Recently received by one of the 12th's personnel was a letter from his wife describing some of the experiences of her uncle, who was a civilian prisoner of the Japanese for three long years in Manila. The letter provides virtually a first-hand account of the Japanese barbarity which we have so long heard and read about. The man of whom this letter was written, was liberated when the Americans entered Santo Tomas. Following are some excerpts from the communication:

"The train my uncle came on was a special one for returning service men and civilians from the Philippines. My uncle looked surprisingly well. When he was interned he weighed 130 and went down as low as 90 lbs. Now he has regained about all of it and is up to 125. For 7 days after the American 1st Cavalry entered Santo Tomas, the camp was bombed by Japanese shells. During that bombardment my uncle was wounded by shell fragments and had to have over a dozen shrapnel pieces removed from the right thigh. He has already told us many of his experiences. I was happy to hear that he personally did not suffer much ill-treatment from the Japs. Twice he was slapped and another time kicked because he failed to bow to a Jap, and the other times because he was watching the American planes bomb Manila.

LOW FOOD SUPPLY MEANT END FOR ANIMALS

"For the first two years it wasn't bad and they were able to purchase food from outside the camp. The Filipinos did that for them until food became scarce on the island. The third year was bad. They lived on a soup of water with a few grains of rice floating in it. People died constantly, mostly those over 50. During the first years they could raise chickens, but when food became scarce, these disappeared. Gradually the dogs and cats began to disappear, too. They (Cont'd on Page 8)
One of the most odiferous scandals yet to come out of the European war drifted into the nostrils of the American public last week. It centered around the so-called "coddling" of high German army officers and the mystery of just why the Doenitz government is openly composed of former high Nazis and Nazi sympathizers, in spite of the fact that this war was supposed to have been fought to rid the world of such vermin.

Mothers and fathers whose sons died fighting the Germans must have been rather puzzled to hear of American officers dining with their former enemies, and engaging in friendly "shop talk" with them. Men fighting and suffering in the Pacific must have wondered, too, why world gangster Hermann Goering, the scheming, murderous, greedy "jolly" fat man, was being handled with kid gloves instead of the long-promised mailed fist. Perhaps they discussed his "chicken dinner" over a sumptuous K ration feast, while sweating out the next Jap shell.

The soldiers of the Allied nations join with General Eisenhower in his strong denunciation of this action. The road we have travelled has been too long and too bloody, and the road ahead too uncertain, to let those who will not keep the faith deter us from our goal of final victory and lasting peace.

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TWO LINES OF TERSE VERSE

The thought of another summer in Italy isn't terrific,

But, O, how I loathe to think of one in the Pacific!!!
This week's spotlight turns on the Headquarters Office...but that is nothing unusual, since the Headquarters Office is always in the spotlight. Among the enlisted men (and the officers, too), this place is known as the "Sanctum Sanctorum". While other departments deal in minor matters, great decisions of world-shattering import are decided behind the closed doors and hushed rooms of Headquarters. Such things as "What is my day off?" or "How about a furlough?" can be heard if one pinces his (or her) ear close to the doors of this nerve center of hospital activity. Did it ever occur to anyone that Headquarters is the substitute for the parents of our organization? It is not necessary to get parents' consent to get married...but woe is on the person who dares contemplate a marital ceremony without the blessing of Headquarters - (see All No. 96).

Yet, on the serious side, Headquarters is the all-important correlating department of the hospital. Matters of policy, interpretation of Army Regulations, liaison between departments, presentation of awards, and hundreds of other tasks fall to the members of this department. Heading the department is Major Ory (self-styled "best damn Adjutant in the U.S. Army"), who took over the position of Adjutant when the 12th began operations in Rome. His many and varied duties as intermediary between the members of the hospital and the outside world in general keeps him on the move (but he hasn't missed a ball game yet). "And I don't intend to miss any." Entered service from Pensacola, Florida.

Following behind the Adjutant in rank, is the Assistant Adjutant, Lt. Livingston, another gentleman of the "Old South", and in particular...Mississippi. Lt. Livingston joined the 12th General from the 114th Station Hospital. Besides his duties as Assistant Adjutant, the lieutenant has only ten other additional duties...the most important of which is that of PX Officer. It is generally agreed that because of this latter position, Lt. Livingston is a good man to be friendly with.

T/Sgt Bob Hugler places entire blame upon the draft board of Detroit, Michigan, for launching him upon an Army career which up to this time has him in that "in-the-know-position" of Sergeant Major. How he now yearns for those happy and carefree days when he was in the Registrar's Office. Sgt Hugler's chief complaint is that the drumming in his ears that he hears as a member of the 12th General Hospital orchestra continues over when he assumes his place as Sergeant Major.

T/4 Gene Lancaster assembles the daily Special Order...the instrument whereby patients go home, Officers and Nurses go on DS and enlisted men get promoted... (or donated). T/4 Braunstein is up to his ears (a bystander claims this should read "up to his nose") in the files. New York's gift to the armed forces, T/5 Calise claims association with generals...because he writes the General Orders that award decorations to patients and personnel. Headquarters' printing plant (one mimeograph machine) gets its daily beating from T/5 Tornavacco...the man everybody sees when they need printing of forms. Pfc Hoover, outside social and other activities notwithstanding, handles the make-up of the Daily Bulletin and the numerous other tasks that fall to a Headquarters' clerk. Last, but by no means least, is the fair-haired boy of Headquarters, Pfc Atkinson (Newton, Alabama's most decorated soldier). "At" is the official courier and the darling of the nurses (when they need a lift to town).
NATURAL HISTORY IN FABLES

THE FLY

Once upon a time there was a bottle fly named Zoom who lived a lot of time flying around and another. At this he was very with a full load in an inch or if he had a mind to, which some

n big, broad-shouldered blue- ed in a dung hill and spent landing on one thing or good. He could take off less, and land on a dime times he had. He was the best fly in town when it came to making a pass at a cake, place of steak, or roast chicken, and was held by all who saw him to be both strong and clever, what with the food he jumped on and all, his feet were always sticky, and to come to a full stop right after a full-power landing was a cinch. Because of all these fine things a Zoom ate well, often, and was very happy.

One day another fly, a fly who was a R.T., said: "Zoom, why don't you wash your feet? It would increase your payload and add 20 mph to your speed if you'd get rid of all that trash. Why, think of the wind resistance you'd save, a boy, just think of it!"

Zoom did, and thought this was good stuff. So he took a bath all over and wiped his feet dry. Then he took off. What speed! What rate of climb! Boy, oh boy! What performance! Delighted, Zoom levelled off and reared for a nearby cake at full throttle. He circled it at full speed twice, climbed for altitude, peeled off on one wing, and dove all out for his most famous trick, a full-power landing on vanilla icing. He hit the runway at blinding speed and slammed on his brakes. His feet were too slick, though, and they wouldn't hold. Zoom skidded across the cake with brake-bands smoking and groaning, did a wing-over, landed smack-dab on his nose, and burst into flames. His friends didn't have a chance to get his dor-togs, either, because some humans came by just then and ate him up along with the cake.

HORAL: "It's great to be clean And swell to be neat But if you're a fly, bub Don't was those feet."

THE HUSK TAILOR'S TOIL

"The uniforms are alright, it's just that the fellows are too long or too short." That's the opinion of Raul Sosa, detachment tailor. Since he also believes that it is easier to whittle down a uniform than a soldier, he hurries about his business in the tailor shop.

During these rush periods, Sosa does the front office work, checking clothes in and out, while his staff of lady assistants makes adjustments, sews on insignia or presses clothing.

Boss Tailor Harry Bandalzvek is a patient in the hospital so he isn't able to help direct traffic and operations. Sosa says, "Boss or no boss, the stripes must go on."

Actually, the tailor shop was so busy when "Medi-Call" called for a story, our representative hadn't the heart to bother the workers. They never knew we were there.
GI NEWS

(ANS) -- A highly detailed geographical plan, in which the whole of Europe was plotted against a map of Texas and surrounding states, was used for bomber training missions by the army air forces, it was disclosed recently. The little city of Terrell, Tex., served as London and other cities as far away as Albuquerque, N.M., were used to simulate European geography.

MAKE YOUR OWN COMMENTS, MEN

(ANS) -- Don't all shout at once, men, but it's true. A bill approved recently by the House military affairs committee makes local draft board members and other uncompensated selective service officials eligible for certificate and mail for faithful and patriotic service. Before it can be effective, Congress must pass it.

THEY HAD WORDS FOR IT

(ANS) -- War correspondents used 163,000,000 words to tell the story of the conquest of Europe from the west in the 337 days between the invasion and the surrender.

Another 400,000 words were filed on the surrender. The writers used 524,000 words on D-Day.

The censors in addition checked 12,000,000 words weekly of the army's own public relations handouts and personal films and pictures of the troops which totalled 60,000 feet of movies and 700,000 stills per week.

Tarakan

(ANS) -- Tarakan Island, first Borneo station for Allied forces driving southwestward from the liberated Philippines, is one of the best sources of petroleum so far discovered in the vast, oil-rich Netherlands Indies and British Malaya.

The palm-fringed island, covered with wooded hills, is the largest of numerous islands lying in the delta of the Sesajap River near the northern limit of Netherlands Borneo's east coast. It is 16 miles long from its rounded north shore to its southern tip. It is 50 miles south of the British North Borneo border, 190 miles southwest of recently-recaptured Tawitawi of the Sulu archipelago, and 800 miles southward across the Sulu Sea from Manila.

DENTISTS' POST-WAR PLANS

(ANS) -- A recent survey in the Journal of the American Dental association reports that 22 percent of the dentists now in the armed forces will not return to their former communities to practice after the war.

Responses to questionnaires sent to 21,000 commissioned dental officers indicated, however, that 93 percent of the dentists who went to the armed services from private practice plan to return to private practice.
"MESS LURES"

The unhappy-looking guy seen walking about the corridors these days is T/5 Eugene "Zeko" Lerman, who recently returned from the U.S. where he went on TD. Zeko is bemoaning the fate that permitted him to be shipped back just a few days short of the end of the war and then after he had had only 72 days on furlough! Messages of sympathy and condolences sent in care of this column will be greatly appreciated.

FLASH! (exclusive) Results of softball game between members of this department and officers of the unit, more popularly known as the "Action Destroyers"—Mess Department.........8

Highlight of the game: Bases loaded, 1 out, and Major Ory at bat! Picture if you will the position Abe Caplan, pitching for the Mess, found himself in. It was only after Caplan was reminded that all rotation was suspended that he settled down and retired the side without any scoring.

*** CRAFT SHOP ***

Latest addition to the Special Service recreation program is the Craft Shop, located in Row 8. Housed in two adjoining tents, the Shop provides tools and facilities for metal work, carpentry, clay modeling, and, in fact, almost any of the manual skills. Here men who find delight in such work may gather away to their heart's content—during off-duty hours.

You accumulate will make the going far easier for you in time to come.

Bonds in various denominations, starting at $7.50, can be purchased for cash or by allotment. There is no red tape—merely stop in at your PERSONNEL OFFICE and make a purchase.
The scourge of Lecorn, the 13th General Hospital's Redbirds, raced thru the past week like a runaway fire engine, flattening four more opponents to run their season record to 21 victories and remain unbeaten.

Sunday afternoon, the 'Birds bowled over the "Motor Maes" of the 603rd Ordnance Co., 10-2 for their 6th consecutive PBS Big Ten League victory. For Bill Koeman it was his 7th straight win of the season as he helped his own cause considerably by letting out 4 hits in as many trips to the plate and scoring 3 runs. Bill fanned 11 visitors in the 7 innings he worked, retiring in favor of Clyde Thrasher after being struck in the neck by a flying bat while sitting on the bench.

Tuesday's victims were the 62nd Fighter Sqdn "Wings", who held a 1 run lead briefly in the 1st inning only to see the Redbird power erase it with a 6 run outburst in the home half of the frame. The Wings tapped Andy Krause for another tally in the 3rd to close their scoring for the day while the Flock added another pair in the 5th just for the exercise. Ace Maloveny rapped three tallies across to load the Redbird attack of 8 runs on as many hits while the Wings got 2 runs on just 3 safe blows.

Traveling to spacious Yankee Stadium in Lecorn on Thursday evening, the Redbirds played one of their best games of the season crushing PBS Headquarters for the second time this season, 7 - 3. Bill Koeman, playing at 1st base in place of the injured Ed Subjeck and left fielder Ray Spears belted home runs while Vince Kelly rapped a double with the bases loaded.

**PBS BIG- TEN LEAGUE STANDINGS**

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**GAMES TODAY**

Carros at Laundry Reds
Boomers at Cobblers
Flying Cats at Motor Maes
Booster at Speroparts

(RED-BIRDS not scheduled)

* * * * * * * * * * *

provide the necessary stick work to give Lefty Prymick another victory. The little leftythor or allowed but 5 bingles and was never in serious trouble.

The expected exciting contest with the 98th Engineer "Hawks" proved to be a bust as the Redbirds nailed their vaunted opponents to all the corners of Ory Field to the tune of 10-1. Bill Koeman won his 8th game of the season allowing 2 hits and fanning 12 Hawks in a game limited to 5 1/2 innings because of poor visibility at the plate.

**H-C-T-1-2-B**

**THE RED-BIRDS ARE NOT SCHEDULED TO PLAY TODAY BUT THERE WILL BE A BALL GAME THIS AFTERNOON AT ORY FIELD.**

**LITTLE REDS LOSE**

Crippled by the loss of their all-around star, Irv Reenick, the Little Reds 3 game winning streak was snapped on Thursday night by the 604 Ordnance Co. ten, 7 to 4.
3 YEARS IN A JAP PRISON CAMP

(Cont'd from P. 1)

looked for rats but couldn't find any. They did catch two moles once and ate those.

JAPS CIVIL TO FILIPINOS

The Japs were worse to the natives than to the Americans and killed hundreds at a time for petty reasons. One time he saw the Japs put a hose into one and fill him up with water till his stomach was inflated like a balloon and then they jumped on him till he broke as a balloon would. The Japanese usually bothered internees only for infringements of the camp rules. Once they beat a man with the soles of their hob-nailed shoes. When he became unconscious they threw water on him and continued the beating. When he passed out a second time, they left him overnight, and continued the same process the next day.

My uncle was in surprisingly good health, considering the ordeal he had gone through. I hope that with rest and care he will soon be back to normal again.

WANTS TO BUY CAMERA

Anyone desiring to sell a 35mm camera contact Corporal Ed White in Detachment of Patients Office.

RED CROSS TALK

Red Cross looked like a regular playground last night—what with the orphans running around—big tanned brutes playing musical chairs and all of the children's delights we could summon. Cake and cold drinks added to the fun and the kiddies logged it up with smiles of contentment.

DOUT REQUESTS FALLING OFF

"How about some doughnuts, Miss?" was one of our most frequent requests from both patients and personnel. Whether or not the end of the war or the sudden rise in temperature has dulled the appetites for this famous item is a matter of opinion. At any rate, barncoup doughnuts were left over. Is it that doughnuts are a winter food, or shall we serve melba toast next time?

WINNIE & DEBORAH ARE BACK

Winnie and Deborah are once again with us. Winnie Wehr has been home on leave—Deborah, her dog, has spent the spring in Naples.

Battle Creek, Mich. (ANS)—Thirty years ago George Peabody applied for a license to wed. It was refused because he couldn't get his mother's consent. The other day, George Peabody, 48, returned to the license bureau, bride on arm. "We're going to get married," he announced. "Mother finally gave in."