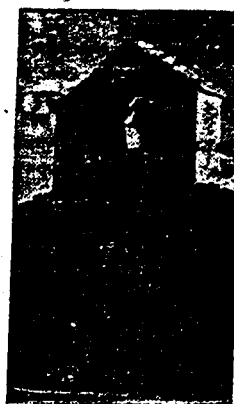


THE TOWER

464th BOMB
GROUP

"WHATSOEVER THY HAND FINDETH TO DO,
DO IT WITH THY MIGHT."



SUPPOSE IT WERE YOU

Recently, I was approached with a subject that certainly deserves a lot of attention and thought. It pertains to the combat crews in particular, but, no doubt, can be applied to everyone in general. I've done a little bit of investigating in different squadrons and found the same story to hold true, with the results always the same. This is a very sore subject and hard to approach because it's supposed to be in authoritative and competent hands. However, since the blame cannot be laid on one group, perhaps mention of it will awaken all the guilty concerned.

Have you ever been M.I.A., even for a short while, and returned to find only the barest skeleton of your home left? You probably don't have to look too far past your door, or to recall an instance too far in the past to get the idea clearly!

Remember when the mission returned and through interrogation etc. you and others learned that someone was M.I.A., either over the target, in Yugo or somewhere along the way? Did you see the same things I did when I returned to my tent area? Later that same evening someone connected with the handling of M.I.A. affairs drove up in a truck and hauled away "B-4" bags, barracks bags, and in general, all personal equipment and some G.I. equipment. Sometimes, even they were a little bit too late getting there! Sometimes a guard was posted to sleep in the tent for two or three nights. Even that didn't stop the "vultures"—just slowed them up for a while! The facts still remain; when the crews, eventually, did return two or three weeks later, maybe longer, they had to go about reorganizing themselves and rebuilding a home. At times new clothing issues were necessary but some things can't be replaced. (That coveted A-2 jacket for instance) stoves, lamps, floors, tables, chairs etc. all representing

hours of work and quite a few lire have to be constructed and bought. Some guys who had the nerve and luck scoured the neighborhood and found a few of their possessions.

Sounds like we have quite a bit of dirty linen to wash around here. doesn't it? Well, brother, if the shoe fits wear it! If it doesn't, don't ever try it for size! This isn't just the opinion of the author but of all those who, someday, might be subject to such a raw deal by their "pals".

When you and I go on a mission we like to think that if we, unfortunately, are listed as M.I.A. for a while, we have a few buddies who will see to it that we return to all that we left. After all, there is such a thing as common decency!

I remember an old proverb I used to see and read every time I bought a nickel ruler for school. This was printed right across the face of it— "Do Unto Others As You Would Have Them Do Unto You".

Think it over fellas, think of this little proverb—do you know what it means? If you do, you appreciate it. If you don't you're probably wearing "the shoe".

S/Sgt "Howie" Farling 778

A YEAR AGO - REMEMBER?

Kissing your wife or girl goodbye — the ground echelon boarding four troop trains in a driving snow storm — headed overseas at last — picking bunk mates — matching for the lower berth.

Remember the cold — blankets were insufficient — poker — reading — singing — P. T. on station platforms in sub-zero weather — Red Cross girls with cigarettes — darn good chow all things considered — cold coffee in the last car — paper plates — no mess kits to wash.

Remember the sighs as home towns were passed with no opportunity to stop to see the family — our first taste of censorship — the bets made on our destination — the church service with music by a mouth organ and ukelele — the war was getting closer.

Capt. KIELING

So You Want a Puppy?

This is supposed to be a humorous bit on puppy raising, but humor comes hard tonight after finding puppy messes all around the house.

Let me first warn the amateur. Once you get a puppy and have him for a period of over three days you discover an amazing fact. The ownership has passed from you to the dog, who now owns you, body and soul.

You are advised to raise all your clothes at least three feet above floor level, hang them from the roof tree if possible. Never leave Sox or slippers within puppy reach. Our pup took a definite liking to one type of stocking, winter woolen, OD brown. Your's may have entirely different taste.

Taste brings up the matter of feeding. The army took care of our troubles quite well until one day the dog refused to accept any more "C" ration. Even a Pup knows when to stop.

The incautious owner is warned against purps who sleep in the early evening, and are drowsy during most of the day. They haven't sleeping sickness, or worms, but are just saving up for a good three A.M. frolic. Our little fiend spent the better part of two early morning hours tearing up newspapers and scattering them all over the floor. Then, as a final touch, he discovered our aluminum toasting plate hanging within reach, and began pounding out reveille at five o'clock.

Whether our pup is different from others I'm not at all sure. He has an uncanny way of being in the wrong place at the wrong time. If you don't look behind you at every second step you'll soon hear a scream of anguish, and spend the next ten minutes comforting the little devil.

Despite all the above warnings, don't think that we for a minute consider our pup a liability. He's an almost constant source of laughter. Life refuses to be dull with a puppy in the house.

One rather delicate problem connected with dog raising was solved for us by the recent shortage of fresh eggs. We thought we had no further use for our spatula, and then Mr. pup came along. Believe me, that former egg flipper gives fine service.

G. H. MERRIAM

THE TOWER

Published every Sunday by and for
the men of the 464th Bomb Group.

Editor Chaplain EASTWOOD

Associate editors
GEORGE H. MERRIAM
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Typist HOWARD WALKER

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We at the 4th Field Hospital are both honored and appreciative of the kind words said about our organization in the Tower. It is indeed a thrill to know that our efforts are not unnoted by the organizations we service. The article in the Tower was the first time anything was ever printed concerning our hospital and it gives us all a deep satisfaction. Of course, the only bad part about it is that the readers of the Tower have been taking what was said too literally and have been seemingly swamping us this past week. But, all kidding aside, we, the Officers, Nurses, and Enlisted Men of the 4th Field Hospital will continue to give all the organizations we service the best of treatment and care. Our effort plus your great effort, plus the efforts of all the others are a factor in winning the war. All we can say is a heartfelt thanks to you.

(This is the beginning of what we hope will become an interesting and useful column. We invite and encourage your comments on anything that appears in this paper, or on any other subject which interests you).

This Old World

*Ain't life
A funny proposition?
You go to bed,
Unsatisfied;
And get up awishin'
For something
You never had.
Then —
All of a sudden —
You're feelin' glad
And say to yourself,
Why, this old world
Ain't so bad.
If you take it right,
As you ought to had,
So buck up,
Soldier,
And give a song.
It's bad in spots
But not all wrong.
What's the use
Of dreamin' bad,
When you should
Be happy,
And your heart
Be glad.
Glad you're alive
And rangin' free,
With the air
To breathe
And the world to see.
So I'm telling you,
Soldier,
This world's alright—
if you open
Your eyes
And see it right!*

Maj DARYL D. JOHNS

Due to censorship regulations this
paper may not be sent home.

CON MOLTO ESPRESSIONE

"A chain is no stronger than it's weakest link." The concert last week was all but a total failure. Four of Italy's best artists could not make music Monday night simply because the piano we were compelled to use was in bad shape. Ironically, we did have a good piano for them on the scheduled date but circumstances kept them away then. We are *very grateful* to the 78th Officers' club and Lt Laser but still we must point out that besides being out of tune and in general poor condition, the piano was also a full tone below concert pitch and thus forced the musicians to retune their strings. This hurt the timbre of the instruments. And so, for the lack of a piano the concert was lost.

There is little point, therefore, in discussing the music for it finally fell victim to the odds that have been working against it for so long. We are faced with a pretty tough problem now and need all the help we can get. You realize from the above that we are in want of a piano—a *good one*. If you have any ideas or "leads" please let us know. We will really appreciate it.

But the concerts are not going to stop. There will be no performance tomorrow evening but next week you will have the opportunity to hear the 1898th Engineers Glee Club and a quintet of vocalists known as "The Dots And Dashes". Both of these groups are featured over the air every Saturday afternoon at 1500 and will be well worth coming to see as well as to hear. Incidentally, since they sing *acapella*, our lack of a piano will not be felt. You *will* enjoy it.

em

Chaplain's Flimsy

A few minutes of quiet meditation can do great things for you. When others get on your nerves and your soul seems to have grown small, it's good to be still in the presence of God. Through one of the prophets He has said, "I will be as the dew unto Israel".

In arid lands it is the dew of night that makes vegetation possible. When the heat and the wind of the day are passed, the blades of the corn unroll and are bathed in the cool fresh dew that gathers in the night. The pores of the plants are open to receive the tiny drops as they come from the invisible air and settle on the leaves and flowers to refresh and vitalize.

Dew does not gather while there is heat or wind. The temperature must fall and the wind cease. All must be still before the air of night yields up its life giving moisture to the thirsty plants. If we are to receive strength from God we too must be still and wait and receive with open hearts. When the heat of the day is passed, when the danger of the hour of battle is over and action is no longer necessary, be still in the presence of God and your strength will be renewed, even as the blades of the corn are refreshed by the dew of evening.

*"Drop Thy still dews of quietness
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress;
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of Thy peace."*

Chaplain EASTWOOD

MARCH OF DIMES NETS 372 DOLLARS

Thanks fellas! Your generosity has enabled the Special Service Office to send 372.00 dollars to the President's Fund for Infantile Paralysis control. You could not have donated to a better cause. You may glory in the thought that some little kids are going to derive some excellent benefits because of your generosity.

ARC MAN

There's a new face in the ARC Field office. Mr. Claude Pennington has replaced Mr. Lamb as Field Director for our group, the 465th Bomb Group, Fourth Field Hospital, and the Engineer and Quartermaster organizations in the neighborhood.

A traveling salesman in civilian life, and in the Army a ball gunner on a Fortress crew at the age of thirty-nine, Mr. P. came overseas in October of '44, and after a few months in the 304th Wing, he has been assigned to work with us. Born in Mitchell, Indiana, where he lived through High school days, he went to Fresno State College in California for a while. In the course of time to follow, Mr. Pennington held a great variety of jobs including those of truck diver and mule skinner and for fifteen years did much traveling as a salesman. In the Army for eight months, he became a member of a B 17 crew well into phase training at Ephrata Air Base in Washington. Then our Red Cross representative was transferred to the Enlisted Reserve and did not receive a final discharge until November of '44, when he was already a month overseas.

C.P. seems short on hobbies (he will wait for summer and then bathe on Italy's beaches). But this affords him more time for work; he is eager in every sense of the word and a glutton for punishment. Incidentally, he would have us publicize the fact that he is anxious to help any and all as much as he can. So, if you have personal, legal, medical, or for that matter any problems, drop in at the office.

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CHAPLAIN'S FUND

Nov. Dec. Jan.

RECEIPTS

Balance from Oct.	43.34
Chapel Offering, Nov. 5	179.04
Chapel Offerings, Nov. 12	114.65
Thank Offering, for Christmas for Kids Committee	325.00
Chapel Offerings, Dec. 3	91.88
Chapel Offerings, Dec. 24	164.44
Chapel Offerings, Jan. 7	236.12
Refund from Christmas for Kids Committee	169.25
Total	1323.72

EXPENDITURES

Printing, "The Tower" (14 numbers)	350.00
Printing, concert programs etc.	22.00
Engraving	52.00
Fire Wood	50.00
Air Mail Envelopes	10.00
Labor (carpenter)	9.50
Music	1.71
Piano tuning	5.00
Janitor (Tiani Felice)	31.00
Stars and Stripes	8.10
Upholstered Chairs (2)	65.00
Flowers	16.50
Concerts (6)	152.00
Gift to "Christmas for Kids Committee"	325.00
Total	1097.81

Receipts 1323.72
Expenditures 1097.81

Cash on hand as of Feb. 1, 1945 225.91

IN THE MIDST

by S Sgt C. M. MAIN

A few nights ago when we were studying the book of Revelation in our Bible class we read these words, "In the midst of the seven candlesticks was one like unto the Son of Man". It occurred to me how often Christ is found in the midst.

At the age of twelve Christ was found in the midst of doctors and teachers in the temple. They were astonished at his understanding and wisdom. Many times he was found in the midst of the poor, teaching and healing. After his resurrection he appeared in the midst of his disciples bringing peace and good cheer to those who thought all was lost. In the verse above he is seen in the midst of the candlesticks which represent his churches. Toward the end of his ministry on earth he promised he would go and prepare a place. There he will be in the midst of those who accept him throughout all eternity.

Fellows, is the Lord in our midst? Does he have a central position in your life? He came to earth and

lived and died for you and me. We have sinned and fallen short. We need him and must accept his love and grace now if we are to enjoy his presence later on. Let us live in such a way that he may be found in the midst of us today.

OFF-DUTY CLASSES STARTED

For the benefit of those interested in furthering their education while in the Army Special Services have started a series of "Off-duty Classes"

Here is a list of subjects for which classes have been formed and the dates of their meetings:

"Business Principles and Management" in the 778th Mess Hall on Mondays at 1930 to 2130 hours.

"Spoken German" in the Chapel on Tuesdays and Fridays at 2000 hours.

"World History" in the 778th Mess Hall on Thursdays at 2000 hours.

"Psychology and Life" in the 778th Mess Hall on Thursdays at 1900 hours.

"Spoken Italian" in the 778th Mess Hall on Saturdays at 1900 hours.

Dates for "Elementary Meteorology", "20th Century Bookkeeping and Accounting", "Blue Print Reading at Work", "Spoken French" and "Fundamentals of Advertising", will be published in the near future.

Those desiring to enroll in any of the above-mentioned courses may do so by applying at the Special Services Office.

THE 778th SPOTLIGHT

Battling Calamari hits the floor after a session with Italian alcoholics and heavyweight Courtright. We didn't happen to be there ourselves, but from the versions of those who witnessed the event, it provided more entertainment than any Screen Comedy ever could. When interviewed next morning Battling Calamari refused to divulge whether it was the Hundred Orlane or Courtright who was directly responsible for the scene, but nevertheless he has once again sworn off going to extremes. — "Long, Long Ago". We want to write about that little ditty. It concerns a nice big piece of plywood which was given to the 778th sometime ago for a Ping-Pong table but was used for a Bulletin Board, and believe it or not it didn't like being a Bulletin Board, so it up and walked away and nobody knows where. That was long, long ago, and to this date we don't know where it has gone. Do You? — T/Sgt Bailey smells winnings and backs a sure thing. We happened to go over to the Armament Shop, which is also a rendezvous for checker players, to participate in a few games and doggone if the old boy wasn't betting two bits a game on M/Sgt Bernardine and to top it off wasn't even giving him a cut on the proceeds. — Pvt Fuhrmark is peeved at the Italian Mess Attendants because formerly he could eat at least once every twenty days. — M/Sgt Thomas becomes the Problem Child of the line. When he has one situation in hand, doggone if he just don't pop up with another. — Yes, it seems as tho our combat men do make the news. Take those two boys from Lt. Lincoln's crew. They like to go awandering. Or do they?

The Enlisted Men's Council had their monthly meeting on February 5th and the following report is submitted to the squadron. The Treasury of the Service Club as of this date had a net balance of 1,200.00 dollars in cash plus liquor stock on hand. Out of this sum an appropriation of 500.00 dollars was made to defray the cost of a Squadron Party to be held on March 19th, 1945. 50.00 dollars per month was appropriated to the Entertainment Committee. This sum of money is to be used to acquire the services of the Group Orchestra at the Service Club at least semi-monthly. It was also voted that the Club would defray the expense of partitioning the Service Club to provide a reading room and to bear the expense of an Enlisted Men's Shower. Both these projects are under the Supervision of our newly elected Construction Engineer M/Sgt Kumm and his committee, while the responsibility of Procurement rests with that dynamic personality, T/Sgt Kaplan. It's a good combination and the work should be completed within a short period of time. They have decided to bring in outside contractors to put up the building and thus eliminate the labor difficulty with which they would otherwise be confronted. Other results of this meeting were: 1. Treasurer's Report and Statement to be issued and posted on the Bulletin Board each month, commencing with the month of February. 2. Greater Effort to be put forward in making the Club interesting to those who do not drink or gamble. 3. That the sum of 34.00 dollars, which was over and above the cost of defraying the P. X. deficit, should be turned over to the Squadron Fund.

At this point we would like to say that the Squadron appreciates the efforts put forward by this group of enlisted men who are giving their time and energy to make our life a happier one.

This is your reporting combination of T/Sgt A. J. Griek and S/Sgt W. J. Clarke saying "CHEERIO" till next week.

