

## COTTON TALES (Italy)

Unofficial weekly publication of the 450th Bomardment Group (H).  
Col. E. R. Jacoby, Commanding; Capt. A. L. Campa, Publications Officer.

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T-Sgt. Chester J. Micek	Editor
Sgt. Mortimer Metchik	Associate Editor
Sgt. Harris A. Hillendahl	Managing Editor
Sgt. Abraham Mintz	News Editor
Lt. Robert Maurer	Artist
S-Sgt. Albert J. Cinkowski	Photographer

## Addition To The Staff

With this issue we initiate a new masthead. This is the work of Lt. Robert Maurer, 722nd pilot, whose biographical sketch appeared recently in the paper. Lt. Maurer's name is a welcome addition to the "Cotton-Tales" Staff because through his artistic ability we will be able to give you more interesting and timely cartoons.

In this connection we make mention of S/Sgt. Albert Cinkowski, better known as "Cink" to the Group. The hundreds of officers and men who have posed in front of his camera are well aware of the good work which this photographer can turn out. Arrangements have been made to reproduce a picture a week for the paper, and "Cink" will be there to take the picture that will make our front page.

## We Win Inspection

The nebulous reports regarding the results of the Wing inspection have been finally clarified. Call it "Spit and Polish," "Best Headquarters," or by any other name, and the fact still remains that the 450th won the inspection and the 450th Headquarters was adjudged the best Headquarters in the 47th Wing. All of which means that the efforts of the entire Group were well worth it. One casual look at our areas will convince anyone that we have come a long ways from the mudhole we landed in sixteen months ago. But, the improvements have not been halted just because we have won two successive inspections. The building program under way will provide all personnel with added facilities, and the current improvements will keep the 450th in the lead. So pick up that paper, soldier, and don't throw trash around.

## Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

For a long time, officers have been lamenting the poor quality and small variety of drinks served at the "Cottontail Bar." The skimpy portions of cognac sold are hardly large enough to be given the euphuistic name of "shots." More imagination and interest in running the bar are obviously needed.

## Dissatisfied Tipplers

The apparent neglect of the Officers Bar is due to the fact that a new and much more ambitious bar is now under construction. If the "shots" of cognac are too small, the obvious thing to do is to buy twice as many. Most drinky officers can afford that much.

Major John H. Wells Jr.  
Group Adjutant

Dear Editor:

A common occurrence in the 722 squadron these days is to see second lieutenants complete their tour of duty without their silver bars. We've heard two rumors on this subject, which is correct. One rumor has it that the second lones must volunteer for a second tour of duty before becoming first lieutenants and the other that they are being given a CLUSTER for their GOLD bar at the completion of their first tour. (We would like to see this printed in "Molto Buono.")

(In compliance with the wishes of the above, the Editors reproduce the letter as written, without change of spelling and without altering the context. Ed.)

*It is the desire of the Commanding General of the XV Air Force that every officer return to the zone of the interior in the grade of at least a First Lieutenant. This is not contingent upon a second tour of duty, but it does imply however, the proper discharge of duties and demeanor commensurate with an officer of the United States Army. According to our records, NO DESERVING officer has been denied his promotion to First Lieutenant before returning to the zone of the interior after completion of the tour of duty.*

Major John H. Wells Jr.  
Group adjutant

Dear Editor:

For several months now we have been told that it was impossible to send ground men to the rest camp at Capri, because of some exclusive order by either Wing or Air Force. Isn't it peculiar that the 98th, 376th, and 449th aren't affected by the same regulations? Everyone but the 450th can send ground personnel. Why is that so? Why do we always hide a Group order or arbitrary decision behind the skirts of Wing or Air Force? There is enough red-tape in the army without dreaming up additions.

## War-weary neurotic!!

*The policy of the Group in sending ground personnel to Capri has been governed by directive number 354.1 issued by 47th Wing Headquarters on February 12. The 450th has no control over policies practiced in other Groups nor does this Group base its own policy on the procedure of other organizations. The instructions given by the 47th Wing specifically state that 12 combat EM and 6 combat officers will go to Capri.*

(Continued from page four)

CHAPLAINS'  
CHAT

There are some things more to be desired than popularity and power. At least that is the way Jesus figured it out. From the moment he entered the city of Jerusalem on Palm Sunday he followed a course of action which began to undermine his popularity and minimize his power. The reason for this lay in the fact that he had a job to do and a message to proclaim irrespective of the cost to him, personally. And without equivocation or rationalization, without any attempt at punch-pulling or soft-peddling he gave the right names to the evils he found in the Holy City, and opposed the men who were perpetrating them.

Jesus' first clash with the enemies of God occurred in the Temple. He went there to worship, only to find himself in a market place rather than a sanctuary. Disgusted and dismayed that the sensibilities of men could descend to such a sacrilegious level, he took it upon himself to drive the money-changers and the merchants from the house of God.

The key to the understanding of Jesus lies in the phrase "he took it upon himself." He took it upon himself to censure the hypocrisy of men who judged others for sins of which they were also guilty. He took it upon himself to meet the attack of his enemies head on, neither seeking methods of evasive action nor involving his followers in any more danger than they were willing to accept of their own accord. He took it upon himself to endure the Cross rather than compromise the Gospel he proclaimed and the God he worshipped.

What good is the concept of a compassionate, personal God if it can not be applied in human life? What good is the concept of the worth of universal brotherhood if men refuse to live together as brothers? What good is the concept of eternal life if men are everlastingly demonstrating by their actions that life is transitory and death is final? The answer is obvious. But Jesus took it upon himself to translate these concepts into his own life. He tried them out, and they worked. He tested them. Even on the Cross he was testing them- and they still worked.

In our hearts we know he was right; that God is our Father and Jesus our savior, that love is better than hatred; that decency is better than filth; that purity is better than hypocrisy; that self-giving is better than selfishness; that integrity is better than weakness; that moral courage is better than cowardice; that life with God is greater than death.

## KEEPING UP WITH THE WORLD

There was a stormy session in Adolph's Berchtesgaden last week, and in spite of Hitler's most vehement opposition the generals agreed to send a peace emissary to contact Americans in Sweden to whom the peace conditions, might be stated. The contact was made and the conditions were stated. They were two: that the United States and Britain should occupy all of Germany up to the River Oder, and that the Nazi Party should stay in power. The Americans must occupy to the Oder in order to hold the Russians back, and to effect an ideological affinity with the Germans: the Party must stay in power because it is the only recognized state organization within the country.

## WHY THE REFUSAL?

The peace bid was refused.

Why the refusal? Why not call it quits now?

At the termination of the present European conflict, the German nation will, after a few years, refuse to recognize its defeat. They will, of course, recognize that they have been set back by force of arms, but the set-back will be a temporary one. World domination can be effected with just one more war. There will be alibis for the loss of this one. Germany was deserted by her allies. Germany did not have sufficient time to organize her industry. Germany did not have enough heavy bombardment aircraft. The German nation was slandered by the Communist-Jews. And so on. No problem at all in selling such propaganda to the German home-folk. However, in order to rise again, Germany will attempt to split the membership of the United Nations: the very members who are pledged to prevent any attempts by organized groups within Germany to set them again on the war-path. Differences between the United Nations will lead to a divided control of Germany. Then the Germans can play one major power against another. With this means, and under the eyes of the world, Germany will emerge again a world power.

## NO HALF-DONE JOB

The peace conditions Von Rundstedt proposed were intended to encourage suspicion between the Allied powers. The Germans are still trying to sell the idea that Russia is the real menace, that the National Socialists are only attempting to prevent the spread of World-Communism. The peace-bid was a call for us to stop this danger from spreading over Europe. It was intended as the first step leading to an alliance amongst England, the United States and Germany against Russia.

The call was given: Aryans and anti-semites unite to halt the spread of this Bolshevik-Jewish menace;