Honor Roll
Former Pantex Employees Who Have Gone Into the U. S. Armed Forces

UTILITIES
James C. Stoffle, Army
Earl T. Powell, Army
Linnie L. Guthrie, Army
Ivan H. Bullard, Army

OPERATIONS
Loyd L. Stiles, Army
Luther H. Carver, Army
George V. Bruce, Coast Guard
Joseph L. Junell, Navy
Bettye R. Solomon, WAAC

STORES
Alva Skinner, Jr., Army
Max H. Harris, Army

SAFETY
Samuel N. Hancock, Army

GRATEFUL
The offer of a native Chieftain on Guadalcanal to donate one of his seven wives in gratitude for treatment of wounds received several months ago, was declined with thanks by Army officers, the War Department has been informed. Medical aid reached Chief Poi, credited with killing four Japs last November, after U. S. soldiers made a difficult journey to the hut occupied by Poi and his seven wives and seven children, to remove a cast which had to be placed on his arm after a shooting fracas at the time of the Jap effort to land reinforcements. Chief Poi refused to accompany the soldiers back to camp without his family, so treatment was administered on the spot by Capt. Louis Kreindler of Cincinnati, Ohio, and the offer was made to him by the grateful chief.

PANTEXAN'S COVER
Guards at Pantex are as keenly aware of their responsibilities and strive as assiduously to be prepared to meet them as do soldiers on the fighting fronts. The Guard Force is an Auxiliary Unit of the United States Army and is subject to service in civilian defense. These Sentinels of Safety must be alert not only to immediate danger but unforeseen circumstance must also be anticipated and they must be ready to rise to any emergency. In this cover photo (1 to r) M. W. Messer, Eli Leflar and T. A. Hollar are perfecting their markmanship on the rifle range, using Reising sub machine guns, the same weapon which was used by American Marines on Guadalcanal.
On the Alert

Hoping to take advantage of an overcast sky and a rising fog, a saboteur parks his car along the highway and steals cautiously along the reservation fence seeking entrance. Although in the darkness he cannot be seen, neither can he see the trap which is being set for him. His movements are heard by a foot patrolman who by a quick wink of a flashlight warns the guard in a nearby tower of approaching danger. A mounted guard also sees the signal and moves toward the scene of action. Suddenly the strong beam of a searchlight in the guard tower floodlights the fence just as the marauder crawls thru the wires. The rotating guard on his horse races up and covers the culprit while the tower guard telephones headquarters to radio for a patrol car. This is a fictitious case but it graphically illustrates how the guards keep on the alert. See pages 6 and 7 for additional Plant Protection photos.
Glory For Us All

PANTEX EMPLOYEES ARE TOLD THAT THEY TOO
HAVE A SHARE IN THE NORTH AFRICAN TRIUMPH

Signal Supply Services of the U. S. Army.
"The people of the nation may feel very confident that the finest of medical service will be rendered to the men who are fighting in defense of our ideals.

"Through development of sulfanilamide drugs and blood plasma, together with mobile operating rooms, portable X-ray units, special packs for jungles, Arctic and parachute troops, and many other items of vital equipment, the outlook now for a wounded man is incomparably better than ever before."

"Actual battle results have shown that our Naval weapons, like the fighting men who use them, are not excelled or even equalled by those of any other Navy in the world . . . American Industry and the American armed forces are one great team. That team, animated by an identical fighting spirit, will sweep the seas, the lands and the skies. It will not rest until permanent victory has been won. But there is no time to lose. Let's get on with the job!"

Rear Admiral W.H.P. Blandy, USN, Chief of the Bureau of Ordinance.

"Many an American production worker, thousands of miles from the scene of action, played a leading role in bringing back the cruiser BOISE from her death duel with six Jap warships . . . the men of the BOISE are proud of the way she stood up, proud to share credit for her survival with the thousands of Americans ashore who built into her and her equipment those qualities of durability and accuracy which sustained the BOISE throughout the rest of the battle and the gruelling weeks that followed. They want every one of their countrymen to be fully aware of the part they played in keeping her afloat."

Captain "Iron Mike" Moran.
Thru the Bombsight

There is nothing that inspires a Pantexan columnist to throw in the towel like having the editor look him right in the eye and say, "You may write 400 words for this issue." So, whipped from the very beginning, we went from office to office gathering items of interest about Ordnance personnel. We used the negative approach, that is: "You don't have any news for the Pantexan, do you?" and got just what was expected, a loud "NO!" from all sides. But all apologies aside, the following is what happens when circumstances occur as herein set forth.

Stepping across the office we had a short interview with Ethel Carpenter of Mail and Records. Mrs. Carpenter is a magician. She receives the bulk of mail that arrives for Ordnance and with several sleight-of-hand movements, quicker than the human eye can see, all the mail is gone! Then when you want a letter or two from what the office laughingly calls their filing system, Mrs. Carpenter picks up an inkwell, waves her magic wand over it, and pulls the letters out from behind your own page-boy bob. Mrs. Carpenter is in the news this week because of constructive criticism which descended on her filing methods like the seventeen-year locusts. Under a new system which will result from these changes, Mrs. Carpenter believes she will throw all mail out the window and when asked for anything she will simply say, "I think I've seen it some place before, but we don't have it."

The Inspection Department, usually good for something choice, was down with spring fever this week, so that department would not be with us this time except for one thing, the photographic exposition displayed on the office walls. Nearly all of these pictures have appeared in the Pantexan. There is one, however, that only a privileged few have seen. It is the glamorized shot of Gay Shea in a moth-proof bathing-suit with raven locks tumbling about her shoulders and a placard proclaiming her "Miss Tulia of 1902." Much can be said for the figure of that era.

Ed Gillock is thinking of chloroforming Nadine Carvajal, who introduced Ed's young son to a honey-colored cocker spaniel. The Gillock heir demanded a reasonably accurate facsimile of same, and Father Gillock is footing the bill.

To stop further inquiry about the hole in Mail and Records' ceiling—a man fell right into their little nest while repairing things that sometimes have to be repaired up there.

Souvenirs From Africa

Just a section of native life in North Africa was set up in the Ordnance Safety and Security office when Lorraine Kirkham was photographed with gifts sent her by her husband, Sgt. Judd Kirkham, who has been stationed at a North African airfield since November 1942.

In the picture are a pair of elaborate gold and silver embroidered slippers and two more proletarian types of Arabic house shoes. A coin purse of goatskin, a hand-tooled leather belt, and Mrs. Kirkham's particular pride, a blue belt embroidered with silver threads, do further credit to the handwork skill of North Africans.

Mrs. Kirkham is wearing a French lace blouse. A bottle of Egyptian perfume, some French face powder, rings made from British shillings and a model British Spitfire made from an English coin add further to this interesting finery from "over there." The little heart in the picture was carved from plastic used in the windshield of a British plane.

Leaning to the fighting side of Sgt. Kirkham's foreign journey are pieces of shrapnel from enemy bombs and from antiaircraft shells; and an odd-looking triangle, a contraption dropped by enemy planes onto airfields to puncture the tires of U. S. planes.

In Sgt. Kirkham's frequent letters to Lorraine, he has stressed the importance of creating good will for the allied cause among the people of North Africa.

—Keep 'Em Shooting Photo

This is the German Volkswagen (left) modified for military use. The small, four-cycle opposed, air-cooled motor is mounted in the rear. It may be removed in 20 minutes. Car has four-speed-forward transmission and is built without frame. It is by no means as rugged nor as serviceable as the American Jeep (right) and is not a four-wheeled drive design.

JUNE 1, 1943
Armed with pistols, tear gas guns, submachine guns and shot-guns a contingent of guards with their officers pose in front of the new guard barracks.

If Danger Comes
The Guards are an Auxiliary Unit of the U. S. Army
Trained to Safeguard the Plant and its Employees

JUST SUPPOSE for a moment..."Flash—West coast has been attacked by the enemy!" Remember, Pantex is just three hours by air from Los Angeles. Another flash—"An enemy invasion force is established in Mexico and threatens our South border!" That's even closer.

Pantex is one of the most strategically located bomb loading plants in the country with regard to the Pacific, Panama Canal and South America. Because Amarillo would become an important supply base in case of an invasion from any of these points, it would by the same token become a number one objective of the invader and subject to unforetold danger.

Although such an emergency seems far more remote today than it did a year and a half ago, it is the military policy of the United States to anticipate all possibilities.

That's why coast guards constantly patrol U. S. boundaries, why formidable military defenses are maintained at vulnerable points and one reason why a strong guard force is maintained at Pantex and other war production plants.

The guard organization at Pantex is an Auxiliary Unit of the United States army, subject to call by the commanding officer to serve in civilian defense wherever force is needed.

The immediate responsibility of the guards is to provide internal and external protection to the plant and its employees against sabotage, espionage and

A conference of Plant Protection officials—(l to r) Lawrence Griffith, assistant to division manager; Bill Flocks, division manager; Paul Wurster, chief of guards; and Wilbur DePauw, assistant chief.
other hazards. Proof of their efficiency in this respect is evinced by the fact that no act of professional sabotage has been committed at Pantex. Because of the close surveillance of plant guards and other protective agencies, so far there has been no foreign-directed act of sabotage during this war in the United States. This is a remarkable record when the tremendous industrial losses of the last war are considered.

But the responsibility doesn't end there. The guard force must be trained and prepared to function effectively in unforeseen emergencies. Like a soldier, a guard must be so thoroughly seasoned that he will act automatically under fire. Before being assigned to duty, each Pantex guard is given instruction and his training continues throughout his term of service. A basic training course is being set up which includes military courtesy and discipline and articles of war; defense against air and parachute attacks; interior and special guard duty and personal encounter (judo); close order drill and inspections; examinations; and military police and use of weapons.

The force is subject to rigid discipline and uncompromising requirements. Guard officials realize that only through strict adherence to rules, with no easing of regulations and with continuous training, can a strong guard unit be built and maintained.

Here on the peaceful plains of the Panhandle, far removed from the slaughter and the stench of battle and the ruthlessness of the treacherous enemy, it is difficult to realize that Pantex could be attacked or that sabotage could destroy the plant and its employees. The daily questions, "May I see your badge please?" and "Do you have any kitchen matches?" or standing duty in an isolated spot all night or riding the fence of an outlying area, may seem unnecessary to the casual observer.

But, it could happen here and the activities of the guard force is part of an all over plan to safeguard life and property and assure uninterrupted production of vital material of war.

Guard John Lee, former football player, amateur and professional wrestler and football and boxing coach, shows the guards "Judo", unarmed defense tactics. Left, the knife take; center, the loin throw; and right, the hammerlock or police hold. J. T. Horton is the subject in the demonstrations and watching are (l to r) J. C. Cox, J. C. Arthur, I. C. Ferguson and W. Scott. Below: Searchlights from guard towers pierce the inky skies over zone 9.
The Human Bird

Women have been referred to as Birds in a Guided Cage, a Bird of Paradise and the Humming Bird type, but the only Human Bird Woman is working right here at Pan tex.

Hazel Lockhart Zone 10 holds the distinction. She is the only woman in the world ever to attempt the bat-wing parachute jump.

Liking adventure, Hazel began parachute jumping in 1937 with no previous training. "One simply jumps and then pulls the rip cord," said Hazel. The element of danger never bothered her.

After making parachute jumps at a number of air shows, Hazel decided to try the famous bat-wing dive, originated by the Frenchman Clem Sohn who jumped to his death in a performance in France.

To perform this stunt the "aerialist" leaps from a plane at an altitude of about 14,000 feet, wearing a pair of bat-like wings attached to each side of the body. After jumping, the wings are unfolded and by manipulating them you soar, glide and dip like a bird, to about 2,000 feet. When ready to alight, you simply pull the rip cord on the parachute and descend to the ground. It’s as simple as all that if you would like to try it.

After making three successful bat-wing dives, Hazel broke her ankle in a jump at Amarillo Municipal airport. On recovering from the injury, she married and her husband persuaded her to give up her dangerous career.

Hazel became a beauty operator but left her job to come to Pantex last November. She says she feels it her patriotic duty to contribute her bit to the war effort.

More Ideas

Ammunition in the form of good, creative American thinking is one weapon the Axis didn’t count on. That form of ammunition is being turned out daily at Pantex through the “Keep ‘Em Shooting” Suggestion System.

Two employees won Awards for Initiative and Patriotism and three were given Certificates of Merit at the latest meeting of the Awards Committee.

One Award went to Howard Wilson, 10-17, for his suggestion which recommended the placing of mirrors at designated intersections or “blind spots” in the ramps to prevent accidents. Another Award was given to Guard M. V. Fritts. He suggested that the guard house at the transformer station be placed on top of the barricade. Both of these ideas will be put into immediate practice.

A Certificate of Merit was won by Lola Hodges, Fiscal Dept., for a suggestion pertaining to an improvement in the training program. V. F. Akins, bldg. foreman, 10-9, received a Certificate of Merit for his idea regarding a painted line on the floor to prevent blocking of fire extinguishers and exits by stacked casings. The third Certificate of Merit went to Cecil Blakley, 9-26, for a suggested method of faster cooling of TNT.

Many other suggestions were received by the Awards Committee, which for one reason or another were not considered practical at the present time. The committee wishes employees to understand, however, that if through some change in operation, a suggested plan should be put into practice at a later date, the suggestor will receive credit if he will drop a note to the Suggestions Secretary, calling his attention to the circumstances.

Each suggestion on record with the Secretary will be given its due reward, if and when it should be put into practice at any time in the future. Provided the plan was not previously written into the operation procedure.

The Awards Committee will meet again within two weeks to consider all suggestions which have been analyzed and investigated at that time.

In the U. S. you get the pants without the cuffs. . . . in Germany you get the cuffs.

Any man who isn’t a little better than his job, isn’t good enough for his job.

A chip on the shoulder indicates wood a little higher up.
THE SPIRIT THAT WINS

"The spirit which cannot fail to win the ultimate victory," of which President Roosevelt has spoken repeatedly, was shown last week by a patriotic employee at Panex.

Mrs. R. B. Merriman, Zone 9, Bldg. 14, unfortunately missed her ride to the plant, through no fault of her own. Realizing the importance of being on her job, she made several desperate attempts to find a ride and when she was unable to do so, came by taxi at considerable expense.

Mrs. Merriman was suffering with a cold and sore throat but she has a son in the armed forces and she refused to be guilty of absenteeism. Her one regret was being tardy, which broke her record for being at work and on time every day since she was employed by Panex last December.

In appreciation of her wonderful spirit and her patriotism, Mrs. Merriman was commended by General Manager Howard G. Philbrook and presented with a flag-lapel pin in red, white and blue stones on a silver background.

SAUCE FOR THE GANDER

A modern version of the old adage "Sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander," might be: "Safety rules laid down for the workmen also apply to foremen."

A disregarded safety rule recently caused serious burns on the face and chest of a foreman in the Melt and Pour Room, when he went over to show one of his men how best to handle a pouring job.

The foreman wasn't wearing a face

A FRIEND IN NEED

If you ever need a friend, just call the Travelers Aid Society.

A national organization, the TAS has a unit in Amarillo located at the Downtown USO headquarters, 6th and Taylor, under the direction of Miss Frances McFeely.

Travelers Aid is available to any person who wants help, operates on a 24-hour schedule and supplies services such as meeting strangers at trains, providing food and lodging for stranded persons, finding relatives in a large city, sending runaway girls back home, hospitalizing sick travelers and reimbursing persons who have lost their money. Its three main facilities are giving information, travel and case work.

The Amarillo branch stands ready to help soldier wives and war workers find suitable housing, counsel with the inexperienced and mentally and physically ill, send messages, aid badly adjusted persons or just provide a willing ear to the woes of distressed persons.

If a war worker sends for his family to come to Amarillo and cannot get off work to meet them, Travelers Aid will gladly see that they arrive safely at their destination.

Services are free although Travelers Aid operates purely on a donation basis from civic funds and grateful persons who have been helped by this organization.

A number of Panex horses were sold at Public Auction May 24 and included in the lot was "Buck" an old favorite which appeared on the cover of Panexan's second issue. Bill Walker of Ordnance Military Intelligence Division and Clay Willis of Cost Accounting, were on the sale committee along with Hall Medford, branch manager of O. M. Franklin Serum Co. The sale was a success with many Panhandle stockmen participating in the spirited bidding.

JUNE 1, 1943
FIREMEN
By Cowboy

As all of you know by now the Guards have moved to one of the Dormitories. We Firemen are gonna miss them. We don’t know whose idea it was, but we’re ain’t it. We want the Guards to come back so we hope they will like their new home.

We’re sorry to hear about our “Cultivator Friend”, Deputy Chief J. O. Ode Wyatt to you, getting hurt. He was riding a tractor and when he reached the end of the row somehow Chief Ode didn’t get it turned. The tractor fell on him in a creek full of water and mud breaking a few ribs. We sincerely hope that he will be up and at ’em again soon.

Every week some of the Firemen leave to go into private business, take other jobs or go into the Armed forces. This week R. R. Halter, W. W. Jackson and Johnnie Sugg, left. Best of luck, we’ll miss you.

Firemen at Fire Station No. 3 express thanks to Utilities for making it possible for them to have a garden plot.

We are going to miss “Louisiana Lou” Elizabeth Jane Kelly who has returned to Louisiana after working here as a Timekeeper while her husband was at Amarillo Field. He is now in Foreign Service. We wish both of them the best of luck.

Remember that even the walls have ears. Guard your war secrets.

THE BULL BOARD
By C. J. Novak

Spring is the time when hearts beat with love, the wind blows with vigor and boys spin tops. Here is a tip to you tin horns that may want to wager, don’t bet with Ed Caskey on spinning a top.

It has been going around that a party of three went to New Mexico on a supposedly fishing trip and returned only with two fish, three headaches and a fence to paint. Pete Travis and Lonnie Price made up two thirds of the trip but the third member’s name is being kept a military secret—until he learns to paint. Who said I went along? Travis hooked the first trout and instead of using his reel he sprinted up the hillside. One big one was caught but he got away. It was landed with a net. He was so large that his tail and head protruded through the net and he managed to get his tail in his mouth and pulled himself through to freedom. Sounds like a lie but it is.

Did you see Bill Colville’s new tooth? Yes, he is still teething.

See where John Hodges, in order to get his name in print, is now writing a column.

Bill Coffman has a pitcher by the name of Chitty that is a fair fielder.

PLANT PROTECTION
By Bottle

Bill Teal, Safety Engineer, has been talking about his Safety Schooling in Chicago, but don’t ask him about Marshall-Field’s Escalators. It ain’t safe!

Speaking of Chicago Safety School, Russell S. Munro, Safety Engineer, and John Wisdom, Ordnance Safety and Security, are headed for the new session beginning May 24.

We are saying all sorts of dire things about Nancy Colley since we didn’t in the last column and she was expecting it. Mr. Philbrook please take note.

Receptionist LeNelle Eastus has been seen lately with a certain tall, handsome Lieutenant — Escort Jo Kell and a Plant Doctor seem to be quite a twosome. May 29 Joe Stensas returned from a Safety Meeting at Cornhusker, Grand Island, Nebraska and J. D. Webster from Oklahoma City.

Just call Joe Vernon “Precious” and then dodge.

The Safety Department welcomes a new member who was a foreman on the Ammonium Nitrate Line—Gerald T. Wagness.

Hats off to the Outside Electricians who have never had a lost-time accident. This efficient group keeps Reddy Kilowatt racing through the conduits of our Plant’s electrical system.

Brummett McElendon’s beaming face will be seen no more. He’s headed Canada or Army way.

Jack Figh, did you get any water on poor Will? Safety Engineer R. J. Osborne has been in his element since he has been helping two research officers take amanot and TNT dust count in various buildings.

No wonder Ann Stiles is quitting vitamins and yet getting fat—we would too if we ate dinners at the Bruce Wooddell’s and Chief Dickerson’s.

Lera Belle DeFries returned from a few days in Dallas—a sad mission.

The only one who should put faith in a rabbit’s foot is a rabbit.

MEET THE PEOPLE
By Carolyn Newbold

By the time this appears, the Payroll Department will be comfortably settled in their new home—offices formerly occupied by Purchasing. Bert Boomer, chief timekeeper, is located directly across the hall in a private office. Works Accounting has moved into the old Payroll space. Another move is that of G. B. Payne and W. Harris from the Administration to the Personnel Building.

W. O. Carlson, Office Manager, appears to be the champion horseshoe pitcher, and trains all kinds of weather to indulge in this game with other Fiscal members.

Vivian Ford, former Medical Division employee, has transferred to Office Management, and is working in the mimeograph room. Mary Morrow and Margaret Randall of the same department recently returned from vacations in California. Margaret visited her husband, stationed there in the Army. Another vacationer, recently returned from Salt Lake City, is Wilma Priest, Office Manager who visited her brother, at Camp Kearns.

Hugh Hale is in high spirits these days because he has a new car—we don’t blame him.

Softball is well underway, and in the first week of play Payroll defeated H. C. Willis Fiscal team 33-19.

Associates inform us that Beryl Chesney has a lovely singing voice, here-to-fore kept hidden from her friends.

ON THE MOVE
By Judy Gober

The moving of the Transportation Division to the Transportation Building is now completed and everyone is well satisfied with the new arrangement. We definitely feel that a house warming is in order.

Glenn A. Foy has recently been appointed a member of the Transportation Advisory Committee and is in direct charge of the Rationing Office.

C. E. Duncan, Superintendent of Rail Operations, has assumed as additional duties all work in connection with property records in this Division.

Peggy Hutson has just returned from a visit with her husband, who is stationed at Corpus Christi. On her return home she very gracefully stepped from the train, only to fall and sprain an ankle. Too bad, Peggy.

Mrs. Vernon Downes is on leave of absence to visit to visit her husband, who is a Chief Petty Officer in the Navy and who will “go over the pond” in a very short time.

“Safety, First, Last and Always.”

PANTEXAN
HOW'S YOUR PULSE
By Dr. Anne Russell

Well what do you know! Mrs. "Roentgen" Ball took some X-Rays of a hand and got bones on the film. Amazin'—isn't it? She has also developed quite a dark room technique.

We'd like to know why Dr. Gosline makes two daily trips to the post office. What could be so important? Maybe it's—- Could be.

Here's a choice bit of news. "Two Gun" Allen is leaving Pantex to join the middle ails. She's happy as can be. Good luck, best wishes, Harriet. We'll miss your gay laughter.

Our little Miss Davis has been ill at the Northwest Texas hospital. She's doing right well and we expect to have her back with us soon.

Miss Haden about the history of the Pekinesee puppy. You'll enjoy her discussion. It put Miss Del Connel and Mrs. Ball in stitches right after lunch one day.

Miss Wilkins left Mr. Mitchell in a quandary when she passed the drug room in a huff the other day. She was really "regusted". What ails you, Eddie?

We all have yet to learn to take a lesson from the three wise monkeys.

P. P. C.
By Ralph Randel

The Division's picnic at Palo Duro Canyon was definitely a success. Hiking, horseback riding, baseball and ample quantities of rationed foods and unrationed unmentionables were enjoyed by the participants. Sunburned noses, brick red foreheads and Morgan's skinned leg eloquently testified to the abandon with which everyone entered into the festivities.

Morgan, having visions of establishing a reputation as a mountain climber, fell off a knoll twenty feet high. The Knooph's, Linders, Corys and Pauline went horseback riding. Babe Ruth Pulley took each turn at bat, but refused to play in the field. This city trait annoyed Dizzy Dean Burchard who proceeded to strike her out each time.

The surprise of the day was H. C. Norman. He held himself aloof from all forms of physical exertion and spent the day drinking lemonade and reading aloud from Shakespeare's works.

Roberts, McFarland, Collins and Miller came late. The intimacies of age prevented Argie and Mc from engaging in the hiking, knoll climbing and horseback riding. Unfortunately, these late arrivals were not cultured enough to appreciate Norman's poetry and went hoity-toity and left early. Collins and Miller proved themselves entirely equal to the occasion but since they came with Roberts and McFarland, they had no choice but to leave with their elders.

Kite and Corder acquired themselves with honor and distinction. They gained an enviable reputation as umpires and counselors in the various contests.

WANTED—Patient expert to give instructions in operating office Calculator so operator can learn to divide 144 by 12 correctly. Good starting salary—unlimited field of endeavor. Persons easily discouraged need not apply. Utter lack of humor not absolutely essential but will help hold job. Apply Production Planning Division.

THE MELTING POT
By Iris Galloway

Rain, rain, rain! Thelma Jones (like a bunch of the rest of us) was having an awful time the other day what with all the dampness, etc. She was threatening to take off her hose and hang them on a desk drawer for the next three days. It takes rayon 24 hours to dry, you know.

Time and tide and things and stuff and this changing world! Alma Waters has moved from Identification to Job Assignment to take Lois McBroome's filing . . . Lois is on her way to sunny California. Clara should by this time be well on her way to Montana and her Lieutenant Shook . . . lucky girl! We are most happy indeed to welcome into Personnel official our golden blonde receptionist, Edythe Strickland, who has so ably ruled the waiting room for lo these many months.

At this writing, Doris Herbst is scanning the horizon like an Indian Chief praying to the rain gods to send showers . . . except she's praying that they go away. A plane trip to St. Louis and a visit with her soldier husband is in the offing, and Doris is in no mood to be grounded!

New Personnel personality . . . Mr. Groverman B. Payne who has abided his post in Fiscal and is now directing activities about these parts.

ZONE 2 NEWS
By Erma Nesselroad

The Utilities office in 2-4 has lost several employees lately and has gained some new ones. To those who have been called into the Service, we wish the best of luck.

We are glad to see Mr. Telford, Mr. Harris, Mr. Kennedy and Mr. C. L. Jones busy getting their desks placed in just the right spot.

Kathryn McDonald looks very fetching on the bicycle, delivering the inter-office mail.

Nona Seeds is lonesome since her husband is playing ball. She is making Rex Peters a very good stenographer.

Ruby Hayhurst always has time to look up from her work to flash that smile of hers.

Janie Woods, of Clock 5, is certainly proud of her husband who is serving in the Navy.

The boys at the garage love to play pranks on Virginia Wright—wonder if it is because she is so good natured?

Opal Russell of 2-2 is a very interesting person to talk to if you can get her away from her job long enough.

Pete Traux and "Shorty" Eisenhour will soon be leaving us in favor of the Armed Forces. Good luck—we will miss you.
LETTER FROM ZONE 9

By Bonnie T. Jones

Dear Ethel May:

Our Ordnance Inspectors this week are Eloise Davis and B. W. Chandler. They are kept busy signing trays out so that Blondie Holt (Speedy) can hurry them down to room 20.

Alicia White in 20 is sad this week because her husband has just left for the Army.

You have your Roughouse on 10 but we have Change House Jim on 9. Our reason for calling him that is a dark secret.

Room 17 is happy to have E. E. Girard join them. He was transferred from the Nitrate Line.

Mr. Karper, our foreman, and Butch from room 20 are in Oklahoma City today.

Saturday night on swing several rooms are having big feeds. We are having fried chicken and all the trimmings.

Mr. Simmons, our asst. foreman, is enjoying lettuce and radishes and onions out of his Victory Garden. He spent last Sunday fishing and declares he took along some bait.

G. W. Sharp has decided to walk gracefully down the ramps now. Perhaps L. R. Jarman and J. D. Palmer and R. L. Lynch should walk with him.

I don’t know where Nellie Cummings puts her eggs, but she definitely puts all her chickens in one bath tub.

Alice Bewley and Rena Akeson and Helen O’Quinn from room 13 get the whistles when they parade the ramps.

Pearl Castka from room 26 saves lemon drops for John Adams, Shift Supt.

Ninette Connor, our little Dutch girl from room 14, is out of the hospital and back at work after an attack of appendicitis.

Dean from 26 wonders if this damp weather effects Oscar Hinger’s curly hair. Tell me the answers.

Love and kisses, Bonnie.

“BIRTHDAYS”

By Pearl Castka 9-26

“Yes WOWS still have them.”

In room 26, Zone 9, Thelma Wean, Pearl Castka and “Peggy” Radcliff have a birthday in June and we happen to know that Ethel Clay Zone 10, Bldg. 13, has one too. “Happy Birthday Girls!”

“Peggy” Radcliff has gone to visit her son who is at Houston, Texas, in the army.

A covered dish luncheon was enjoyed by the WOWS and their fellow workmen in Room 26, Zone 9. The WOWS furnished the “Eats” and the men bought coffee, milk and tea. Everyone ate so much, Mr. Childs, the foreman, had quite a time keeping them awake the rest of the day so they could finish their Saturday clean up.

LETTER FROM ZONE 10

By Jack Cunningham

Dear Jonsey:

We’re glad to know that you WOW’s are doing OK over on 9. I sort of figured Mac and Adams would be good bosses. Of course not quite so good as Mr. Beagle and Toby. Mr. Beagle gives our line a lot of dignity you know. (I think he gets a hair cut every week!) and Toby, (Oh Gosh).

Vern Bonham of 26 doesn’t quite know yet whether it’s love that has struck Barney or just indigestion. Lance says to tell you hello and Little Bit of 17 says she took up right where you left off.

You remember the sensation we got when that man at Panhandle said: “Hello Lightening” to John Adams. Well, I got the same feeling when I heard a man say: “Hello bird dog” to Andy Anderson. (My apologies Andy and John).

Grady Wicks, Oscar Hinger and Mr. Cox are back home again from 11. They spend a lot of time now talking over the grids with Fulenwider and Clayton Dye. Old Cordell of 26 gives a lot of these days of heavy work to Flossie Rhinehart but she just laughs and laughs.

When Mofitt and Jack Cunningham start talking you can depend on Mofitt saying: “My wife says” and Jack always says “Edna says.”

Here comes LeRoy McDaniels with the news that Wilson and Weaver haven’t worked themselves to death yet.

We have Bobo over on our line now. He is in charge of some sort of control, quality or quantity one. I think he has all the WOWS glasses pretty well under control.

I see Jack Cunningham holding forth over there with Major Stubbs and I don’t want to miss anything that Edna says. We miss you.

Ethel Mae.

CLOUD HOPPERS

During the twelve months of 1942, the Army Air Forces flew (within the continental United States) a distance totalling TWO BILLION, ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-SIX MILLION miles. This inconceivable mileage is equivalent to 10 trips to the sun or 81,170 trips around the world.

This is 192% more miles than Army planes flew during the entire ten-year period from 1930 to 1939, inclusive. And the rate of flying this year is even greater!
Seaman Izzi's
83 Days On A Raft

The following story is a first-hand account of the ordeal of a young American blue jacket rescued after 83 days on a raft. Few war workers who read it will doubt that they can do just a little more, work just a little harder, as their share in our common effort to end the struggle.

When Basil Dominic Izzi, seaman second class, U. S. Navy, was fished out of the Atlantic Ocean on January 24, 1943, he had set what is believed to be an all-time world record by floating on a life raft for eighty-three days. By comparison, the three heroes of "The Raft" were adrift a mere 34 days and Captain Rickenbacker, 21 days.

Izzi is now on a nation-wide tour of shipyards and factories producing for Navy, urging increased war production for the Fleet.

The long ordeal began on November 2, 1942, with the torpedoing of the United Nations merchant ship on which Izzi was serving as part of the American gun crew. The ship did not go down immediately and the gun crew quickly manned their battle stations, scanning the sea for the U-boat. But the second torpedo followed at once and the crew was forced to abandon ship without a shot having been fired.

Izzi came to the surface surrounded by wreckage and grabbed one of the bamboo mats which were used for life-saving purposes. For two nights and a day he bobbed up and down on the ocean, growing ever hungrier and more anxious. His waterlogged clothing became so heavy that he discarded everything but a shirt, shorts, and a life belt, a move he was to later regret. During the night he could hear the screams of men whose arms and legs were being bitten off by sharks, but at dawn the second day when he spotted a life raft not far away, he swam over to it risking the chance that the motion of his legs might attract the sharks.

Four men were on the raft to welcome him. Ensign James Maddox, Izzi's gunnery officer, pulled him aboard with a grin and simultaneously they greeted each other with "where the hell have you been?" Sailor George Beasley was there too. He had been a passenger aboard Izzi's merchant ship by virtue of having been rescued from the sea as a victim of a previous torpedoing. The other two were Dutch crew members, Cornelius van der Slot, at thirty-seven the "old man" of the quintet, and seventeen year old Nick Hoogendam.

The raft consisted of a wooden platform about eight feet by nine. It was floated by a steel water-tight drum under either end and had a canvas cover the size of the deck. After 83 days of buffeting by the sea, the raft remained strong and seaworthy.

"Many a time on that raft we thanked God that the American workers that built it had done such a good job," Izzi declared.

Aboard the raft were matches, flares, and provisions consisting of a can of chocolate, several dozen crackers, nine cans of condensed milk and ten gallons of water. All in all, it seemed like a well-stocked home for what they fondly believed would be the day or two on the water before they were picked up. Indeed, they were so confident that when the crackers turned out to be dry and made them thirsty, they fed several to the gulls and fish. Weeks later they were to regret every crumb they had tossed away.

Life on the raft was a perfect democracy. Every problem that came up was discussed by all five men. English was the official language; since both Dutchmen were able to speak it crudely. Food was the favorite topic of conversation, then conjecture about when and how they would be rescued. Women were seldom discussed. Izzi insists that food is a far more interesting subject on a life raft. In the early days of the trip they occasionally played checkers by scratching a crude board on one of the tins and using matches for counters. At night they crawled under the canvas to sleep.

Ensign Maddox, who had been studying for the ministry, led them in prayer while he was aboard. Later prayers were said privately.

Food rations lasted 16 days. While they could, the men ate three meals a day. Breakfast consisted of two ounces of water with a squirt of condensed milk. Lunch was the same as breakfast with a cracker added. Dinner included milk, water, the cracker, and a thumbnail silver of chocolate.

On the 24th day the water ran out. For three days the men went thirsty, then the first rain of the trip relieved them. Four of them held the canvas cover to make a trough while the fifth filled a container for drinking water. After that they were never without water for more than a few days at a time.

Our pioneer forefathers were never more industrious in hunting their food from the forest than were these voyagers in foraging from the sea. Tiny herring, which the men called "sardines," sought the underside of the raft as protection against sharks and these herring were scooped up by hand by the hungry men. Some of the men bit off the heads and tails, but Izzi swallowed them whole. It reminded him of the craze for swallowing goldfish that swept the colleges several years ago.

Twice they caught sharks in ingenious fashion. They lifted a trap door in the center of the raft, lowered a noose of rope, and then dangled their bare toes in the water. When the shark came up to investigate the gleam of white, they tightened the noose, snagged him, and hauled him aboard. The first shark was about four feet long but only the heart and liver proved to be good eating.

Occasionally they relieved their fish diet with birds which settled on the canvas and were easily caught. They were the size of a crow, black, and delicious when skinned.

(Continued on Next Page, Col. 1)
SEAMAN IZZI

(Continued from Page 13)

On the 20th day they had their first false hope of rescue. They spotted a small plume of smoke and a mast. They shot off four of their five flares, hoping against hope that the rescue would come. They waved their flag frantically. But after an hour of tantalizing nearness, the mast faded away. The following day another ship was seen ever farther out. This time they were encouraged to the men as they figured they were drifting into a sea lane where other ships would be passing. But three weeks went by before another ship was seen and this one, too, was too far away. From then on they saw nothing until they were finally rescued.

The five men kept track of time for the first time in days by scratching notches in a paddle and after that in their heads. Amazingly enough they were only a single day off in their calculations when picked up.

Thanksgiving on the raft brought them a feast to relieve their hunger in the form of a bird the size of a chicken. Christmas offered no such banquet, but toward evening they decided that singing might help. So for fifteen minutes every day the men sang "Auld Lang Syne," "The Night Before Christmas," "Happy Birthday," "Old Fashioned Christmas," "Hot Milk," "Hot Milk Night," "Oh Holy Night" echoed across the water as the five men thought of home and the usual Christmas festivities. New Year's day, too, was eventful. Iizzi's resolution for 1943 was "never to complain about food in the future."

On the 66th day George Beasley died. Towards evening of the previous day he had been busy about the raft and stumbled and fell people back home. The next morning they woke to find him cold and stiff. Ensign Maddox led them in prayers over the body before rolling it into the sea. "I hope I'm not next," he murmured sadly as he watched it go.

But Ensign Maddox was next. Shortly he, too, began to feel stomach pains and from then on he failed rapidly. He began to go blind and couldn't hear. Iizzi and his two Dutch companions did their best to keep him warm and dry, but he was too far gone. Each night he used to kiss the gold wedding ring on his left hand. "She told me to bring it back to her," he told the others. But he never did, for on the 77th morning he failed to wake up. Iizzi removed the ring to return it to Mrs. Maddox. She has it today.

Conditions on the raft had become much worse. The days seemed endless, the sun was scorching, and even repeated salt baths failed to protect the men from severe sunburn. When it rained the canvas, now rotten, leaked badly. The three survivors had long since stopped standing watch. It took too much strength to stand up. The elder Dutchman began to talk of going over the side. Iizzi felt the Lord was with him. He had moments of doubt and discouragement, but he kept on believing that they would not suffer all they had in vain.

Late after the 88th day they spotted a plane docking in and out of the clouds. The men waved feebly and even though they knew they had not been seen, their hopes soared, for they thought land must be close.

The next morning the roar of an engine woke them. It was another plane flying very high, but they spotted it, then two more in the distance. Finally a mast appeared against the horizon, followed by the ship itself.

Two other men held van der Slot's legs while he tried to stand and wave. The ship seemed to disappear for awhile and the men cursed and swore. They would have cried, but they were too tired for tears. Suddenly the ship appeared again, heading straight towards them. They realized they had been seen. They began to jabber incoherently, talking to each other but not to the approaching ship. At 3:30 P. M. on January 26th Iizzi left the raft and stepped aboard the rescuing P. C. boat.

In his 83 days' odyssey Seaman Izzii floated 2,260 miles from near the equator to Trinidad. He began the trip weighing 145 pounds. When rescued he had dropped to 80. This was his first sea voyage and he is hopeful that those that follow will not be as hazardous. Though he is very glad to be back on dry land, Basil Iizzi is "ready when they call me" for further sea duty.

On a radio program, he recently said, "You have heard about the Navy destroyers and the submarines. I got a ship. I understand the DE's are poison to Nazi submarines, so to all you boys and girls who are helping to turn out the destroyer escorts and the thousands of parts which go into them, I want to say—'Keep them rolling out!'"

GUARDS
By Annette Davis

Fay Rasco, the usual writer of this column just left this Monday for a much needed vacation. I echo the sentiments of the whole Department, "Have a good time, Fay, but hurry back!"

Also missed are all the members of the Fire Department who we grew so fond of when we were all in the same barracks. Last Thursday, May 20th, we picked up bag and baggage and took over the east wing of Dormitory B. Now the Fire and Guard Departments each have their own building and aren't so crowded. Oh, but it's really lonesome, though. So don't wait till you forget your picture badge to come see us!

Guard M. V. Fritts has received an Award for Initiative and Patriotism for his suggestion in the "Keep 'Em Shooting" drive. His Award is to be presented to him by the Asst. Chief of Guards before the guards at the change of shifts today. Congratulations Mr. Fritts! Incidently, Mr. Fritts works on Company A. We'd appreciate any suggestions from any of the other two.

Is it true that a Lieutenant of Guards was picked up for speeding in Amarillo? Shame! Shame!

Elizabeth Kelly, former timekeeper for the guards, dropped us a card from Kilgore, Texas. She's on her way to "Home Sweet Home," Louisiana, to you. She said to tell everyone hello.

Confidentially and off the record, last week we saw Captain Curry with a small check that is to be divided among the members of the Guard Department Bowling Team. This is just a hint to the members of that team.

Asst. Chief DePauw has gone into the oat business. So he says. We wonder if it could have been wild oats.

Capt. Stark says definitely that he is not a carpenter's contractor. (That is, not any more.)

It's a long walk from Well 7 to Headquarters; but we know two gentlemen who, if they hadn't been rescued, might have tried it.

BOMB DAZE
By Sam Goodner

Spring has dealt a blow to many an employee on Zone 10 during the past two weeks. Not so much in the way of spring fever but with sun-burned backs and necks. S. Cain, personnel man on this line, has the most prominent suntan at present.

Bailey Gilmore, foreman, building 20, is back on the job after being off three weeks for a major operation. His new assistant, Bob Wheeler, who took the place of H. C. Nelson, former assistant, had a good chance to exert his ability during the first three weeks of his new job.

Another new assistant foreman is Allen Chandler, room 15, who took the place of Joe "Shorty" Ramsey.

Robert J. Terrell, assistant foreman in building 17, has recently resigned from Pantex to go into the Sea Bees. He expects to report within the next few days.

H. B. Hooks has resigned his position as foreman, bldg. 13, to go into Quality-Control. He will be succeeded by his former assistant, Jack Bell. Sid McDermott, who has been in charge of the third floor in that building, will be his assistant.

This shift has always been proud of the records they have set along production lines. Another one has been made recently by Bill Robinson, grid man in 36. He claims to have put more TNT through his grid in one 8-hour shift than has ever been previously melted. We are proud of men like Bill, too.

LOST: Yellow gold band with diamond shaped dark purple stone. Return to Room 278.

"...and for consistent absenteeism, Miss Folsom, this token of appreciation—direct from Berlin."
STORES OFFICE
By John Hodges

Hard to believe: Party speaking of his car being searched at Gate 3 stated while guards were performing their duty, occupants of car stepped inside of guard house and drank all their coffee. Henry said something about "Arbuckles."

A Beau Brummel entered T-4 offices today smoke screened. A Western gale revealed Mr. Ed Caskey with a 9" cigar; and oh yes, this fellow due to a gas shortage is now riding his bronco to and fro.

She can take it and is proving it right along. Mrs. Myrtle Baldock spends 3 hours daily among the Receiving Station Coyotes.

Miss Alma Lowry says guard house coffee is OK. She made two visits in one day. Deduction required here.

We are glad Mrs. Bond is back. The flu had her in custody.

Ballew blew in the office with a jubilant expression; inquiry revealed ration board granted request for three new casings.

Legal advice will have to be secured elsewhere as Judge Sanders has severed connections. Jim is a good old boy and we wish him well.

Where is Otto? He should come around more often if he expects our political support.

Hard luck Bernice—She has broken her glasses again.

Mr. Churchill, will you please empty your pockets or something, on your next visit. This fog is making an inroad on our nerves.

MAN ABOUT ZONE 9
By Leslie C. Cobb

Buildings 17 and 20 had a covered dish luncheon the other night. This writer hereby casts his vote for more just like this one. Dave Floyd, foreman of 20, acted as toastmaster and if I might add, he did a very good job for a country boy. Speeches were made by Shift Super Cobb; Struchtmeyer, foreman of 17; Priest, asst. foreman of 17; Stone, asst. foreman of 20; McDonald and Shattuck, Safety Engineers; Sergeant Elliot; and the two change house matrons. All personnel from both buildings were introduced. Fifty-seven people were present, therefore all the "good eats" were consumed in a very short time. Roberson of 20 led the singing. No luncheon would be complete without singing.

Everyone in Zone 9 sure is at a loss since Mrs. "Peggy" Johnson terminated. It seems her husband moved to Pampa.

The greatest safety device known to the world is—a safe man.

OPERATIONS
By LaVerne Scott

One thing about Operations office—we can boast a new face every few weeks. This time we have that blond secretary of Mr. Cornelius’ in Zone 7—Marjorie Welch. This office has become an attraction for blondes. Marjorie is doing a good job of substituting for Margaret (Mr. Scheldrup’s secretary) who has again taken off in a flurry to Abilene.

Abilene seems to like Margaret very much. (Probably more than we know.) Our office became so crowded that Mrs. Williams had to move out. She is now making her office in Zone 9.

If you think "Pop" is performing a parlor trick, you're wrong. He's trying to land without breaking his neck.

We hope he has luck, but his chances aren't too good.

The National Safety Council tells us that 30,500 persons were killed in home accidents last year.

These men, women and children were killed in many ways, but half of the deaths were caused by falls. Falls, like many home accidents, are often the fault of somebody besides the victim.

Children must be taught to pick up their playthings when they are through playing with them. Adults can get a good example by leaving nothing around, particularly on stairs and steps, that might cause someone to fall.

Falls are caused by grease or milk or water not wiped up from the kitchen floor, soap in bathtubs, icy walks, broken steps, porches without handrails, dark hallways, makeshift ladders, unanchored rugs and poorly lighted stairs cluttered with mops, buckets, or rubbish.

Home accidents represent a shameful human waste—a dangerous waste during an all-out war.

You can help reduce this toll by making sure that neither you nor members of your family will be injured or killed as a result of your carelessness. It is the patriotic duty of every member of your family to do the same.

"How far is it to the next town?"

"Nigh onto five miles as the crow flies."

"Well, how far is it if the damned crow has to walk and carry an empty gasoline can?"
Boots! Boots! Boots!
Marching Up and Down Again

On battle fronts around the globe American boys are marching to victory on leather and steel. More than forty different types of footwear have been designed for them by Ordnance—rope soled shoes for tree-climbing snipers, ski boots for Arctic expeditions, sandals for submarine crews, etc. They’re the best shod soldiers in the world, as they rightly should be. But, they’re rough on shoes, as well as on Japs and Nazis, because the going is rough.

On the home front men and women are also marching up and down. Despite the enormous requirements of the armed forces for leather and steel, Uncle Sam protects his production soldiers with safety shoes. In the ramps and on the lines, however, workers can make their shoes last longer.

So that their brothers in arms may have their share of precious leather and steel, it’s up to every man and woman at Pantex to get all the wear possible from their safety shoes.

A few simple rules to make your safety shoes last longer.

1. Don’t let grease, grit and dirt stay on shoes longer than is necessary. Wipe them clean.
2. When wet, let them dry slowly. If very wet, turn the soles up to dry but not near a radiator or stove.
3. Sole leather should not be subject to any greater heat than your hand can stand. Otherwise it will harden and crack or burn.
4. If you work in wet places, apply a little viscousized oil, tallow or beeswax to shoes each week. This will shed water.
5. Keep your shoes repaired. Don’t wait until the soles are worn too thin to turn them in. Don’t let heels become run down.

Remember—Your boots are vital to victory.