, first at normal speed, then slowly, and once again to show how swift and concentrated is the work of Bomber Command. It is rounded off by shots showing the bomber warming up and taking off, natural sound effects, a view of the mountains en route and explanatory commentary. Under the circumstances, the thrill the two Canadians got out of seeing it the opening day can be imagined.

HEADQUARTERS

SHORTY IMESON seemed to be the only one who was goal-conscious in Sunday's game against the Army Co-op. mob who defeated us 3-2. "Imey" was definitely available in those scrambles around the enemy net and slipped our only tallies past their goal tender when he wasn't looking. For the first game of the season H.Q. played a promising brand of hockey and escaped with minor casualties, when Millson injured his hand and Strelch stopped a high stick. And are these Army Co-op. guys really tough? On Saturday morning Headquarters will oppose a Canadian training wing in the southern league. This game should be good. Representing H.Q. in Sunday's tussle were: Williams, Davey, Stewart, Tuxford, Whitby, Maitland, Krause, Strelch, Reeves, Millson, Spence and Imeson. Delving deep into "The Causes of War" last week were LAC Wally Perchaluk, LAC Murd Smith, LAC Sid Aitken and Cpl. Johnny Badger. The occasion was a radio show to be broadcast to Canada. LAC Cowan is also taking interest in public speaking. Looks like good material with which to form a debating society. What say, entertainment committee? LAC "Ball of Fire" Christopher is back. LAC Christopher has been away on leave for the past two weeks. Christopher has been kicking his heels high in Devonshire. The "ball of fire" is once again burning a path through those records in second floor Land Registry. If some of that "Wheaties" energy that was shown at

W/C Scott Commands R.C.A.F. Ceylon Unit

W/C John Charles Scott, of Galt, Ont., has been promoted in the field to take command of an R.C.A.F. flying-boat squadron in the Far East. It was announced last week from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters. The new C.O. of the Canadian squadron based in Ceylon is 29 years of age and enlisted in the R.C.A.F. in the summer of 1939. As a flight lieutenant he came overseas in the summer of 1941, and was promoted to the rank of squadron leader, when he was posted as a flight commander to the flying boat squadron. Prior to his leaving England he had over 750 hours on boats, plus another 790 on other types of aircraft.

Queen's ice rink last week had been brought to light on Sunday we might have taken the Army Co-operational squadron to the cleaners. Among those there were: LAC Dionne, Cpl. Bevington, Cpl. Keddy, Cpl. Clarke, LAC Shepherd, Cpl. LaRiche and LAC Joubarne. Shades of a dimming civvy past, when most of us toyed with some hobby or other, are recalled when we see W. O. Bassett's tintings and photograph album. With a battery of cameras, Bassett has been doing a smart job of his hobby-amateur photography. To the eight o'clock heroes of headquarters we offer this ditty as consolation for leaving the fluffy white downy extra early these mornings—boys don't ever forget. "There's something about a soldier."

D.F.M. HOLDER REPAIRED SET WITH CHEWING GUM

F/S Macdonald Once Led Debert Route Marches Playing Bagpipes

"I guess it was the chewing gum effort," said F/S Donald M. Macdonald in explaining his D.F.M. But the records show that the incident he was referring to was only one example of a resourcefulness he has shown on many raids. It was in a sortie to "Happy Valley"—the Ruhr—that Macdonald repaired a radio that had gone unserviceable with a wad of chewing gum. The set had started acting up on the trip to the target and, coming back, it failed completely. A wire had worked loose. Macdonald used his chewing gum to hold it in place. The trick worked and he was able to provide the navigator with some useful bearings. On the Poissy raid his plane got caught in the searchlights. The flak was terrific though the gun concentration was not heavy. F/S Louis Lavallee, of Edmonton, was front-gunner and an Aussie nicknamed "Digger" occupied the rear turret. Suddenly the controls jammed, the aircraft began losing height steadily. The intercom was jammed, with Cockney, Canadian, French Canadian, Welsh and Australian voices telling the pilot to "pull out in a hurry." A giant piece of flak tore through the rear turret. They yelled to the Aussie and got no answer. Macdonald heard Lavallee yell, "My God, they got my pal. I don't give a damn if my grandmother is in Paris!" He heard the chatter of Lavallee's guns and a searchlight blinked out. Meanwhile the bomber's dive became more marked and they began to get "that feeling." Lavallee pointed out a space between two houses where they could land. Macdonald asked: "What about the bombs?" Lavallee answered: "We can't let them go here; we'd kill a lot of Frenchmen." Somebody else suggested, "Dump them in the river." The navigator asked: "Where the hell is the river?" But they found it and unloaded their bombs. At 50 feet the pilot managed to level out. When they got home, they counted 150 holes in the tall assembly. "Digger" was all right. He was oil-spattered and his turret was

shot up, but he was unscratched. He had not answered because the piece of flak had singed his eyebrows and left him momentarily speechless.



F/S Donald M. Macdonald, D.F.M., of Fort William.

Mac is proud of his Scots ancestry, and spells his name with the small "d" of the Highlanders. He and his brother Ian, who is with an R.C.A.F. bomber squadron overseas, are accomplished pipers. Airmen who spent spring '41 at Debert will remember route marches through the red mud behind his skirling bagpipes. On visits to relatives in Stornaway, Scotland, he takes his pipes with him and plays the tunes his ancestors loved.

At present he is an instructor in an O.T.U.

MALLOY'S SQUADRON FORMS SWING BAND

A swing band is being organized by the ground crew of an R.C.A.F. squadron under the command of S/L "Bud" Malloy, of Halifax, N.S. Instruments have been purchased and practices will commence shortly under the direction of LAC Don Deakin, of Port Arthur. Some of those lined up to play in the band are: LAC A. M. Ramey, of Bridgewater, N.S., who handles the piano accordion, "Stub" Wing, of Foster, Que., a clarinet and sax man, and Don Deakin, leader and traps specialist. The men plan to play for station entertainment and dances and will occasionally perform for nearby R.C.A.F. units.

WOMEN'S DIVISION

FIRST of all, let's get the annual leaves out of the way. LAW Mae Jamieson, of Westmount, Que., reports a rather unprofitable week spent mostly in bed trying to shake the flu. However, she did manage to get up to Glasgow to visit relatives although still feeling pretty much under the weather.

Then LAW Marlon McLeod, of Winnipeg, and Margaret MacKinnon, of Moosomin, Sask., went off to Bournemouth for their vacation, but finished up at East Grinstead. Don't know what's at the latter place, but we noticed a knowing glance pass between Marlon and LAW Tofflemire, of Arner, Ont., when it was under discussion. Anyway, we're glad you liked Bournemouth.

And there's the funniest story attached to a telegram which the aforementioned MacKinnon sent home to her folks—one of those number types, you know. Well, it seems Mac got her numbers mixed up somewhere, because a few days later she was rather startled to receive a cable from her dad which read something like this: "What do you mean 'Sorry about the damage' which all goes to prove that one just can't be too careful these days."

Sgt. Mary Ward, of Shawinigan Falls, Que., is back to work after having spent some days at

TIP FOR SAFETY RAZOR USERS

No. 1 LATHERING. Most shaving soaps contain an ingredient which softens the stubble. Give it time to work. Your razor blade will last longer if you lather for twice as long as you usually do.



home nursing a burn caused by a mustard plaster supposed to cure her of the flu. Sometimes, it would appear, the cure is worse than the ill.

And we mustn't overlook LAW Hazel Kendall, of Toronto, who was almost too shy to appear on parade last week with a somewhat enlarged chin and cheek. It does seem a shame to lose teeth at your age, Kenny, but no doubt the dentist will have an answer. Of course, Cpl. Cotterill, of Hamilton, and LAW Long, from Arden, Man., couldn't stand by and see their pal suffering, so they both developed colds just to make everybody happy and cause no hard feelings.

Oh, yes, we're wondering if Cpl. Pat Borcham, Peterborough, Ont., has seen her Uncle Percy lately? Give him our kindest regards when you do, Pat.

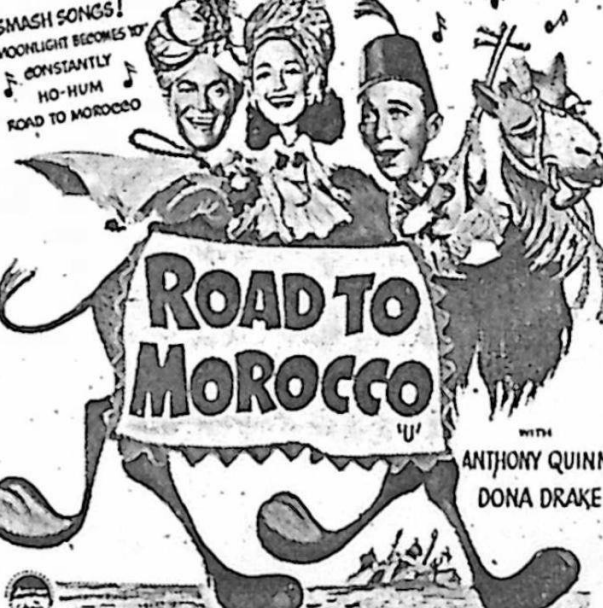
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ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

Table with columns for THEATRES and CINEMAS, listing various venues and their current shows.

Advertisement for 'King Arthur was a Gentleman' featuring Arthur Askey, Evelyn Dall, Anne Shelton, Max Bacon, and Jack Train. Produced by Edward Black, directed by Marce Varnel. Starts Friday, Dec. 4 at Leicester Sq. Theatre.

Advertisement for 'THE PIED PIPER' at ODEON Leicester Square. A great picture comes to Leicester Square. Has all the critics in triumphant agreement. We said it was memorable. Ernest Betts (Daily Express) agrees: 'Pied Piper is a winner which will pack a thousand cinemas.' Reg. Whitley (Daily Mirror) agrees: 'this richly human story makes excellent entertainment.' Seton Margrave (Daily Mail) agrees: 'In his own way, the Pied Piper is Mr. Miniver.' Monty Woolley, Roddy McDowall, Anne Baxter. Showing at 10.45, 1.5, 3.35, 5.45, 8.5.