



After months of captivity and a 500 miles trek across Germany these former POW's find relaxation on the beach at Bournemouth. Just what the doctor ordered—in fact, the doctor probably did order it. W/Os C. O. Simonson, Kingman, Alta., O. M. Nelson, Nepawa, Man., and E. M. Early, London, Ont., seem to be getting as much kick out of this sand castle racket as the youngsters. (Official RCAF Photograph.)

## FREED POW'S ARRIVE IN UK

### AMERICANS LIBERATE STALAG 9A PRISONERS

First Group of Released Men Pass Through New POW Reception Centre At Bournemouth

#### TELL OF 500-MILE FORCED MARCH

Arriving in this country by air, the first large group of RCAF air crew liberated by the advancing armies in Germany are passing through the new Prisoner of War Reception Centre at Bournemouth. At the south coast resort they live in a former holiday hotel while they are being documented, kitted, paid and sent on leave before returning to Canada.

#### New Word

There's a new word in the vocabulary of the man in air force blue. It's "frat." It's the term used to-day in Germany to describe German women. It stems from the strict ban on fraternising. The boys describe Hilda Glutz as "a fat bit of frat" or perhaps a "sloppy bit of frat." And they don't fraternise.

As far as Germany is concerned, the frat is in the fire.

### RAM SQUADRON BELTS GAGGLE OF 40 KRAUTS

#### Spits Down Eleven In Brief Dogfight

Eleven Canadian Spitfires of the Ram squadron late Friday engaged 40 Me109s over a grass landing field east of Wittenburg. Eleven German planes were destroyed and three damaged. One Spitfire was lost.

The squadron was on a sweep of the Wismar-Kiel-Hamburg area when it saw eight Me109s taking off from a grass strip.

The Canadians went in to attack and 12 more Jerries appeared at 12,000 feet while 20 more orbited at 20,000 feet. The battle stretched from deck level away up.

S/L Kiersy, DFC and Bar, Toronto, current top scorer among Canadian squadrons on the continent, brought his score up to 12½ destroyed. He got one Me109 and shared another with F/L L. W. Woods, of Belleville, Ont., who got another by himself.

Credited with two apiece were F/L W. R. Pugh, Toronto, and F/O Valentine. One apiece went to F/L Ashton and F/L J. Mackay, of Coverdale, B.C., F/L Coll and F/O Francis.

Noble, Brock, Sask.; W/O Linklater, Toronto; W/O W. H. Shorrocks, Edmonton; W/O A. Young, St. Stephens, N.B.; Sgt. A. D. Dennis, Vancouver; W/O R. W. Wagstaff; W/O R. Carlson, St. Vital, Man.; W/O J. W. Ralston, St. Stephens, N.B.; W/O G. D. Keith, Campbellton, N.B.; W/O E. W. Earl, London, Ont.; W/O Arklie, Winnipeg, Man.

## Caribou Squadron Mustangs Link With Soviet Planes Near Berlin

#### Praise

Burma.—Air Marshal Sir Keith Park, KGB, KBE, MC, DFC, AOC-in-C of SEAC, praised members of the RCAF's Burma-based Elephant Squadron at the end of a surprise visit to the transport unit's base recently.

"I thank you very much for a grand job of work," he said.

It was the first visit of the new air chief to the squadron. He inspected units of the Intelligence section. The visit was strictly informal and operations were not interrupted.

#### Long Range Fighters Flush Hun After Historic Aerial Meeting

Shareholders in the honor of the history-making meeting of Russian aircraft and Allied fighting planes in the skies over Germany, members of the RCAF Caribou squadron were merely writing another page of their own. They had made history in the RCAF with a record speed for conversion from Spitfires to Mustangs only a few weeks previously.

The long range fighter unit, operating from a base in Britain, was one of the squadrons which participated in the epic meeting with aircraft of the Russian Air Force just east of Berlin last week. It was led by S/L A. M. Johnston, Selkirk, Man.

To top off the meeting, the Caribous flushed a dozen FW190s and collected one kill, several damaged and possibles, before the Luftwaffe ran for cover.

It was only the fourth operational flight for the squadron since it converted from Spits to Mustangs.

"The boys were all keen to get going again, so we didn't waste time," explained S/L Johnston. "We had been operating from the continent with an all-Canadian wing of 2nd TAF since D-Day, so we were practically in high gear from the start. These Mustang jobs are real honeys."

The squadron had been escorting Bomber Command Lancasters to Swinemunde, a Baltic port near the Russian lines, when they made the link-up with the Red planes.

"We were headed for Berlin when someone reported aircraft over our port side," explained F/L Vince Shenk, Philadelphia, Pa. "It looked like trouble, so we headed flat out in that direction. Suddenly someone shouted over the RT, 'They're Russians.' They spotted us about the same time, so we all flew circles around each other and exchanged friendly signals and greetings, then got back on to our original courses."

The squadron's first score against the Hun since converting was made by F/O Len Miller, Stratford, Ont.

"I had to chase him a long time before finally getting him, but it was over quickly then," he said. "He just blew up and went straight into the deck."

#### Cougar Ace Bags Two on Saturday

Pilot of a Cougar squadron nightfighter Mosquito F/O R. D. Schultz, DFC, Bashaw, Alta., has been credited with two more kills scored Saturday night in action in Germany. His navigator is F/O J. S. Christie, London.

Having just finished a Ju88 Schultz was watching the crew bale out when he was called away by the ground controller to deal with another. He sent it crashing in flames on the edge of the airfield.

## RCAF GROUP HITS ISLAND

#### Mass Day Attack On Hun Sub Base

Halifaxes from Canadian Bomber Group's Beaver base shared in last Wednesday's mass daylight attack by the RAF on the Helligoland group of islands off the North Sea coast of Germany. While other bombers concentrated on the submarine base and naval installations on the main island, Canadians made the smaller island of Dune their special target.

Dune was completely occupied as a Nazi airfield, and the returning Canadians said it seemed that it had been "smashed to smithereens."

F/L Greg Titus, a Thunderbird pilot from Yarmouth, N.S., said the weather for the attack was "clear as a bell." He declared one of the islands had a cliff which looked to be about 300 feet high and large chunks of it could be seen crumbling away as the bombs hammered down.

F/L J. B. Baird, Vancouver, a Goose squadron skipper, said, "It was the best trip I've been on. It was such a complete job I wished I could have done another circuit and come in again low just to see what was left of the place."

## NEW MEN FLYING WITH NIGHTHAWKS

Three B.C. airmen are new members of the RCAF Night-hawk Mosquito squadron flying night patrols over the Western Front.

They are F/Os Jack Ritchie and Donald Neale, Vancouver, and F/O John Skelly, Enderby. Ritchie and Neale both piled up flying hours as staff pilots.

## VESSEL LISTS AFTER STRIKE

#### Halifax Crew Finds Enemy Ship at Night

One enemy merchant vessel was seen listing to port after an attack in the Skaggerak recently by the crew of a Halifax bomber captained by F/O A. I. Watts, Vegreville, Alta.

RAF Coastal Command Halifaxes scored hits on one other ship during the same night, which brought their series of strikes at German shipping in the passages to the west Baltic to 70 so far this month.

"Shortly after midnight we saw a merchant ship heading north-west in the moonlight," said F/O Watts. "We climbed and released our bombs in a shallow dive and we estimate that two hit the ship."

"We could feel the concussion of the explosion in the aircraft. Thick whitish grey smoke then hung about the vessel and a little later when we dropped two lots of flares we saw that it was listing to port."

The Skagerrak and Kattegat have become vital sea routes for enemy convoys. They will become more important if the Nazis decide to make a determined stand in Norway.

These are also the only sea routes to supply the U-boat fleet operating from the Norwegian fjords. They have been under ceaseless attack by the Halifaxes.

## WOLF PLANES FIND TARGETS

#### Spitfires Beat Up Transport in Reich

Germany.—RCAF Wolf squadron Spitfires, beating up enemy transport in the area just west of Hamburg, recently destroyed six motor transports and damaged 11 vehicles, one locomotive and a freight van during one operation.

F/L J. D. Lindsay, DFC, Arnprior, Ont., who recently began his second tour with the squadron, got the locomotive and van. F/O F. B. Gillis, Perse, Sask., accounted for two of the motor vehicles destroyed.

The City of Oshawa squadron destroyed two more vehicles and damaged one, but deteriorating weather made further attacks on ground targets impossible.

## Wehrmacht, Allies Mingle in Open City

#### BY F/L RON GADSBY

There may be fantastic sights in this war, but try and tie this one. Recently, F/L Charlie Hutchings and P/O Don Fairbairn, of the RCAF Radio Division, and this reporter walked into a town that we knew contained 3,000 German soldiers in uniform. We had a pretty good idea that we might be the only Allied personnel in the place, and we are not heroes.

How did we do it? Here's the story.

When the American army was advancing across the Great German Plain they stormed towards the town of Bad Pyrmont, which is near Hameelin of Pied Piper fame. It contained 3,000 German wounded within its hospitals, and there wasn't time to move them out. The Hun called for a truce, and as a result of the negotiations Bad Pyrmont is to-day an open city.

On its streets are walking wounded of every rank, and as



Two RCAF officers and a former Polish prisoner of the Germans turn to watch a German officer strolling down the streets of the open town of Bad Pyrmont. (Official RCAF Photograph.)

we drove within its area we were saluted by everyone from generals in the German army to privates in the Luftwaffe. It was an amazing sight. The town itself is beautiful, in the rolling Hartz mountain country of Germany. It contains winding streets that stem out from the town square, and in the square the civilians sit dozing in the warm sunshine.

Around them walk the German wounded, some who have lost legs and who are assisted by their German nurses.

As we stood in the square we were approached by a figure in a naval uniform. He spoke to us in German, which conveyed nothing to our Anglo-Saxon ears. F/L Hutchings tried French and we began to get places. The man was a Pole who had been a prisoner of the Germans since 1939. To-day he is policing the town in the interest of the Allies.

He took us to his billet in a tidy house and the housekeeper made us a cup of coffee. It was hard to imagine how she must have felt at that moment.

The order of the day in Bad Pyrmont is business as usual. The stores are operating and the civilians go about their business as they did in peacetime. And, like all German civilians in the undamaged districts, they are well dressed and look prosperous.

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INTO THE REICH



One of the convoys that took an RCAF airfield into Germany crosses the Maas river near the Netherlands-German border. (Official RCAF Photograph.)

SPITFIRE FIELD MOVES INTO GERMANY AS OPS KEPT UP

Fliers Use Temporary Drome on Way From Holland, New Base Ready in Four Hours

Germany.—Canadian Spitfires are operating from what is at the moment the most advanced airfield in 2nd TAF, a captured German airfield, following a two-day trek from Holland.

The wing includes the Wolf, City of Oshawa, Red Indian and Hornet squadrons, and they became operational on their new airfield within four hours of the arrival of the ground party.

Aircraft were dispersed in partially bombed or demolished hangars, and personnel were bedded down in German billets where 500-pound bombs were found fused as demolition charges. These were quickly made safe, but there was no time to remove them immediately, and kitchen helpers in the officers' mess nonchalantly used the bombs as seats from which to eat a late dinner.

The wing's move from Holland was accomplished in leap-frog style, with "A" party and aircraft first making a short jump into Germany while "B" party remained behind waiting for the more advanced base to be cleared by troops. The airfield in Holland was almost beyond the Spitfires' operational limit, due to the rapid advance of the front, but from their temporary field just across the frontier the Canadian squadrons were able to get back into the picture.

At a time when many airfields were on the move and every sortie counted, the Canadian wing was able to put up 140 sorties on last Thursday and do such a job of bombing and cannoning of fleeing enemy transport that congratulations for "magnificent operations" were received from Air Vice-Marshal Harry Broadhurst, CB, DSO, DFC, AFC, commanding the Group. Twelve rail lines were cut, 55 motor vehicles destroyed and 62 damaged, and an additional three locomotives, 29 freight cars and five barges also damaged.

While the Spitfires were collecting this bulging bag, more than 100 mobile vans, three-ton trucks, and jeeps comprising the wing's "rear" party had rolled out of the airport in Holland to leap-frog the "advance" party and push on across the Rhine north-east into Germany.

Threading slowly past advancing columns of army tanks and lorries, waiting at narrow bridges for other convoys of supply trucks returning empty from the front, racing ahead at a 40-mile-an-hour clip when clear roads offered a chance to make up for lost time, the RCAF party moved 170 miles the first day.

POSTAL MAN TRAVELS FAR ON FIRST FLIGHT

P/O Frank J. Allen, North Bay, Ont., an RCAF postal officer, was posted to England and made the trip in 13 hours from Dorval, Que., to Prestwick, Scotland, in a Liberator.

It was his first time in the air.

Advertisement for NUGGET shoe polish. It features a black and white illustration of a man in a military-style uniform carrying a large suitcase. The text reads: 'HIS SHOES HAD THEIR NUGGET this morning! THE SHINE for EXTRA SMARTNESS IN BLACK BROWN & DARK BROWN N/LF SUPREME for QUALITY'. The NUGGET logo is prominently displayed at the bottom.

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DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE. S/L J. W. FRASER, Moose Jaw, Sask.; P/S K. J. SHIELDS, Whitney, Ont.

FLIGHT GOES HOME. F/S Vincent Johns, Port Arthur, Ont., rear-gunner, is on his way to Canada.

FIGHTER PILOTS Erks Flock to Counsellors HIT HUN TANKS To Talk Post-War Topics

Spit Men Give Close Support in 8th Drive

Italy.—Flying in close support of the Eighth Army push into Northern Italy, the City of Windsor squadron of Spitfire fighter-bombers has destroyed three tanks in a single day's operations. F/L R. W. Nickerson, Moncton, N.B., leading a section of Spitfires, saw a tank heading for cover among haystacks in a field, went in low and set it ablaze with bursts of cannon fire. Two more tanks were strafed until they halted, emitting flames and smoke. These two were caught by a section headed by F/L Astor J. A. Bryan, Monterrey, Mexico. In this flight were F/O A. A. Desormeaux, Ottawa; F/O R. P. Campbell, Winnipeg; and F/O D. W. Lambie, Montreal.

So enthusiastically is Joe Erk taking advantage of the RCAF program to help him plan his post-war future, that two personnel counsellors stationed at the home of the Lion and Bison squadrons are finding themselves swamped with applications for interviews.

When they arrived at the station a few weeks ago and hung out their shingles together with a cordial invitation to "step in and talk it over," F/L J. V. Foy, Almonte, Ont., and F/L G. P. Miller, Dauphin, Man., and Winnipeg weren't quite sure of the probable response, since the scheme is entirely voluntary, but by now they are accustomed to seeing something that looks like the NAAFI line-up.

"The airmen in RCAF Bomber Group in Britain seem to be a great deal more interested preparing for the transition from service life to civvy street than they were back in Canada," F/L Foy observed, "and that goes for both air crew and ground crew. Possibly the reason is that they are all away from home and families, and feel that they are out of touch with Canada generally. At any rate, if anyone ever entertained the idea of making it compulsory for personnel to see if their civvy suits are going to fit, it would have been quite unnecessary. We couldn't possibly get a bigger response or a better one."

A survey made informally on the station indicated that about one airman in four had no idea of what he would do when he was given his discharge. F/L Miller said. "But the important factor is that almost every one of these men has been in to talk things over with us, take aptitude tests, select a profession or trade for which he seems to be equipped and start studying."

Editor's note.—The above is taken from a story in the Yorkshire Post, Leeds.

Reciprocity

A young bomb-aimer in the RCAF, on a solitary shopping trip to Bradford recently, found he needed money for a special purchase. He went into a bank, tried to cash a cheque, but was told unfortunately it would be at least four days before it could be done. He was disappointed, because his leave had less than four days to run and he wanted the money badly.

A lady standing near him happened to overhear the conversation and came swiftly to his rescue. "I'll take a chance on it," she said. "You have taken plenty of chances for me." She cashed his cheque and paid it into her own account.

SPITS NAIL MIXED TRIO

Canadian pilots knocked down one each of the Nazi's three best-known fighters late last week. With four bursts of cannon and machine gun fire, F/O M. P. Francis, Battleford, Sask., destroyed a Me109. One wing tip and the coop top were blown off. The German fighter dived into the earth and blew up.

F/L D. C. Gordon, DFC, Vancouver, and F/O D. J. Bazett, Haverford, Pa., co-operated to destroy a pick-a-back combination of a Ju88 and an FW190. The Nazi kites parted as Gordon opened fire. He shot down the Junkers with a single burst.

"Pieces flew off as I fired," he said, "Then it caught fire and went down. There was a tremendous explosion as it hit the deck."

Bazett went after the 190, firing four bursts. His last shots hit the motor of the German machine. It dived to earth and blew up.

NAVIGATOR FLIES AGAIN AFTER HIT

F/L Pat K. Deane, Prince Rupert, B.C., Thunderbird squadron navigational leader, is back on operations following recovery from an almost believe-it-or-not mishap.

During a night's raid on Wanne-Elekel, his Halifax bomber piloted by F/L L. R. Deryckere, Windsor, Ont., was hit by flak, a large chunk smashing through the bottom and striking Deane over the heart as he worked at his navigator's table.

But he escaped with a broken rib and torn cartilage, for the shrapnel had hit squarely on a wrist watch in Deane's breast pocket.

"And the only reason for the watch being there," Deane said, "was that somebody had turned it in to me before the operation, and I hadn't had time to take it to the navigation section."

Three Fliers Tote Missile For Men of "Mad Fourth"

Three Canadian airmen have fulfilled a promise they made to Canadian last war veterans before they set sail for Europe. They undertook to deliver a "gift" to the Nazis with the special "wishes" of the veterans and this they have effectively done. The gift was a four thousand pounder bomb.

The three postmen were F/L W. J. Mulholland, pilot, F/O J. Morgan, air bomber, and F/O W. J. Watts, navigator, all of Toronto, of a RAF Lancaster bomber squadron with which they have just completed a tour.

In December, 1943, while in Queen St., Toronto, they called in at a club run by ex-members of the 4th Infantry battalion, a unit which gained great distinction in the last war under the name of the "Mad Fourth," and had a reputation for its tough fighting.

Morgan, who was a member of the Toronto Police, and is well known at the Court St. Station, said: "Some of the fellows I worked with belong to the Club so we dropped in one day. We got talking and were made honorary members. The old-timers were most hospitable and we went to see them several times. When they knew we were likely to leave Canada soon for overseas, they gave me an ash tray as a souvenir. They asked us to do them a favour—they wanted us to drop a bomb on Germany with the compliments of the "Mad Fourth." Recently we got a letter from the club asking us if we'd done the job. Well, we have. I dropped it—a four thousand pounder with "Try this one for size"—The Mad Fourth—Toronto" inscribed on it.

Spitfires Smash Nazi Transport

Ranging over the shrinking Reich, RCAF Spitfires shot up road and rail transport in the Ludwigslust and Wittenberg areas last week.

In one day three locomotives were destroyed and 19 damaged, 10 rail trucks destroyed and 17 road vehicles destroyed with hits on 48 others.

Advertisement for THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA. It features a stylized logo and text: 'THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA offers to all members of the Canadian Forces a warm welcome and special facilities at LONDON WEST END OFFICE: 2/4 Cockspur Street, S.W.1 MAIN OFFICE: 6 Lothbury, E.C.2'.

Advertisement for Sharp's Specialise in Toffee. It features a black and white illustration of a young girl with a large, round, wrapped toffee. The text reads: 'Sharp's SPECIALISE IN TOFFEE— "I specialise in Sharp's Toffee" IT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF'.

# COASTAL HALLY SKIPPED BY CANADIAN WINS LAURELS

## Crew Becomes Squadron's Chief Ship-Busters in Attacks in Month of March

By bombing six ships at night in as many sorties and leaving a destroyer, an escort vessel and a merchantman smoking, the crew of a Halifax of RAF Coastal Command captained by F/O K. J. Thompson, Vancouver, became the chief ship-busters in their squadron for the month of March.

The crew was the most successful in a month when Halifax squadrons made nearly 100 attacks on enemy shipping in the Skagerrak and Kattegat—Hitler's "backyard" to Norway. By the light of flares, and in face of intense flak, they attacked two destroyers, and saw a pair of bombs burst in the bows of one of the two warships.

Later in the month they saw thick grey smoke pouring from an escort after it had been straddled with bombs.

Towards the end of the month, they left a medium-sized merchantman enveloped in smoke after bombing it in the moon-path as it moved swiftly close in to the southern Norway coast under the protection of shore batteries.

# MID-UPPER TOO GOOD FOR NAZI

## Emerson Man Hits Attacking Fighter

Just finished his second tour, F/O Doug Storms, DFM, Emerson, Man., flew as mid-upper gunner in a Moose Squadron Lancaster. High point of his tour was victory in a deadly mid-air duel with a far more heavily armed fighter.

The target that night was Ludwigshafen; the trouble, a Ju88, an aircraft similar to the Ju88 but with an upper gun-turret added.

It zoomed in head-on from one side. The pilot of the bomber made a diving turn towards the Junkers as Storms swung his machine-guns into position. He opened fire at the same instant as the Nazi mid-upper.

It was over with the unbelievable swiftness of air combat. Storms hit his target squarely; the Nazi missed. The Ju88 exploded only three or four hundred yards away. Bomber Command later confirmed Storms' claim of "one destroyed."

Storms' mate in the tail turret, was F/O Bill Roberts, McGregor, Man.

# "Ici et Là"

Le sous-lieutenant W. Godin de Toronto, mitrailleur-télégraphiste, vient de terminer son premier tour d'opérations avec les Alouettes. Au retour dans la vie civile, Godin se propose de suivre un cours de spécialisation en radio-télévision pour profiter du Plan de réhabilitation fédéral.

L'aviateur-chef Paul Brown, de Québec, est venu passer sa permission à Londres cette semaine pour y rencontrer son frère Harry, qui est sergent dans l'Armée Canadienne. Le sergent de section Léo Renaud, de Hawkesbury, Ont., vient de compléter son premier tour d'opérations à l'escadrille.

Le Rév. Père Charles Alphonse Metayer, dominicain, vient d'être nommé père à l'escadrille des Alouettes. Il remplacera le Père Laplante, qui est maintenant chapelain de district.

L'aviateur-chef G. M. Perron, de Montréal, attaché à la 2ème TAF, est revenu récemment du continent pour retourner au Canada. Il débarqua en France quelques jours après l'invasion et se rendit jusqu'en Allemagne.

Le lieutenant d'aviation David Bélanger, de St-Boniface, Man., mitrailleur à une escadrille de bombardement léger en Europe, était en permission en Angleterre cette semaine.

L'aviateur-chef Marcel Paquette, attaché au centre de rapatriement, passait quelques jours de permission à Londres cette semaine. Il devait finir son congé à Blackpool, sous prétexte d'avoir des affaires très importantes à régler là-bas. Mais Marcel paraît enchanté de son séjour dans la capitale et se propose bien d'y revenir.

Le lieutenant d'aviation André Lebeuf, de Montréal, et le sous-lieutenant Jean-Marie Charette, d'Ottawa, viennent de finir leur premier tour d'opérations à l'escadrille "Alouettes". Le sous-lieutenant Charette est maintenant assistant Adjudant à cette même escadrille.

# MOSSIE FLIER BAGS TRUCKS

## Texan "Strikes Oil" With Convoy Attack

F/L Vic Cherry, Lubbock, in the Lone Star State, struck oil recently while at the controls of a City of Edmonton squadron Mosquito of the 2nd TAF.

The RCAF Texan and his RAF navigator, F/L David Birdsell, were on night patrol in the Magdeburg-Berlin area when they pounced on a big German convoy of motor transport, and before they turned for home they had 16 trucks listed in the damaged column.

Making a dive-bomb attack the American and the Englishman scored a direct hit with a bomb right in the middle of the convoy. Cherry made a tight orbit and strafed the wreckage with cannon. There was nothing but a blank spot in the middle where the bomb had dropped.

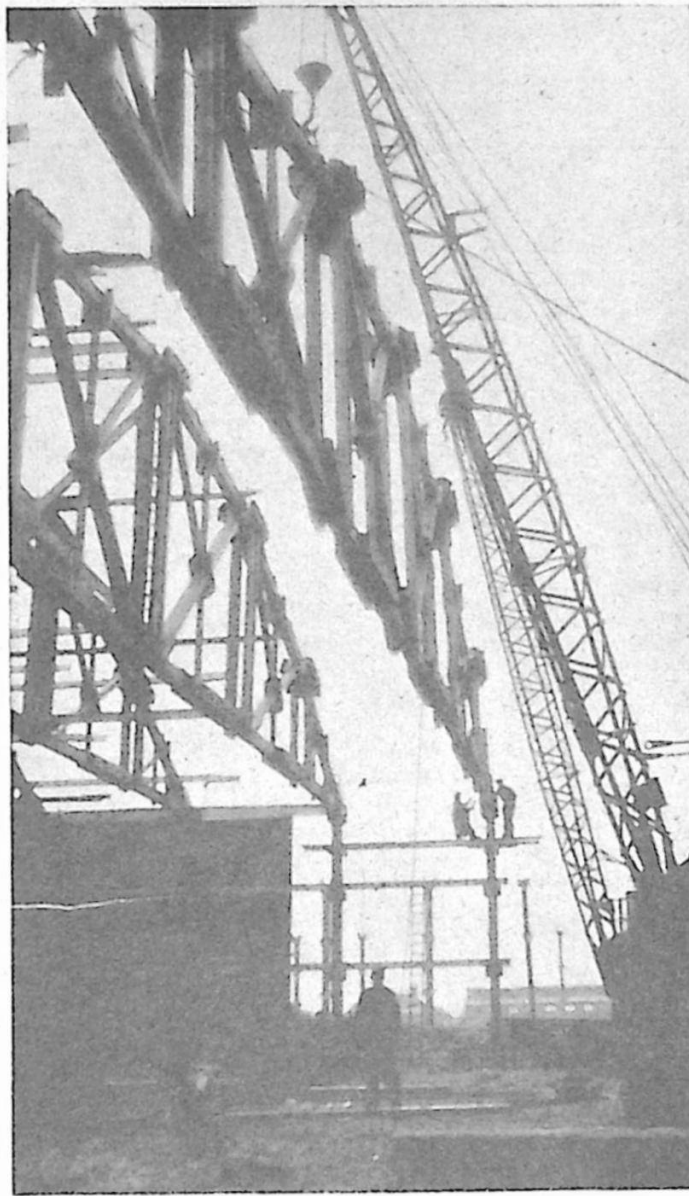
The next time Cherry and Birdsell were on an "op" they caught a Hun train and sprayed it with cannon. The locomotive blew up and many strikes were seen on the coaches.

# FORMER MOUNTIE HITS ENEMY SHIP

F/L L. G. Thacker, Saint John, N.B., 34-year-old captain of a Halifax of RAF Coastal Command, who recently scored a direct bomb hit amidships and sank a medium-sized enemy merchant vessel in the Skagerrak, wears the ribbon of the Coronation Medal.

In the Coronation Procession in 1937, he rode as a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

# SKELETON



Giant cranes lift into place the wooden trusses which form the framework for a hangar on a Belgian airfield. (Official RCAF Photograph.)

# BEAVER BASE

## Sun Stirs Athletes

Recent summer temperatures have aroused the athletic in the majority of personnel with the result that F/O Woody Dumart's sports store equipment is in use on most open areas around the station. Supply lines for tennis balls have shown signs of total severance but nevertheless courts are in full use until dark with some of the more heated duels being waged by F/L Tommy Berto, S/L Dave Neville, W/C Fred Sharp and Major George Finkbeiner.

Even the Rugby football has come out of the cupboard and one of the most enthusiastic forward passers and booters is Air Commodore J. L. Hurley, Base Commander.

Repatriation came to many ground crew men and women recently, among the lucky ones being Sgt. S. K. Thornycroft, Cpl. J. A. Henderson, F/S H. E. Lambert, LAC G. C. Haney, Cpl. C. N. Ranger, LAC H. L. Turner, Sgt. M. N. Ridgeway, Sgt. G. F. Shelford (LAC B. G. Tobias, LAW J. N. Hough, LAC M. Bilton, LAC J. C. E. Lagasse, Cpl. R. B. Semple), LAC H. G. E. Sibley, Cpl. J. H. Estey, Sgt. F. B. Gee, Sgt. E. Godfrey, Cpl. S. R. Kenyon, Cpl. R. S. MacQuarrie, LAC F. A. McLelsh, Sgt. M. M. M. Buckley, LAC A. R. Milner, LAW M. W. Bertrand, LAW H. J. Nelthorpe and AW2 M. L. S. MacLeod.

Bridge competition is on an inter-station basis and in a recent tournament held at the station commanded by G/C McKinnen, Beaver Base station was represented by the following teams: LAC L. Frankel and Cpl. M. Cox, Cpls. S. Taylor and B. Whittner, Cpls. E. Hansen and J. Molyneux and Cpls. J. Halsell and M. J. Seeley. Teams from the host station won out.

The first prize of three quid for top shooting in a station rifle competition was picked up by LAC Bragg, who fired a total of 73 out of a possible 75, the competition comprising only those who had not previously fired the service rifle. Two quid for second place went to LAC Payant, while two one-pound third prizes were taken by LACs Mills and Cormier.

The rivalry between this station and staff of No. 115 U.S. Army Field Hospital has transformed with the seasons from basketball to softball and our first start against the Yanks was a winning one. Bill Polosky's fourth-inning homer providing a 1-0 victory. Bob Strickland and Emil Genga shared the winners' mound duty. Strickland giving up only one hit in five innings and Genga two in four. Strickland struck out 10.

## SECOND TOUR

With more than 55 attacks on enemy targets to his credit, F/L J. M. Morrice, DFC, Ottawa, has recently completed his second tour. Morrice wears the Africa Star, indicating he completed his first tour from bases in Egypt.

# Loan Shorts

A Toronto pilot, veteran of the African campaign, now on his third tour will be living on eight annas a month from here in. A large chunk of his pay is assigned to his father who is buying up Victory bonds for him in Canada. Another sizeable portion is going out in monthly payments for a \$500 Victory bond. The pilot will draw eight annas a month pay, which, according to the International Exchange people, isn't very much in pounds sterling.

Second TAF is moving towards its Loan quota of \$100,000 with \$264,000 subscribed to date. This total may not be a true indication of the TAF position as reports are slow to come in from scattered field units.

With a smaller strength of personnel from which to draw the RCAF in Northern Ireland and Scotland kept the same \$265,000 quota it had in the Seventh Loan. Last Friday the target was being approached with \$203,000 subscribed.

Operating deep in Germany an RCAF Mobile Field Hospital has subscribed 250 per cent. of its \$9,000 objective.

# Coastal Pilot Has Good Air Record

Thirty-five years old, F/O A. I. Watts, an American in the RCAF and captain of an RAF Coastal Command Halifax, has flown 2,280 hours in this war and never had an accident.

He has piloted seven different types of aircraft, and for three years in Canada trained would-be pilots, being a specialist in testing backward pupils.

Known to his friends as "Pop," he is the oldest captain in a Halifax squadron which, in night attacks, has attacked hundreds of thousands of tons of shipping in the Skagerrak and Kattegat.

He lives in Brookland, U.S.A.



A German submarine, while travelling through the North Atlantic, recently was sighted and attacked by a RAF Coastal Command Liberator in which F/O G. A. Bergh, Vancouver, was flying as second pilot. The U-boat was discovered operating at periscope depth, and excellent visibility enabled the crew to detect the enemy. Unopposed by flak, the Lib attacked from low level and depth charges were not released until the plane was passing over the sub's conning tower. All trace of the sub disappeared immediately after the depth charges exploded, and it was not seen again, although the bomber kept circling the area for some time after the attack. A British minesweeper, called to the scene, took up the search as the Liberator broke away to resume its patrol.

Arriving on a squadron in July, 1944, F/S E. Walter Erickson, Watrous, Sask., learned that one of the regular gunners in a crew was ill, and he volunteered to fly as a spare. The target was Stuttgart, and this first trip proved the hottest of his many missions. Over the target he sent a twin-engine enemy night-fighter spinning into cloud below. A few moments later a second fighter closed on the Halifax and Erickson went into action again, and banished this Hun in the same way he did the first. Since then he has been to many targets, but has never had occasion to fire on the enemy again.

F/L R. E. Baer, pilot, from Beamsville, Ont., completed 36 operational missions and won a DFC in a Halifax bomber before being screened and posted to another unit as an instructor. The bomber was known as "D for Dog," and Baer took over the aircraft from another crew, completed his tour, and then turned "D for Dog" over to the replacement crew. A fourth crew now is flying the bomber, which is a veteran of the air offensive against the Nazis. F/O F. A. Scott, Fremont, Sask., bomb-aimer, recently completed his first tour, which was highlighted by a trip to Sterkrade when his Halifax absorbed considerable flak.

His first operational trip as a member of an RAF Lancaster crew saw F/S I. M. Baird, mid-upper gunner from Kentville, N.S., fight off an attacking Me109. The fighter made two attacks 20 minutes after the bomber left the target at Giessen. Following Baird's instruction, the pilot evaded the first attack with a skillfully-executed corkscrew. The second time, Baird and the tail-gunner let loose long bursts. The Nazi broke away to port and the Lanc disappeared into cloud. His tail-gunner shot down an Me410 on their next fighter attack, which came after they had struck Harburg. Other bomber crews saw it crash and explode after Baird's mate poured 1,200 rounds into it.

After experiencing a "quiet tour," P/O J. R. Dupont, Quebec City, was recently screened. He was mid-upper gunner of a RAF Halifax bomber crew which visited targets in Germany as well as several in France. His log book lists targets in the Ruhr Valley, Osnabruck, Hanover, Hamburg and Chemnitz. On the Hanover trip the port outer engine of the Hally started to kick up, but the Canadian pilot pressed on to the target. Shortly after dumping their bombs, the faulty engine cut out and the aircraft began limping home. Over the Dutch coast searchlights coned it and flak came up, but the pilot flew on to bring the crew back to base safely.

When his brother was shot down and captured by the enemy H. A. Wagner, grain buyer, of Turtleford, Sask., tried to enlist as air crew in the RCAF. Recruiting officers told him that he was too old, but he enlisted as an admin officer with the hope of remustering at a later date. He became a flight commander at No. 7 ITS, Saskatchewan and served there until the age limit for air-gunners was raised. He remustered and won his wing, which his daughter pinned on him. Now, at 38, he flies with an RAF Lancaster squadron over German targets with two other Canadians, F/O G. Phimister, pilot, Newmarket, Ont., and F/O R. G. Stephens, air-gunner, Edmonton.



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### Weddings

**HENRY—KYLE**  
F/L E. R. Henry, DFC and Bar, Kincardine, Ont., recently married Joan Helen Kyle, The Tilt, Cobham, Surrey. Best man was LAC D. Bruce, Kincardine.

### BROWN—MELSON-BROOKS

The village church in Newton-on-Ouse, Yorkshire, was the scene of the wedding of Ivy Melson-Brooks, Yorkshire, to F/L Douglas A. Brown, DFC, Montreal. The bride is a member of the WAAF. Bridesmaid was WAAF Violet Foster, Barnett Castle, Yorkshire, while the best man was F/O A. D. Herbert, Montreal. W/C Fred Sharp, Trenton, Ont., CO of the Goose Squadron, gave the bride away.

## NIGHT EXPERT HAS NEW JOB

### Flier Becomes Unit CO, Gets Promotion

W/C Peter Heybroek, Victoria, B.C., who returned to his former squadron less than two weeks ago as a squadron leader flight commander, has been promoted and given command of another RCAF squadron, flying Mosquito nightfighters from a Continental airfield.

Heybroek, whose home is Manila, Philippine Islands, but whose parents are now living at Victoria, took over from W/C G. A. Hiltz, Milton, N.B., who had led his squadron to top place among Allied nightfighters

## SPITS TRAVEL TO NEW AREAS

### Fighters Near North Sea in Latest Sweeps

Germany.—From what is at the moment the most advanced airfield in 2nd TAF, Canadian Spitfires of this wing are carrying their fighter attacks almost up to the North Sea, in territory long the exclusive preserve of Bomber Command.

S/L H. P. M. Zary, DFC, New York City, on a recent operation led his Wolf squadron in an attack on a tramp steamer on the Weser river at Eilsleth, as it steamed towards the famous port of Bremerhaven.

Heavy flak met the diving Spits. The COs No. 2, F/L C. L. Rispler, Killam, Alta., accompanied the formation safely back to base although the tail of his aircraft was badly damaged.

West of Wilhelmshaven, the City of Oshawa squadron destroyed five motor vehicles, one an oil-laden tank truck that burst into flames, and damaged three others.

Red Indian Squadron Spitfires destroyed three and damaged nine vehicles during their armed recce, while the Hornet squadron destroyed one vehicle, and scored 15 damaged as well as a tank damaged, during two shows.

Though weather delayed ops till noon on this particular day, the wing put up 76 sorties by dusk for a total of 13 items of enemy transport destroyed and 52 damaged. A locomotive was also destroyed.

since D-Day, with 53 enemy planes destroyed. Hiltz completed his tour earlier this month.

The new wing commander enlisted in the RCAF in 1940 while attending McGill University, then in his third year.

Born of Dutch parents, Heybroek lived in the Philippines for 17 years before he went to Canada to study. He became a Canadian citizen 18 months ago.

An experienced nightfighter pilot, he joined a RAF unit in England in April, 1942, and spent a year with it.

He put in several months with Canadian nightfighter squadrons before joining the Nighthawk squadron, in which he became flight commander.

He completed his first tour with the Nighthawks a year ago and returned to Victoria on leave.

## HEADQUARTERS

## Accent on Sports

Summerlike weather last week brought out the racquet-wielders on the RCAF Tennis Club court at Headstone Lane. Many interesting doubles matches were played.

Results were: Mr. Warren and Mr. Neal beat F/L S. Beck and Sgt. B. Harrison, 6-3 and 6-2; Beck-Harrison team beat Schneider brothers 6-3 and 8-6; Warren-Neal beat S/L J. R. Jackson and Cpl. Jerry Wayland, 6-4 and 6-3; Schneider Brothers beat Jackson-Wayland, 9-7 and 6-3; Mr. Wild and Mr. Simmons beat S/L McGillivray and F/L Nichol, 6-0 and 6-2, and Mr. Lutt and Mr. Andrews beat Cpl. Jackson and Cpl. W. Barnes 6-4 and 6-2.

Opening games of the HQ airmen's softball league will be played at Regent's Park Monday night. Pre-game ceremonies have been planned with the first game commencing at 7 o'clock.

Congratulations are due to S/L Martin Boundy for the enjoyable band concert he conducted in Lincoln's Inn Fields last week.

The roller-skating party at Alexandra Palace on May 6 is being planned with the view of attracting a record attendance. Don't miss a chance to give your favorites a whirl.

The HQ darts club is holding its final windup party and dance at the Harroddian Club Saturday night.

## EDMONTON KITES IN NIGHT SPLURGE

City of Edmonton squadron fliers had one of their biggest nights recently when they destroyed or damaged 61 German motor transport vehicles. Thirteen were completely wiped out.

Leading scorers were F/L Vic Cherry, Lubbock, Texas, and his navigator F/L Dave Birdsall, of the RCAF, who damaged 16 transports. F/L Jack Gordon, Vancouver, and his RAF navigator, Sgt. Jack Findlay, were a close second with 14 damaged trucks.

F/L Don McLaughlin, Edmonton, accounted for six trucks two of them destroyed, in addition to starting a large fire and strafing a train, exploding the locomotive. McLaughlin's navigator is F/O Andy Tekela, Montreal.

Others active were S/L Frank Montgomery, Ottawa; S/L Jim Coyne, Central Patricia, Ont.; F/L Charles Redeker, Windsor, Ont.; F/L D. G. Lacey, Toronto; F/L R. G. Falconer, Toronto; F/L W. L. Drake, Kingston, Ont.; F/L Ken Mason, Ottawa, and F/L Charles Krause, Wilhamsford, Ont.

## PILOT SCORES IN YUGOSLAVIA

### Fighter-Bomber Bags 2 Planes in 3 Days

Yugoslavia.—With two "kills" in three days, F/O Norman John Pearce, Portage La Prairie, Man., added to the already impressive score of the RAF Spit-bomber squadron whose job includes fighting off enemy planes which attack units of the Yugoslav army.

Pearce, who has served with the squadron for five months, met with his first success one evening when the Spitbombers came across some FW 190s and Do17s north of Gospic.

"Their idea was to do some bombing and strafing of the Yugoslav troops," said Pearce. "We drove them off for that night anyhow." Pearce got on the tail of one Dornier and quickly shot it down. Another Dornier was damaged.

Three evenings later Pearce and three other Spitfire pilots ran into two Me109s north east of Karlovac. Pearce shot down one and the second managed to get away though severely damaged.

The Me that was shot down had turned and followed one of the Spitfires along a ravine. The pilot fired five bursts and hit the Spit's tail. Pearce got into position and sent the Me down for his second success.

## OTTAWA OFFICER TAKES NEW POST

Graduate of RMC, Kingston, Ont., G/C A. C. Hull, DFC, Ottawa, has been promoted to that rank and appointed commanding officer of the station from where the Lion and Bison squadrons operate.

Formerly officer commanding the Ghost squadron, where he completed a tour of operations, the 25-year-old group captain succeeds G/C J. B. Millard, DFC and Bar, Sherbrooke, Que.

### FINISHES FIRST

With more than 30 sorties logged on enemy targets, F/L G. W. Archer, Hamilton, Ont., pilot, recently completed a tour with the Lion squadron.

## Typhoon Airmen Spend Off Hours Searching for Nazis

Germany.—Airmen on this Typhoon airfield, well inside Germany, are spending their off-duty hours hunting up prisoners since three members of the Luftwaffe ground crews were found in a well-stocked dugout near the airfield.

Credit for their capture goes to LAC Christopher English, of Beaufort, Que., orderly room clerk, who discovered three apparently dead soldiers in a fox-hole. A rifle was lying across one, and English lowered himself into the dugout to pick up the weapon.

"I first saw two legs in the dugout," related English, "and I called out to the others to have a look. When I was picking up the rifle I thought there was something queer about these legs. There were half a dozen eggs and some dead chickens in the dugout too."

"I got out in a hurry and we decided the Jerries must be 'playing possum,' although they didn't move when we shouted at them to come out."

"We threw a half circle around the mouth of the hole and one of the lads fired his revolver into the air, and the three Jerries trotted out."

"One of them spoke English and said they had no weapons but we searched them just the same. They had several hand-grenades each."



## "UNDER THE CLOCK" (Empire)

This simple girl-meets-boy story has been given the full Hollywood treatment, complete with heavenly choir and cliché sequence number 172 (boy and girl feed animals at zoo) type B (sea lions). After imposing this handicap the director, Vincente Minnelli, proceeds to overcome same and turn out a thoroughly enjoyable sketch. With the aid of a well-written script, Minnelli has filled the film with a folkiness that can only be found in a big city. The picture has the same tone and texture as a New Yorker piece.

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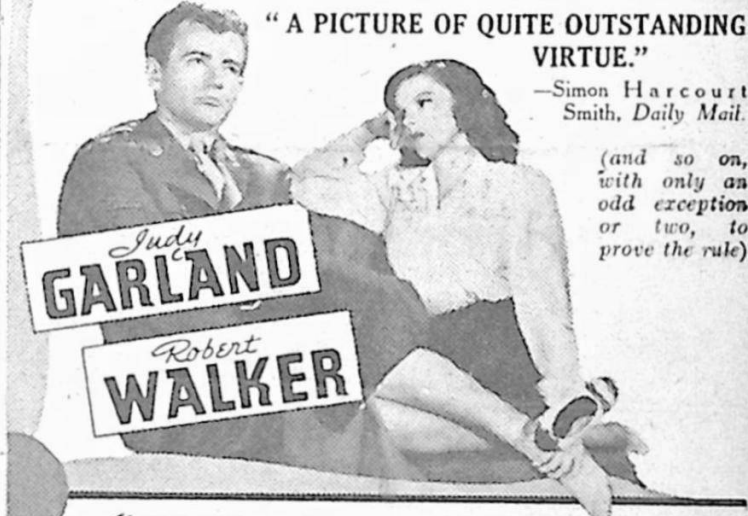
—Moore Raymond, Sunday Dispatch.

### "FRESH AND VITAL."

—Patrick Kirwan, Evening Standard.

### "A PICTURE OF QUITE OUTSTANDING VIRTUE."

—Simon Harcourt Smith, Daily Mail.



## "UNDER THE CLOCK"

with James Gleason, Keenan Wynn, Etc., Etc., Etc.  
Directed by Vincente Minnelli (of "Meet Me in St. Louis" fame).

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## ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

THEATRES	
<b>ALDWYCH.</b> Tem. 6404. Evenings, 6.45. Wed. and Sat., 2.30. FIFTH SHEPHERD presents <b>TOMORROW THE WORLD</b> Robert Harris, Elizabeth Allan, Jean Cadell, David O'Brien	<b>LEICESTER SQ. THEATRE.</b> Whi. 6252. ABBOTT & COSTELLO in <b>HERE COME THE CO-EDS (U)</b> With PEGGY RYAN. Perfs. at 12.15, 2.35, 4.55, 7.15.
<b>HIPPODROME.</b> Ger. 3272. Eves. 6.15. Weds. and Sats. 2.15. Tom Arnold presents <b>IVOR NOVELLO</b> in His New Romantic Musical <b>PERCHANCE TO DREAM</b>	<b>LONDON PAVILION.</b> Ger. 3982. Cont. Daily, 10.0 a.m. to 10.0 p.m. Second Week <b>THE FIFTH CHAIR (A)</b> FRED ALLEN, JACK BENNY, WILLIAM BENDIX
<b>PALLADIUM.</b> Argyll Street. Ger. 7373. Twice Daily at 2.30 and 6.20. GEORGE BLACK'S new Musical Funtare <b>HAPPY AND GLORIOUS</b> With TOMMY TRINDER.	<b>MARBLE ARCH PAVILION.</b> May. 5112. LAURENCE OLIVIER in <b>HENRY V (U)</b> (In Technicolor) Perfs. 10.30, 2.30, 6.30. Sundays 3.30 & 6.30
<b>PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.</b> Whi. 6681. Twice Daily at 2.30 and 6.10. GEORGE BLACK'S GAY MUSICAL <b>STRIKE IT AGAIN</b> With SID FIELD.	<b>NEW GALLERY.</b> Regent St. Res. 8080. RITA HAYWORTH JANET BLAIR, LEE BOWMAN <b>TO-NIGHT AND EVERY NIGHT (A)</b> (In Technicolor) Weekdays from 11.20. Sundays from 3.30.
<b>SAVOY.</b> Tem. 8838. Evenings, 6.45. Wed. and Sat., 2.30. FIFTH SHEPHERD presents <b>THE ASSASSIN</b> Barry Morse, Rosalyn Boulter, J. H. Roberts, Henry Oscar, Leslie Perrins, Arthur Young.	<b>NEW VICTORIA (G.-B.).</b> Opp. Vic. Stn. DINAH SHORE, RANDOLPH SCOTT, GYPSY ROSE LEE <b>BELLE OF THE YUKON (A)</b> (In Technicolor) <b>GIVE ME THE STARS (A)</b> Weekdays from 11.45. Sundays from 3.30.
<b>STRAND.</b> Tem. 2650. Evenings, 6.30. Thurs. and Sat., 2.30. FIFTH SHEPHERD presents <b>ARSENIC AND OLD LACE</b> Lilian Braithwaite, Mary Jerrold, Naunton Wayne, Edmund Willard. Third Year.	<b>ODEON, Leicester Square.</b> Whi. 6111 NOEL COWARD'S <b>BLITHE SPIRIT (A)</b> In Technicolor. Weekdays at 10.45, 1.5, 3.25, 5.45, 8.00. Sundays 3.30, 6.15.
<b>WHITEHALL, Trafalgar Sq., Whi. 6692</b> <b>PHYLLIS DIXEY</b> in <b>"PEEK-A-BOO"</b> CONT. DAILY 2 to 6 p.m., AND NIGHTLY at 7 p.m., in the Play <b>"WHILE PARENTS SLEEP."</b>	<b>PARAMOUNT.</b> Ess. 4175. Tottenham Ct. Rd. CARMEN MIRANDA, MICHAEL O'SHEA <b>SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS (U)</b> Technicolor Also <b>DARK MOUNTAIN (A)</b> Sunday Next. <b>HERE COME THE WAVES (U)</b>
<b>WINDMILL.</b> Pic. Circus. 14th Year. <b>REVUEVILLE.</b> 183rd Edition. (2nd week) Continuous daily 12.15-9.30. Last performance 7.50. A VIVIAN VAN DAMM PRODUCTION. "WE NEVER CLEAVED."	<b>TATLER THEATRE.</b> Charing Cross Rd. ANGLO-SOVIET SEASON <b>SON OF THE SOVIET EAST (U)</b> Liberated Poland, etc. Weekdays from 12.0. Sundays from 3.30.
<b>CINEMAS</b>	<b>TIVOLI.</b> Strand. Temple Bar 5623. BETTY SMITH'S <b>A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN (A)</b> <b>HEIR TO THE THRONE (U)</b> The Story of Princess Elizabeth Weekdays from 11.0. Sundays from 3.30.
<b>DOMINION (G.-B.).</b> Tottenham Ct. Rd. DINAH SHORE, RANDOLPH SCOTT, GYPSY ROSE LEE <b>BELLE OF THE YUKON (A)</b> (In Technicolor) <b>GIVE ME THE STARS (A)</b> Weekdays from 11.45. Sundays from 3.30.	<b>WARNER, Leicester Sq.</b> Ger. 3423. VICKI BAUM'S <b>HOTEL BERLIN (A)</b> PAYE EMERSON, HELMUT DANTINE, RAYMOND MASSEY For times of showing see Daily Press.
<b>EMPIRE, Leicester Square.</b> Ger. 1234. Second week. 10 a.m. to 9.30 p.m. JUDY GARLAND, ROBERT WALKER in <b>UNDER THE CLOCK (A)</b>	<b>GAUMONT, Haymarket.</b> Whi. 6655. BETTY SMITH'S <b>A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN (A)</b> <b>HEIR TO THE THRONE (U)</b> The Story of Princess Elizabeth Weekdays from 10.50. Sundays from 3.30.
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