

THE BAVARIAN

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EDITORIAL

"WAR CRIMES TRIALS A MISTAKE" — CHICAGO TRIBUNE

In keeping with its well-known editorial policy, the Chicago Tribune printed a lengthy, disturbing column in the Nov. 21 edition arguing the unwarranted establishment of the International Military Tribunal, which is now trying the 20 top-ranking Nazi defendants at Nurnberg for their war crimes and will pass upon them the judgment of the Allied world.

From the editorial "Trial At Nuernberg", we reprint here the following excerpts:

The trial of the nazi ringleaders at Nuernberg has begun. When it was first projected we said that it was a mistake, and we still think so. There is no doubt, of course, that these Nazis are guilty of murder and should hang for their crimes. . . . These crimes could have been proved without difficulty in established national courts existing for the purpose of punishing offenses against long-established criminal codes. It is in these courts that the Nazis should have been tried. . . . Instead, a kangaroo court has been improvised, which is no less a kangaroo court for the august personages who sit on the bench. This court, for which there is no warrant in law, makes up its rules and its law as it goes along. It has no past from which to draw precedents of fairness, and no future. In a few brief months it will disappear. . . . The Nuernberg trial, with all its apparatus of movie cameras, telephonic headsets, and what not, is defended as a means of dramatizing the determination of the world to punish those who break the peace. We doubt that in future generations it will be so regarded. The trial is much more likely to be remembered as a supreme example of self-righteous hypocrisy.

To anyone who today knows what it was to be shaken or completely blacked out by the incessant concussion of human misery that was War in Europe, this vein of thought projected from the editorial room of an American newspaper is incomprehensible. And surely it is in direct contrast to the personal convictions of millions upon millions of people in all nations who, having united their hearts, hands and minds for the cause of victory, are now desperately hoping, praying and working to preserve this unity in the fight for lasting peace.

The establishment of an International Military Tribunal to sit in judgment at Nurnberg, although a decidedly new innovation in judicial procedure, was and will prove to be as essential to the interests of Allied unity in furthering lasting world peace as was the Allied teamwork which smashed forever the Nazi attempt at world aggression.

The eyes of humanity are focused on the progress of the trials at Nurnberg. To people who have known war, particularly those who have the indelible memory of watching Europe virtually disintegrate under the crushing force of modern warfare, the War Crimes Trials will be more than an effort to bring criminals to justice. The International Tribunal is viewed as a representative Allied body, sitting in judgment for the people of England, France, America, Russia and other countries who won the war together — and who now want to win the peace together. A national court could not have served this purpose.

Future generations are likely to be grateful.



Wars come and go in Germany, but the age old custom of celebrating St. Nicholas Day continues to be observed. In this picture St. Nick and his "podner," "Knecht Rupprecht" help bring cheer to a bed-ridden patient in the children's ward of the Augsburg hospital.

Now You Tell One . . .

Returning from the fields, a near-sighted English farmer saw a figure in the act of descending over his house. Thinking that it might be another parachutist like the Nazi Hess, he instantly began shooting at him.

Awakened by the noise, his dame came running out, saw the cause of the commotion, and hollered to him to stop wasting bullets on his drying underwear.

"Maybe I was a little foolish," he admitted to his wife, later. "But wasn't it lucky that I wasn't in the things!"

A certain general was always very fond of quoting this little poem to members of his staff:

The Lord gave us two ends to use:

One to think with, one to sit with.

The war depends on which we choose;

Heads we win, tails we lose.

The Dumb Draftee, off on a furlough after a week of trench-fighting practice, walked into a fish-market, and asked: "How much are crabs today?"

"Forty cents a dozen, sir," he was told.

"Well," he grinned, "step up and shake hands with a millionaire."

The church service was proceeding successfully when a woman in the gallery got so interested she leaned out too far and fell over the railing. Her dress caught in a chandelier, and she was suspended in mid-air. The minister noticed her undignified position and thundered at the congregation:

"Any person who turns around will be struck stone blind."

A man in the front row, whose curiosity was getting the better of him, turned to his companion and said: "I'm going to risk one eye."

There is the story of a worm meeting another worm coming up from the ground who said, "You're pretty, I'd like to marry you!"

Whereupon the other worm said, "Don't be a dope, I'm your other end."

It was June in the park. The moon shone on the bench nestled among the rose bushes. The fragrance of the flowers filled the air. Music drifted across the small lake from the casino. On the bench sat a couple entwined in tight embrace.

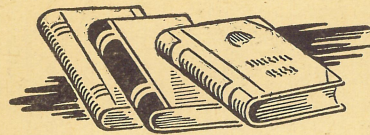
"Corporal," she sighed, "where did you learn to kiss like that?"

"Siphoning gas," he replied.

Groucho Marx reports that a Hollywood draft board has adopted a new means for examining candidates. One doctor looks into his left ear and another into his right ear and, unless their glances meet, he's in.

"I am going to show you," said the flying instructor in mid-air, "that I've got complete confidence in your flying ability." He threw his stick out of the plane.

"Oh, that's how you do it," remarked the student pilot, and threw his stick out too.



BOOKS

All books reviewed in this column are published in the Armed Services Editions

THE GREEN YEARS

by A. J. Cronin

All that has endeared Dr. Cronin's novels to so many readers is inherent in THE GREEN YEARS — particularly his sympathetic understanding of human frailties and emotions, his burning sincerity in portraying the passions that motivate people in their sublime and ridiculous endeavors. It shows a segment of life as dramatic as

any Dr. Cronin has pictured. Packed with incident, rich in background, it relates the development into manhood of a sensitive, trusting boy beset from every side with crushing difficulties.

Add young Robert Shannon to the roster of D. Cronin's memorable characters. Dr. Cronin's THE CITADEL was the story of Dr. Monson, who was concerned with saving lives. Dr. Cronin's THE KEYS TO THE KINGDOM was the story of Father Francis, who tried to make lives worth living. Dr. Cronin's new novel, THE GREEN YEARS, is the story of Robert Shannon, striving against staggering odds to salvage his own soul.

Orphaned and compelled to live with his maternal grandparents, Robert finds himself in an unfriendly world, an object of ridicule and persecution. His name, his clothes, his religion, all were the wrong kind in the provincial Scottish town. His relatives constitute an amazing family of contradictory and unpredictable personalities, each with his or her own problems and deceptions. Overshadowing them all is Robert's great-grandfather, who is the buffer that partially deadens the shock of the youth's persecutors.

The story of Robert's experience with life in all aspects — family, friends, school, church, love and ambition — will recall comparable trials and crimes in every reader's own life. There are many other important characters, but THE GREEN YEARS is primarily the story of Robert Shannon and old Cadger Gow, the irresponsible, amorous, boasting, penniless great-grandfather with his large red bulbous nose, who rises to glorious heights before the end of the story.

THE GREEN YEARS is a deeply moving novel, one which will keep the reader's emotions constantly in play. It has humor and excitement. It is inspiring in its spiritual overtones which give its most poignant episodes a warm, comforting glow. To read it will be a richly rewarding experience.

Run Into The Roundhouse Nellie; The "Gabarian" Is Out

Last week, The Bavarian's chief (comic) competitor, The Gab-arian, appeared. Put out by the "Military Government Regulars", it featured a variety of wit such as "Run into the Roundhouse, Nellie; they can't corner you there"; and a sketch of two birds heading north over the Bavarian Alps, one in a sweat and the other saying, "Not here; wait till we hit Augsburg".

The Gab-arian also claims, in its lead story, to have discovered the use of The Bavarian. The top center cartoon shows a torn copy of it nailed to the inside of an outhouse wall with the caption, "Bavarian claims complete coverage."

Readers of The Bavarian, who have noted our pictures of deer (elk) shot by M. G. hunters will be interested to know that the Gab-arian features the head of a deer with 86 points with the caption, "Can The Bavarian Top This?" The editor of The Bavarian is confident, using the same method of getting deer, that he can.

"Comments on Going Home" became "Comments on Not Going Home" . . . and someone who missed both the 80th and 94th Division quotas for redeployment coined the new phrase "94/80 or fight." The Gabarian also featured ads . . . a scoop, they claim, on The Bavarian. One ran like this: ONLY 14 MORE SHOPPING DAYS TILL XMAS. Mark their word.

In a mimic of "Letters to the Editor," "the Gab-arian tells its readers, "If you have any ideas keep them to yourself and start your own paper." The "Letters" also quote from T/9 Lilypond of Det. Z-57687 announcing the speckled alligator contest this next week end. . . . The "G. I. Roundtable" degenerated into the "G. I. Rectangular Desk" with contributors' initials such as OMGB, USSR, VDMT, and LSMFT.

Ah yes, like the Bowery, the Gold Coast, and the Police Gazette, The Gab-arian was a great institution. But, as it moralizes in its best vein, "A fly in the soup is better than no meat at all."

Czech President Decorates Men From Det. T.A. 6

LIBERATED COUNTRY'S LEGION OF MERIT AWARD GIVEN FOR WORK IN PILSEN

The Legion of Merit of Czechoslovakia has been awarded to six members of Civil Affairs Detachment T.A. 6 by Eduard Benes, President. The awards, which went to three officers and three enlisted men in the detachment, were given for "exceptional meritorious services to Czechoslovakia".

The awards were presented to Capt. Jesse H. Horn, 1st Lt. Stanley S. Marcus, 1st Lt. Herman E. Wren, Cpl. Werner W. Von Minden, Cpl. Herbert St. Goar, and Cpl. Michal Zavacky.

Only 43 Americans So Honored

Earlier, President Benes had visited Pilsen, city in which T.A. 6 was working in a civil affairs and liaison capacity, and had noted the type of work being done there. The Legion of Merit of Czechoslovakia has been awarded to only forty-three Americans previously. The country has one higher military award; it has gone to Generals Eisenhower and Patton.

Detachment In Pilsen 6 Months

Detachment T.A. 6 worked in Pilsen for six months and just recently reported in to Regimental headquarters for reassignment within the 3d MGR. In Pilsen, they were performing most of the functions of military government except that, since Czechoslovakia is a liberated, friendly country, these functions were of a more supervisory and liaison nature. Especially important in Pilsen was the problem of handling displaced persons, both coming out of Germany and returning.

Awards Boost Point Scores

Previous to this distinguished award, the detachment had received "The Emblem of the Liberated City of Pilsen". Since the Legion of Merit was awarded by an Allied country and was an official state award, it counts five points towards going home for each man decorated.



CHRISTMAS CAROLS

In the insert for this issue The Bavarian presents eight of our familiar carols. We trust that these will find a place on every detachment piano or be an insert in every MGR's pocket for ready reference from now through the holiday in Bavaria.

News From 'The Governor'

2d MG Regiment

Willy Benz, member of a gang of Nazis who planned to assassinate General Eisenhower shortly before the war ended, was arrested during the recent Tallyho operation and turned over to the Esslingen MG Detachment G-23... The accident rate in the Seventh Army area is still racing upward, according to Army Headquarters. Seeking a reduction in traffic accidents, Lt. Gen. Keyes, Army commander, has formulated a Vehicle Safety Board which will place the full resources of Seventh Army Headquarters behind the drive... In an effort to accelerate Stuttgart's rubble clearing program, approximately 5,000 letters were sent out to former members of the Nazi Party last week directing them to report to MG's local Construction office for municipal work... German police are being armed with U. S. Army carbines throughout Greater Hessen in a move which has already appreciably reduced civilian crime in the Land... All German civilians in the 7th Army area will be adequately housed and no Germans will suffer from exposure due to cold this winter, according to the housing plan of the Chief Surgeon, 7th Army, which provides for a minimum of 3.43 square meters of space per person, or no more than three persons to a room... Lt. Col. Cooper, Chief of Public Health for Wurttemberg-Baden, discussed problems of public health with Land Wurttemberg medical officials.

Regiment Men Go To 94th Division For Redeployment

PILGRIM OUTFIT ABSORBS HIGH POINT MEN FOR TRIP HOME EARLY IN JANUARY

With orders cut transferring 139 enlisted men to Division Artillery, 94th Infantry Division, the 3d Military Government Regiment is now cleared of all EMs eligible for redeployment with point scores down to 55.

Coming right on the heels of the quota which sent the 61-65 pointers homeward bound with the 80th Division last week, the new quota pulled out all EMs in the 56-60 bracket for redeployment with the 94th Division, which recently moved back into Bavaria after seven months of occupation duty in Czechoslovakia.

Sail First Week In January

According to latest reports, the 94th is slated to depart on the first leg of the return trip to the States by the middle of next week to assemble in the area of Aschaffenburg, from where the Division will proceed to LeHavre and commence loading the first elements on ships around December 28th. The entire Division expects to be loaded and ready to shove off Stateside by January 2nd, which accounts for the enthusiastic last-minute letters now leaving Regiment as the lucky lads from MG shipping with the 94th hurriedly send home the news, "Keep the Christmas tree standing, Ma. I'm coming home."

Officers Go With Shipment

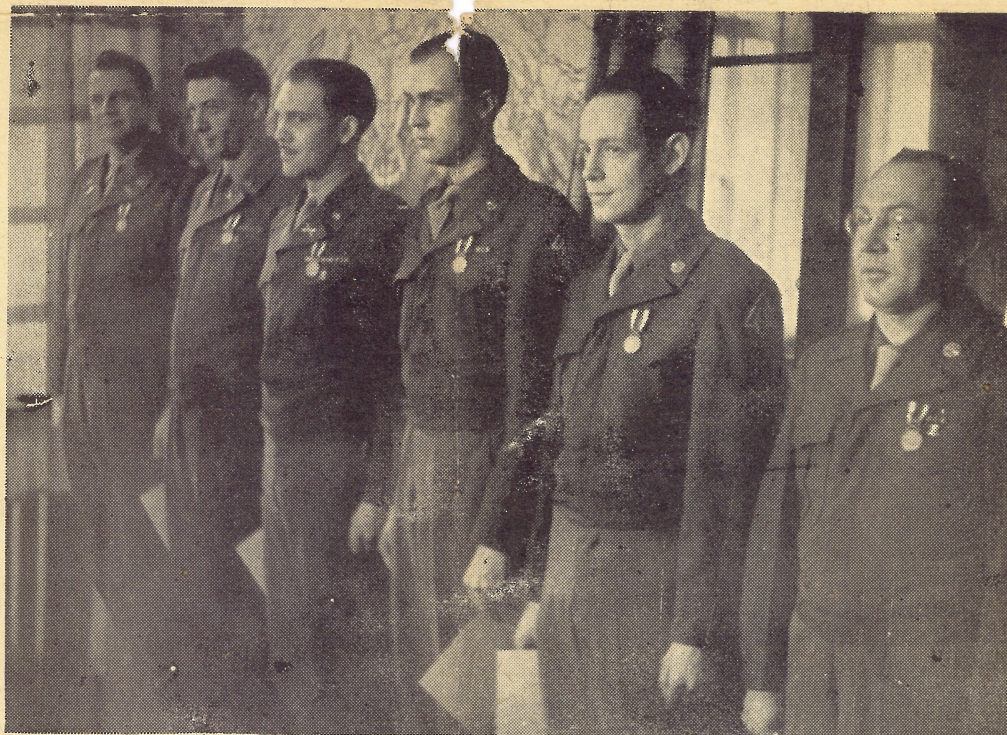
Approximately 40 available officers with 73 points or above, and those eligible for redeployment under the 4 years and 3 month requirement left last Sunday to join the 94th. Another group of about 30 officers in this category who had to wait until clearance was completed will leave 3d Regiment before the end of this week to join the 94th Division also.

Lt. Doughty Awarded Bronze Star Medal For Exploits

1st Lt. Clayton B. Doughty, now serving as executive and supply officer of Headquarters Company, Third Military Government Regiment, has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal.

The citation reads, "For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States during the period 13 June 1944 to 8 May 1945. Lieutenant Doughty, serving as Range Officer, Battery D, 115th Antiaircraft Artillery Gun Battalion (type A), distinguished himself by his outstanding performance of duty. The technical skill and resourcefulness he displayed; his untiring energy and loyal devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service."

Lt. Doughty's unit, which arrived in England on Dec. 5th 1943, was operational in the defense of London for a time. From D plus 5 to the end of hostilities in Europe it was in constant contact with the enemy. Lt. Doughty's specific duties in these operations were those of radar and electric computer. When asked if he had any special comment to make Doughty said, "Yes, I now have 84 points."



These men wearing Czechoslovakia's second highest military decoration, the Legion of Merit are: Capt. Horn, Lt. Marcus, Lt. Wren, Cpl. Von Minden, Cpl. St. Goar, Cpl. Zavacky.