



# Volunteer for Liberty

ISSUED BY THE BUREAU OF INFORMATION, VETERANS OF THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE

Vol. 6, No. 1



May, 1944

## NEWS OF THE MONTH

by Albert Prago

### SIX PARTIES COOPERATING IN NEW CABINET FORMED BY BADOGLIO

On April 21 Marshal Badoglio announced the formation of a new Italian war government with himself as Premier and Foreign Minister. Orlando, de Courten, and Sandalli remain at their respective posts in the War, Navy and Air Ministries.

The other posts were divided among Italy's six political parties of the Liberation Junta and some independents. The five outstanding figures who were made ministers without portfolio are: Count Sforza, Benedetto Croce, P. Mancini—Socialist, G. Rodino—Christian Democrat, and Palmiro Togliatti (also known as E. Ercoli)—Communist. Togliatti, who recently returned from Moscow, took the lead in urging cooperation with Marshal Badoglio in the formation of the new government.

All six parties received two ministries each and two undersecretaryships (excepting the Actionists who received one). The Communists received the Undersecretaryships of Finance and of War; the fourth Communist in the Cabinet is Minister of Agriculture.

### WILLKIE OUT OF REPUBLICAN RACE

Overwhelmingly defeated in the Wisconsin primaries, Mr. Willkie announced that he would no longer seek the Republican nomination for the Presidential candidacy. "Will he run?" Thomas Dewey obtained the backing of the majority of the delegates despite the fact that he did not campaign and has not yet announced his intention to do so. Like so many millions of young men, he too is waiting to be drafted.

The field is now more or less limited to Lt. Col. Stassen, Gov. Bricker, Gen. MacArthur, and Gov. Dewey and it is the latter who is universally considered to be the G. O. P.'s "fair-haired boy."

Control of the Republican Party is now definitely in the hands of the nation's defeatists.

### POLL TAXERS INFURIATED

The unity of the people in the anti-Axis war was greatly strengthened by the

### SGT. WATT AWARDED OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO AIR MEDAL

#### CITATION ACCOMPANIES AWARD

"Under the provisions of Army, Regulations 600-45; 22 September 1943, and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 36, Nq. ETOUSA, 5 April 1943, an Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded to the following named Officers and Enlisted Men, for wear with the Air Medal previously awarded.

GEORGE WATT, 32420839, Staff Sergeant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For meritorious achievement, while participating on an aerial mission over enemy occupied territory, 5 November 1943 when he encountered experiences involving great personal danger and vital decisions under hazardous conditions. Sergeant Watt displayed great courage and presence of mind and by his actions contributed materially to the morale and fighting spirit of the other members of his organization. The actions of Sergeant Watt under these trying circumstances reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

By command of Lieutenant General EAKER:

C. C. CHAINCY

### BATTLE OF "GHETTOGRAD"

Among the numerous tales of extraordinary heroism exhibited by the peoples of the occupied territories in Europe, the Battle of the Warsaw Ghetto will be forever remembered. April 19 marked the first anniversary of this astounding battle in which the Jews of Warsaw fought to the last 40,000 men and women against the Nazis.

Commemoration services in tribute to the gallant fighters of Warsaw were conducted by tens of thousands of American Jewry together with Americans of all creeds and races.

The unity of the Warsaw Ghetto which enabled 40,000 Jews to fight on for more than a month against all the mechanized might of the German army showed the Jews of America how to forge unity here. And so it was fitting that unity was the spirit of all of the commemoration services.

The revolt began on the first Seder night, when six Nazi tanks and their occupants were destroyed in the Ghetto. The Jews had prepared for months for this day. All able-bodied men and women were armed. Large houses were converted into forts. Every street was equipped with an arsenal and under command. Trenches were dug under cover of night. Cellars were ready as shelters. Children were assigned the task of messengers, to maintain contact between posts, to bring food and water to the fighters. From the ghetto workshops where the Jews had been forced to make Nazi uniforms, and from the arsenals



## POLL TAXERS INFURIATED

The unity of the people in the anti-Axis war was greatly strengthened by the recent Supreme Court decision outlawing the Texas white primary. The NAACP led the fight to eliminate the law preventing Negroes from participating in the Democratic primaries in the Lone Star State. Poll tax Congressmen and state officials have threatened to subvert the decision. Meanwhile the NAACP has called on Attorney General Biddle to inform party officials in other southern states that exclusion of Negro voters from the primaries is a federal crime.

## ILO MEETS

ILO session opened in Philly with the U.S. being represented only by the AFL. The Federation refused the President's request to give the CIO a share of its vote in the conference. Philip Murray, not wishing to embarrass the President, withdrew from participation in the ILO. Soviet trade unions did not answer the invitation to send delegates. The USSR left the ILO when she left the League of Nations because of its attitude on the war with Finland, which has delegates to the ILO.

The President of the CTAL, V. Lombardo Toledano, emerged victorious in leading the fight to oust the Argentine delegation which he proved to be a phoney, selected by the Axis-lovers now heading the Argentine government. Lombardo also emphasized the grave danger to all the Americas which the situation in Argentina presents. The labor leader of the Latin American nations characterized the prevailing atmosphere south of the border as being the most dangerous since the war began.

ILO delegates are discussing the coming world labor congress at London although the AFL's executive council is still refusing to send delegates to London because Soviet trade unions will participate.

(Continued on Page 4)

## APPLY EARLY FOR WAR BALLOT

We have sent to every member from N. Y. State in the armed forces applications for war ballots. These applications must be filled out and mailed to the N. Y. State War Ballot Commission, 80 Centre Street, New York City.

Ask your Red Cross field man for details on how to vote according to the rulings of the forty-eight states.

New York.

By command of Lieutenant General  
EAKER:

C. C. CHAUNCY,  
Brigadier General, U.S.A.  
Chief of Staff"

## ONE OF THE GREATEST

Paul Robeson currently starring in the phenomenally successful "Othello," is one of the world's greatest artists. Internationally famous in practically every field of creative endeavor—music the theater, films, radio—he was guest of honor on his forty-sixth birthday, April 16, at a party sponsored by the Council on African Affairs and held at the 17th Regiment Armory, New York City. More than 5,000 admirers were unable to gain entrance to the packed house of 8,000 who overwhelmed Mr. Robeson in a wonderfully warm ovation. Like "Ol' Man River," our honorary member keeps rollin' along; and more power to him. Many, many happy returns of the day, Paul!

## VET KILLED IN ACTION

We have just received word that Larry Lustgarten has been reported killed in action over India.

We shall furnish you with more detailed information as soon as it is received.

## Buy War Bonds

posts, to bring food and water to the fighters. From the ghetto workshops where the Jews had been forced to make Nazi uniforms, and from the arsenals where the Nazi guards kept their weapons, the Jews took all the weapons on hand, and outfitted all Aryan-looking members within their own ranks with German army uniforms.

For nine days scattered battles ensued, mostly of guerrilla nature. Finally orders from Berlin enabled the authorities, who had reinforced the Warsaw garrison with detachments from Galicia, to commence a full-fledged battle which raged day and night for a month; thousands of German soldiers lost their lives. The Ghetto was subjected to bombardment from air and ground so that nothing was left but rubble and debris.

On the forty-second day, the last defenders, fortifying all four floors of the last remaining building, fought the Nazis off for more than twelve hours. The firing stopped late at night, and for a moment the hitherto always-evident flag of the Jews disappeared. Soon something wrapped in blue and white crashed to the street. It was the last defender, jumping to his death wrapped in the Zionist colors.

As in the days of the Maccabees, once again Jews are taking their rightful places with other oppressed peoples who will fight for their freedom. No longer will the Jew be content to be "tolerated."

The Jews of Warsaw live on! Only the Nazis shall die!



## SERVICIO DE CORREO

(Ed. Note: These letters were received by Leona Beal, wife of Ellis Beal.)

Dear Leona:

What a surprise! First I received the nice parcel you had sent me and then I also got your letter. I can hardly express my gratitude and you cannot imagine how much I appreciate this way a "gal" writes to an unknown soldier. Well, we are on the same ship which forces her way through a stormy weather, but we are bound to reach the peaceful shore of a new future provided that we keep on fighting against the dark elements and you can be sure our day will come. Your parcel arrived here before your letter reached me and as the parcel bore the sender of your husband so I acknowledged the receipt at once by a letter to your husband.

I do not know if you'll see this letter now, therefore, I might repeat some I wrote already in my first letter. I am not an Englishman—I am German. But a German anti-Fascist, who joined the British Army to fight against the Hitlerites, to fight for a new and democratic ruled Germany in which all human beings are equals and where is no more Fascism, chauvinism and exploitation. For this new and free Germany we German anti-Fascists are fighting and we are giving an example to others to exterminate those Fascist gangsters that we may live in a peaceful and progressive world. I am indeed glad to see in your husband a fellow fighter of mine, who went to Spain for the same reason I did, to fight Fascism. So in that way, we are not so much unknown to each other—and when you write to him, please convey my best greetings.

As for myself, I have been fighting against Hitlerism for the past fifteen years. When Hitler seized power in 1933, I escaped being arrested by a lucky chance. I continued to do illegal work against the Nazis but five months later, I was arrested by the Gestapo. Sometime later I fled from a prison and I left Germany to continue my fight against Hitler abroad.

When Hitler and Mussolini sent their Fascist intervention troops to Spain to aid Franco, I went also to Spain, but on the side of the Spanish Republic. I joined the International Brigade and fought for 2½ years against the Fascists. In 1939 I left Spain and I was interned in France in a concentration camp. 50 months I spent in the French camps (in France and in North Africa). Since April, I have been in the British Army. For the past 10½ years I have not had any contact with my family in Germany. I have five brothers and three sisters.

Well, that's all! The reason why I wrote you some details from my life is to tell you that I am only one among thousands, who have experienced the same, or, who have gone even through more and worse than myself. You see, there are two kinds of people in Germany, Fascists and anti-Fascists.

Best wishes and good luck to you, your husband, and your future kid.

Art.

(Ed. Note: Excerpt from a subsequent letter to Leona.)

When I received your letter of Jan. 28th, with the announcement of the little new arrival, on the same day my friends and I celebrated the birthday of two friends (1 German and 1 Austrian, who are both in the British Army). Of course, at this little festival when it came to the toasting, I told my friends about little Victoria and so we raised our glasses and drank a toast to the "New Arrival, Victoria, the little American anti-Fascist" and in my little speech, I said the following:

"Friends, we do not drink only to the health of our two friends here, whose anniversary we are celebrating, we also drink to the health and well-being of little Victoria!" In conclusion, I said, "Friends and volunteers against Fascism, against

## U. S. TO PARTICIPATE IN FRANCO'S "FAIR"

The paradoxical relations between our State Department and the Franco Government have created a malodorous situation. Secretary Hull has accepted the Madrid Government's invitation to participate in the "International Fair" to be held at Barcelona, June 10th.

On April 17th the V.A.L.B. made clear its stand to the Secretary of State in a strongly-worded letter from which we re-print some salient paragraphs:

"The Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade . . . wish to protest any participation by the United States or its citizens in the "International Fair" organized by Gen. Franco's government at Barcelona, June 10th.

" . . . Mr. Secretary, in your great speech of April 9th, you declared that our Government is now bearing down on such alleged neutrals as Spain because we have at last moved from weakness to strength. If so, are we not weakening our own strength by easing pressure on the Madrid government in the form of accepting its invitation to the Barcelona Fair?

" . . . Is there any American business man who believes that Gen. Franco will outlast the defeat of his sponsors, supporters, partners-in-crime? Is there any sense participating in a Fair organized by men who are bound to go into bankruptcy before this war is over? From a dollars-and-cents viewpoint, does the miserable economy of a doomed dictatorship offer any post-war possibilities of expansion to the United States by comparison with a democratic Europe of which Republican Spain will surely be a part?

"Is not the invitation to American firms to 'compete with the Axis' in the display of our wares at Barcelona, an insult to our patriotism at a time when our only thought is a competition by arms, which will lead to the complete destruction of the Axis, Franco included?"

Veterans and all friends of Republican Spain are urged to send their individual protest to Mr. Hull.



## NEWS FROM SPAIN

### SPAIN UNITES AGAINST FRANCO AND THE FALANGE

News from Spain, according to ES-PANA POPULAR, Spanish Republican newspaper published in Mexico, states that a Supreme Council of National Union has been formed in Navarre. It embraces all democratic elements including some leading Carlists.

This movement is a logical consequence of the high level of anti-Franco activity in this region. In the zone of Rivera, Carlist elements together with Republicans, Socialists and Communists, publicly demonstrated against the confiscation of wheat and cattle by the Falangists. The youth of Pamplona carried out a demonstration against the military conscription decreed by General Franco in 1943. The demonstrators included youth who as Carlists, fought on the side of Franco.

The evil effects of Franco policy in Navarre, as throughout all of Spain, reach out not only to Spanish Republicans but to all except a small minority of Falangists. Hunger, misery, persecution and terror are everywhere and Carlists too are thrown into jails and concentration camps and their harvests confiscated. They have begun to feel the



Victoria!" In conclusion, I said, "Friends and volunteers against Fascism, against barbarism, raise your glasses promising the continuation of our battle until the day when the cruelty of war will be banished forever and for all people will be assured a life in peace and prosperity. For the parents good luck and the children, happiness. Three cheers for the young generation. Three cheers and good luck to our little anti-Fascist Victoria!" So we drank (Germans and Austrians) to the health of your little daughter, and we wished her a happy childhood and bringing up, lest she forget when she leaves her home some day that she was born in a time of great events, when millions of people died fighting to save the future generations from perishing and barbarism. I hope you will not be offended because I allowed my friends to share indirectly your happiness of being a mother . . .

Artur

\* \* \*

England

Just received the Volunteer. In my last letter, I said I thought the British was better, but now I do not. Ours has more news of individuals. You cannot realize what it does to a guy in my position to read stuff like the letters from Bottcher and others. Sometimes this dreary grind of office work (I am PARAGRAPH TROOPER-CHAIR-BORNE!) starts to demoralize one. Then the Volunteer comes and you read of the activity of the other guys and up goes your morale even if you know you are unlikely to get even one Purple Heart—let alone the DSC. The renewed courage even raises my hopes to such a degree that I begin to look forward to the time I shall be able to find a paper in my files when someone wants it!

I went to London last week and saw Ann Murry and Nan Green. They told me about the reunion last fall, and all the news of the Vets . . .

Sgt. John Lockett

\* \* \*

Los Angeles, Cal.

And have you sent the Volunteer to Norman Schmidt (James Norman)? His new book AN INCH OF TIME is now in its second edition (main character is based on Irv Goff) and his first book MURDER CHOP CHOP was recently published in England. He donated all his royalties from the English publication to the British-Spanish Refugee aid campaign. Right now he's working on a new novel, concerned with the last month of the Spanish Republic. He was in the Madrid area, mostly near Aranjuez, until the last few days when Casado gave Madrid to Franco on a 30-pieces-of-silver platter.

Ed. Rolfe

open and urged to send their individual protest to Mr. Hull.

## TO THE GUYS AT HOME

We know full well that most of the guys at home are involved in war activities, both in production and in community work, and that they live by the slogan "We also serve who stay at home and slave!!!" The war could not be won on the battlefronts without the folks back home doing their share.

The fellows in the armed forces realize this and many of them have made inquiries about the activities of the guys at home. Through the Volunteer, we have tried to make known the fact that we are still operating; although we must admit, due to limited forces, we are conducting mainly a "mail order" business. As a matter of fact, we have been very anxious to compile some information on the extent and nature of the contributions of the men on the home front, but we have found it quite difficult because of the lack of contact.

Therefore, not only in the interest of our comrades in the various theatres of war, but in our own interest as well, we would greatly appreciate your dropping us a line, telling us what you are doing; and if possible, drop in for a "gab fest!"

We'd like to have pictures of the guys in the service, whether in the States, or in the various theaters of warfare.

concentration camps and their harvests confiscated. They have begun to feel the loss of the independence of Spain. It is, therefore, natural that they should unite in the struggle with all the anti-Franco forces who desire to put an end to the present state of affairs in Spain.

Refugees arriving in Cuba after suffering years of imprisonment in Franco jails speak of the formation of local, provincial and regional Supreme Councils throughout all of Spain and of guerrilla operations in the mountains of Cordoba, Jaen, Malaga, Granada, Huelva, Asturias, Leon, and Teruel.

In this decisive hour for the future of Spain, the guerrilla movement acquires even greater importance. The names of "El Senorito," "Tarallo," "Pepon," "Machaco" and "Flores de Sana" will live forever in the hearts of the Spanish

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## "FEAR IN BATTLE" TO BE REPUBLISHED

The Infantry Journal has announced that they will republish Dr. John Dollard's study FEAR IN BATTLE, which has been reviewed on several occasions in the Volunteer for Liberty.

These findings were based on the experiences of the VALB in Spain. Knowing that you would be interested in a copy, we would suggest that you order same from the Infantry Journal, 1115 Seventeenth St., N.W., Washington 6, D.C. The cost of same has not, as yet, been announced.



(Continued from Page 2)

## Anzio Beachhead

I've been overseas now for quite some time and have come a long way since my outfit made the landing in Sicily. During my time here, we have been kept pretty busy tangling with the Germans and not much time to look around. As yet, I haven't run into any of the Vets that I'm sure are here in the Italian theater.

Maybe you can do me a favor and get some of the boys who were in my outfit in Spain to do a little corresponding. I'd like to hear from some of the fellows who were in the "1st Regiment de Tren."

In Spain I had the job of bringing up the supplies, but at present I'm helping in "burning up the ammo" my artillery battalion hurls out to the Germans each day and night, with the hope that it crushes some more of "Hitler's Children." On how I like the Volunteer. As far as I'm concerned, it is very good and I enjoy reading a little of everything and as I said previously, what is needed is more issues . . .

Cpl. Alex Todorovich

\* \* \*

## Southwest Pacific

Dear Harold:

Honestly, I have had the good intention to write you many times but you know how easy it is to put a letter off. Your letter to me, however, settled the problem finally. I may not write to people I think of writing to, but I always manage to answer all the letters I get—sooner or later. That this is sooner is corroborative evidence of my past good intentions.

Many times while contemplating the larger aspects of military strategy, I have missed the contributions of your keen mind—and left to my resources, have had to map the Pacific campaign with only MacArthur and Nimitz to rely on for any responsible aid. Well, that is one of the burdens of war that I have learned to accept.

I received the last issue of the Volunteer, and got a big kick out of it. It was swell to learn that George Watt is safe and back in the States. Did you know that Schoenberg finally got his commission and is in Italy with that famous Japanese-American Battalion? He says that they are wonderful fighters and have made a real name for themselves.

There has been some action in our neck of the woods recently. The Japs have been attacking our positions but receiving heavy losses and getting nowhere. It's a funny situation in that our mission here is purely defensive and they are forced to attack with inadequate equipment because they are cut off from their source of supplies. Even if they could take our positions it would not fundamentally change their situation. They would still be cut off, but they would eat more for a limited period.

I've been dividing my time between the battery and our outpost where we look to spot Jap artillery and any troop movement or activity.

Give my congratulations to Fajans on both the commission and the wife!

T/S Jesse Wallach

\* \* \*

## Ft. Meade, Md.

They treat the Italian prisoners here pretty good. They all work and seem to be enjoying it. Ran across one guy who fought against us in Spain. One of the soldiers who speaks Italian translated. He said they were never so disgusted in their lives, as while in Spain, and so badly treated. He didn't know why he was there. Il Duce sent him there, and that's all he knows as to what went on . . .

Pfc. Eli Schultz

\* \* \*

## Camp Croft, S. C.

PERSPECTIVES FOR  
THE NEGRO PEOPLE

With the U. S. Supreme Court's 8-to-1 decision "outlawing" the Texas "white primary" and the subsequent 7-to-2 ban on Florida's "labor fraud," there are indications that these decisions preface a new trend in our society. It offers the road to effective struggles during wartime for Negro rights.

The Negro people have made tremendous advances toward Freedom during this war for liberation. Hundreds of thousands of industrial and civil service jobs where formerly preference was shown to white workers, are now being held by Negro men and women, who in their new capacities, are perfecting skills and earning greater wages than ever before.

Even increasing numbers are joining the labor unions—especially the CIO—where bonds of friendship are being forged between the Negro workers and white.

The Fair Employment Practice Committee, a Federal governmental agency, has been created to prevent racial discrimination by employers, and the War Labor Board has issued an unprecedented decision that the wages of the Negro and white worker must be equal.

In the Armed Forces, the Negro people are in every branch of the Service, fighting for their own and their country's freedom. A Negro holds the post of Brigadier General. Even in the deep south, Negro and white officer candidates live together, attend classes together and pursue their course on the basis of complete equality. The Army's Judge Advocate has had to let down the barriers against Negro lawyers.

In action, the Negro soldier drives tanks in Italy and the South Pacific, and Negro pursuit flyers are winning renown in the air. Other Negro flyers are being trained as bombardiers. Liberty ships, named after famous Negroes, and commanded by Negro Captains are manned by white and Negro crews. The Navy is forced, even though reluctant

S I M

The Ides of March have come and gone, and then came Easter. Coming in with the first breath of Spring, were Ruby Ehrlich, Connie Kaye, Steve Levine, Ed Lending, Leslie Kisch, and Nick Demas. This was the first furlough for Ruby in nine months, and it certainly looks as if the Florida sunshine agrees with him! Leslie is a weather forecaster in the Air Force and he also forecasts a Master Sergeant's rating upon his return. Ed had just come from maneuvers in the Kentucky-Tennessee mountains . . . Gabby Rosenstein is home on 20-day leave after spending 2 years in Panama. Life in Panama, for a soldier, may be pretty "quiet," but it has left no after effects on Gabby! . . . Alfred Lytton is enroute home from Alaska. We expect him to breeze in any day now . . . When Don Thayer returned to camp from his furlough, he discovered he was "promoted" to Corporal in his absence . . .

Irv Goff and Larry Cane went off the gold standard on to the silver standard! They were both promoted to 1st Lieutenants! . . . Frank (Ski) Baturia and Roy (Red) Mouton are both going for their 1st Mate's ticket in the Merchant Marine. Frank, in addition, is taking on a 1st Mate ~~AWA~~ . . . Milt Wolff was upped to a Sergeant . . .

Jimmy Demas was just inducted into the Army, Herman Lopez into the Marines, and Perley Payne of Cal., into the Navy . . . Did you know that Frank Lukas is the only Vet in the Submarine Division of the Navy? . . . Saul Wellman just completed his basic training, and to his surprise, passed the physical, and is now taking the training course for Paratrooper . . . Dave Gordon is being



Camp Croft, S. C.

As for me, I'm training and "shvitzing" on the long marches with everything on my back but the foot locker. I expect any day now to get an order to fall out with those as well! . . .

Pvt. Jack Bjoze

\* \* \*

Camp Blanding, Fla.

Rose sent me some snapshots of the baby and let me tell you that the son of the Vet who gets my daughter is going to be a very lucky guy. She's just about the cutest baby that ever was—and I'm not prejudiced even though I'm the pop! . .

Pvt. (Thank goodness I'm not the only one) Berkowitz

\* \* \*

England

I saw Jack Jones (an English Vet) in Coventry. He's the head of the Transport and General Worker's Union local there. That's Bevin's union. Spent about 15 minutes with him . . .

Pfc. Irving Mitchell

\* \* \*

India

Good news here too! My transfer has come through and next I write, I will be with Gen. Stillwell's men, which will be very Okay with me. So the wheel turns and one by one the Vets fall into their chosen position. Took a goddamned long time, though—but then so is this war taking a long time.

Sgt. Milt. Wolff

\* \* \*

Los Angeles, Cal.

Last Wednesday, Congressman John M. Coffee spoke here under the auspices of the Joint Anti-Fascist Comm. The Vets were invited and about 25 boys showed up.

Morris Carnovsky paid us a fine tribute. We took the plaudits. Alvah Bessie answered and then took up the donations.

As a result of this meeting—a small group met Sunday as a steering committee with the purpose of the re-organization of a Post here . . .

Norman Perlman

\* \* \*

Sorry we didn't have space in this issue for some swell letters from Alvin Warren, Saul Wellman, Jack Cooper, Gene Morse and Dick Sherod. We'll try to make up for it.

manned by white and Negro crews. The Navy is forced, even though reluctant to do so, to permit Negroes into the ranks of fighting seamen and allow them to attain officer ranks.

The Negro people in their struggles for greater freedom, have found new friends and champions for Negro equality in Henry Wallace, Pearl S. Buck, Eleanor Roosevelt, Wendell Willkie and others. When an editor of an influential Virginia newspaper called for the abolition of Jim-Crow on busses and street cars, he received an overwhelmingly favorable response. Organized labor is exerting ever-increasing effort in the struggle for Negro rights.

In view of these new developments, we must interpret the recent decisions of the Supreme Court, and in considering what produced them, we must plan strategy and tactics to guarantee further extensions of democracy for the Negro people.

Firstly, the liberating qualities of this war have accelerated the Negroes' wartime march towards freedom, as the extension of democracy for the Negro people has become necessary for national survival.

Secondly, the period of wartime creates the most favorable conditions for winning progressive solutions to problems of the Negro people, e.g. the "white primary" case in Texas.

The effective combination of these two factors indicates the way to further extensions of democracy.

Paratrooper . . . Dave Gordon is being trained in an anti-tank outfit . . .

Bert Jackson, Leo Markowitz, and Lester Gittleston are the latest arrivals in Italy . . . Vaughn Love arrived in England, and John Rody, in Ireland . . . Sidney Levine is enroute . . .

The guys at home have been doing a bit of travelling too . . . Bart Van der Schelling, Ruby Kaufman and John Blair are setting up their permanent residences in Los Angeles . . . Isidore Tivin, formerly of Chicago, is now in LA . . . Ed Balchowski, formerly of Chicago, is now in New York . . .

Ted Allen is writing a biography of Dr. Norman Bethune, which has already been bought by 20th Century Films for production . . .

Sol Feldman celebrated the anniversary of Jarama on February 12th by giving his little daughter a birthday party. She was all of one year young! . . . We just received word that a few more Vets have just completed operations successfully. Sam Carsman is the father of a girl . . . George Chaiken received a chip off the old block . . . and Dick Sherod is in the expectant stage! . . .

Al Prago is biting his nails in frustration. Having finally obtained a passport to go to Mexico on business for his employers, he learned that, because of the unreasonable delay, the firm had hired someone else! Anyhow, welcome back to the Editorial Board, Al!

Hope you like our new "dress." We are still open for suggestions.



## ORDNANCE MEN IN COMBAT

(Military Review—April, 1944)

Ordnance men must primarily be technically proficient in order to maintain all ordnance materiel of the combat troops who are to do the offensive fighting; and at the same time they should be trained and prepared to fight as combat troops in the protection of their own materiel and ordnance comrades.

Due to the scarcity of weapons authorized for protective purposes in the Tables of Organization and the consequent utilization of "pool" weapons and self-propelling guns, it is essential that all men be thoroughly trained in the handling and firing of all types of weapons which might at any time be present in the service park. On one occasion during a threatened tank break-through by the enemy in Tunisia, a formidable array of self-propelled artillery, medium and light tanks, etc., was entirely manned by ordnance personnel and thrown into the most likely avenue of enemy approach in a matter of minutes. During the beach landing in Sicily, when a break-through was made by elements of a German Panzer Division, several 105 mm howitzers which were being repaired by an armored maintenance unit were put into action by ordnance personnel at an approximate range of 800 yards against Mk IV and Mk VI tanks.

Most of the battles of this war so far have been on a more or less "wide open" front as compared to World War I. The sudden appearance of an armored patrol or armored column on the flank or in rear of an ordnance unit is not the time for attempting a haphazard, sporadic resistance with or

both technically and tactically ignorant of the methods involved in establishing adequate defense or in launching a local counterattack aimed at extricating the materiel and personnel of the ordnance unit involved.

Thorough practical and physical training along these lines must of a necessity be made prior to reaching the theater of operations and the combat zone.

(News of the Month—cont.)

### GEN. MacARTHUR'S POLITICAL CAMPAIGN BACKFIRES

Typical of many newspapers' comments on the MacArthur-Miller correspondence is the following extract from the Chicago Sun editorial of April 15th:

Gen. Douglas MacArthur, by his exchange of letters with Representative A. L. Miller of Nebraska, has degraded his own political stature to that of a third-rate congressman. Whether he meant or did not mean the letters to be published, he has dulled the glitter of his uniform by his willingness to drag military strategy into the arena of politics; by his endorsement of a cheap politician's attack on his commander-in-chief; by his own sly attempt to incite fear of "the same condition internally as the one which we fight externally."

No general can justify running a military campaign simultaneously with a political campaign. Gen. MacArthur ought to make up his mind to run one or the other. Even more serious, however, is the type of political campaign to which he has lent himself.

Gen. MacArthur is being used by a little group of ultra-nationalists who do not scruple to adopt fascist techniques for the achievement of their reactionary purpose.

Raising the Communist bogey is a fascist technique. Contradictorily labeling the administration "fascist" is a fascist technique. And so Representative Miller identifies "the wave of communism" with "this system of left wingers and New Dealism," while Gen. MacArthur finds his comment "scholarly."

### ODESSA'S AMAZING PATACOMB ARMY

Foreign correspondents who entered Odessa with the victorious Red Army electrified an astonished world with the news that 10,000 Partisans lived and fought in the limestone catacombs below the Ukrainian seaport all during the Nazi occupation.

When in January 1943 news filtered through to Odessa of German depredations in their retreat from Stalingrad

USSR and Japan cancel's Japan's oil concessions in Sakhalin. Besides being of military importance to the Allies, this diplomatic victory is symptomatic of the Soviet's growing strength . . . When Roumanian territory was entered by the Red Army, the Russian government guaranteed it would make no attempts for territorial aggrandizement at the expense of Roumania or of the other Axis belligerents whose lands may be invaded during the course of the Battle of Europe . . . Highly important treason trial has begun in Washington. Defendants are 30 fascists including Joe McWilliams, Lawrence Dennis, Edward James Smythe, Wm. Dudley Pelley, George S. Viereck, Gerald Winrod, Mrs. Eliz. Dilling, James True. They are charged with conspiracy to "impair and undermine the loyalty and morale of the military and naval forces of the United States," which they attempted by having "unlawfully, willfully, feloniously and knowingly conspired and agreed together and with each other and with officials of the government of the German Reich and the leaders of the Nazi Party" . . . Increasing support for drafting President Roosevelt for a fourth term is now worrying GOP heads. The state conventions of both the AFL and CIO of Pennsylvania adopted resolutions unanimously in favor of the fourth term. Although there was no Democratic primary in Wisconsin, there were hundreds of thousands of write-in votes for Roosevelt . . . V. Lombardo Toledano accuses a mysterious Father O'Brien, chaplain in the U.S. Army, of being a member of a secret society which inspired the attempted assassination of Avila Camacho, President of Mexico. Lombardo implied that the priest was one of a number of Coughlinite elements in Mexico working with Lt. Antonio de la Lama Rojas, the Mexican who attempted the murder. The Mexican government is now investigating the entire affair . . . Mrs. Raisa Browder, wife of Earl Browder, will be permitted to remain in the U.S.A as a result of the decision of the Board of Immigration Appeals in withdrawing its warrant of deportation . . . April 12 marked the

### NEWS FROM SPAIN

people. The sabotage of munition dumps, the destruction of railroad lines and depots, the reprisals against the Falangist lackeys will be remembered forever. The men and women in the prisons of Spain will remember the guerrillas for their work of solidarity and rescue. They all recall the heroic deed of the saving of 60 anti-fascists awaiting execution in the cemetery of Ceares in Gijon by the guerillas operating in that region.

The guerrillas are looked upon as the irregular National Army closely united to the workers and peasants, to all anti-Franco forces, working and striving for unity of all patriotic Spaniards.

One month after the formation of the Supreme Council of National Union in Spain in September, 1943, two leading political figures in the Catholic Church World had met with the President of the Junta and identified themselves with its program which calls for the overthrow of Franco and the Falange.

The majority of Spaniards were in the Supreme Council from its formation — Republicans Socialists, Communists, Basque and Catalan Nationalists, members of the UGT and CNT trade unions. Now, the inclusion of the Catholics and Carlists makes for an unbeatable combination.

All of these forces agree that after Franco's overthrow, a Government of National Union must be established which will (1) break all bonds with Hitler and the Axis; (2) purge all Falangists from the State apparatus; (3) grant amnesty to all political prisoners; (4) re-establish freedom of press, opinion, assembly, association, conscience and religion; (5) reconstruct Spain in accordance with the political, economic and social rights fundamental to the dignity of Man; and (6) establish the conditions for a peaceful and democratic election of a Constituent Assembly to which the Government of National Union will be accountable and which will issue a Constitutional Charter of liberty, independence and prosperity for all of Spain.

Franco and the Falange are sentenced to death by the Spanish people. Spain



be made prior to reaching the theater of operations and the combat zone.

(From a report on North African and Sicilian ordinance operations.)

## SOLDIER'S WAR BALLOT

The compromise measure finally worked out which will enable the men of the armed forces to vote in the coming presidential elections, is generally admitted to be sufficiently emasculated to warm the hearts of our native defeatists. However, by dint of some extra effort it is possible for every soldier to get his vote in, on time.

9,000,000 or more votes are not hay. They make all the difference in the world in this most crucial of all elections in our history. Commentators and political experts are wont to compare this election to the critical days of the 1864 presidential race. Just imagine what might have happened had Gen. McClellan been elected. The glowing prospects of Teheran will quickly fade if defeatists and America Firsters have their way.

Every Veteran in the services will make it his business to apply for his war ballot; and it will do no harm to urge your buddies to do likewise.

### TAKE NOTE

Have You Paid Your Dues

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through to Odessa of German depredations in their retreat from Stalingrad, the partisans began to go underground. The limestone catacombs had long been a feature of Odessa. They cleared wells for water. Tunnels were set aside as hospitals. Thousands of women and children lived there day and night. And at darkness the partisans came up, half of them armed with machine guns or tommy-guns to engage the Germans and Roumanian troops in stiff battles.

That's underground warfare with a vengeance.

## NEWSBRIEFS

Turkey will no longer ship chrome to Germany . . . New agreement between the

Appeals in withdrawing its warrant of deportation . . . April 13 marked four months since Morris U. Schappes, distinguished anti-fascist teacher and writer, was sent to jail on a trumped-up perjury charge as a result of the Rapp-Coudert witch-hunt . . . Baseball season started April 18th. The Bums lost the opener; do any of you care about the rest? . . . The pro-Roosevelt unity slate of the American Labor Party won a smashing victory in the primaries over the Dubinsky-Antonini gang. The Hillman forces gained control of the State committee despite a campaign of vilification conducted in all New York papers with only one exception. Tsk, tsk — red-baiting doesn't pay dividends any more!

Franco and the Falange are sentenced to death by the Spanish people. Spain as a whole is rising against this Hitler-puppet regime. The executioners are on the march—Catholics, Carlists, Socialists, Republicans, Communists, members of the UGT, CNT, united on the road to the restoration of their freedom and independence.

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