

**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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 Sgt. Abraham Mintz . . . . . News Editor  
 Lt. Robert Maurer . . . . . Artist  
 S-Sgt. Albert J. Cinkowski . . . . . Photographer

**WANNA SWAP?**

FOR SALE: 124 Size Eastman Kodak. In A-1 condition. See T/Sgt Wedding at the Photo Lab

For Sale: One large-size Baretta automatic in A-1 condition, with scabbard and two clips full of cartridges. Owner: S/Sgt. Albert J. Cinkowski. Gun can be seen at Public Relations Office.

For sale: One "Voightlander" camera, reflex. 120, F-3.5 lens, 300 second compur shutter, with five rolls of film. Complete with case \$100.00. Owner, Lt Lorenz, 722nd Squadron. Camera can be seen at the Public Relations Office.

Kodak Film. Will trade seven rolls of 6.16 and/or two rolls of 1.16 film or like number of 1.27 film. Owner: Sgt. Sigl, of 722nd Communications.

For Sale: One Guitar, American made, good tone. Make me an offer. Sgt. Stramezzi, 723rd Armament.

LOST: Tone Chromium "HELBROS" wrist watch, swiss movement, serial 1007 lost between the 722nd mess hall and the main gate on April 16th. Has leather wrist band. Reward offered... Pvt. Charles F. Benson, 722nd transportation.

**Pay-off at the Home Front**

Announcements in the hometown papers regarding achievements of 450th personnel have paid off in post-war jobs and recognition in the case of S/Sgt Roy Hooper of the 721st Squadron. When the Major of Nashville, Tennessee read in the local "Banner" that Hooper had been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross "for extraordinary achievement in aerial flight," he wrote the Sergeant an enthusiastic letter assuring him that the entire city of Nashville was proud to claim such a worthy citizen. Moreover, knowing that Hooper had been trying to get on the city's Fire Department, the mayor assured him of a place when he returned from the army.

Sgt Ed Szymanski, 722nd Squadron gunnery instructor, was notified from South Bend, Indiana that special mention was made of his name in a radio program "Salute to the G. Is." The Vice-President of a South Bend concern offered his congratulations and added: "We are proud of this opportunity to salute your outstanding work in uniform and remember fellow, if there is anything we can do for you in South Bend, do not hesitate to call on us. We are at your service regardless of what you might want done." That's a big order, and all because he is a member of a B-24 Liberator Group that has been awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation.

**CHAPLAINS' CHAT**

Gilbert Chesterton once defined a gentleman as one who put into life more than he took out of it. It is a good definition. For the true gentleman is not simply he who has acquired a superficial veneer of culture. Gentlemanliness is more than a penchant for social graces and ballroom courtliness. It also includes attitudes as well as manners.

The well-mannered individual may be at the same time a social parasite. He has no *raison d'être*, for he takes from life without giving anything in return. He exists because of the industry and initiative of others. And as they say in Italy, that is "no buono."

Some farmers back home are like that. They rent some land and then proceed over a period of years systematically to roo the soil. With no attempt to put back into the earth the crop nurturing minerals their bumper crops have consumed, they work the farm for all it can stand, and then move on. Our American countryside is dotted with abandoned farms because there are men who will not put back into the land what they take away from it.

Nor is the Army free from men who believe it exists for their benefit. The parasitic soldier is he who is content to be carried along by his comrades. If he allows himself to become unable to do his job it does not bother him that someone else must assume his responsibility.

The "to hell with it" attitude is the mark of a man who won't assume his share of work. And that is strictly "no buono."

In civilian life or the army, the true mark of a gentleman is to be found in his ability to put into his work more than is required of him.

**KEEPING UP WITH THE WORLD**

The passing of Franklin D. Roosevelt from the world scene could not have occurred at a more untimely and unfortunate moment. Although it does not threaten to unsettle the progress of the war, it raises many justifiable fears as to the extent and quality of American participation in the future peace. For Roosevelt's strong and determined personality distinguished by a bold vision of a new world society free from war and want, was the chief force that swept isolationism out of the halls of Congress and united all segments of American opinion on the issue of world peace and security. His was a name respected and admired in every freedom loving nation, his word trusted, his leadership followed.

The position Roosevelt achieved in the modern world was not based, however, on personality alone. He demonstrated a clear understanding of the economic forces that shape our times, and of how to cope with them. And from the beginning of the Fascist challenge, he recognized the dangers America and the world faced from it and acted vigorously, unhesitatingly and decisively. He fought the small-minded, the blind and reactionary influences in American politics and was still fighting when he so suddenly passed away.

With Mr. Roosevelt in office during the coming critical years, we would have been assured a good chance of permanent peace, a continuance and deepening of the program of world economic co-operation and domestic reform. For the first time since 1932, he could have acted for the pages of history, without needing to consider petty arguments of political advantage that sometimes circumscribed his actions in the past.

Of his successor, President Harry S. Truman, we know little. His opening remarks to Congress indicate that he intends to carry out Roosevelt's broader policies in both letter and spirit. We can only hope that he and the advisors he surrounds himself with, will be inspired by the memory of Roosevelt's ideals; that the enormous tragedy of Roosevelt's death will serve to bring into sharper focus the goals he was striving for: a free, secure and peaceful world.

By: Sgt. Mortimer Metchik

The Army News Service reports this incident between Eisenhower and Churchill: The American General was assuring the Prime Minister that British soldiers had exercised good influence upon the GIs. "They toned down the exuberance of the American troops," said the General... Just then a GI came into the room and asked: "General, may I borrow your jeep?" ... Eisenhower turned to Churchill and said: "See what I mean? A year ago he wouldn't have asked."



"Cottontail Boulevard"

*(Handwritten notes in the right margin of the photo):*  
 721st Office  
 Barracks  
 (721st) Sunday room  
 Show  
 Gp Hqtrs  
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