



Oliver

SHOREHAM ITEM

SHOREHAM, L.I., N.Y.

JULY 29, 1944

MARINE CAPTAIN GIVES WAR VIEWS

Finds Civilians Less Aware of War's Meaning than Soldiers.

Captain Daniel T. O'Brien, U.S.M.C.R., a public relations officer in Quantico, the traditional post of the Marine Corps in Virginia, stated in a recent interview with the SHOREHAM ITEM the men fighting this war in the Pacific area have a much clearer conception of its real objective than the general civilian population.

"Our main objective," he said, "is to make possible a world where friendly international relations can exist. While hating the Japs and certainly not admiring the common enemy, we feel that the world relationships in the future will have to be bound with friendship rather than with worthless scraps of paper. Each nation must have a clean-cut conception of what friendly international trade and living together will entail. In general, people have not devoted enough thought to the human relationships. The men coming back are tired but they do not have to be told this."

Captain O'Brien, a former press correspondent in the Orient, took the first war correspondents into the Solomons in the initial

(Continued on Page 4)

LARGE BRUSH FIRE RAGES NEARBY

Five Buildings and Thousands of Acres Devastated by Flames.

A brush fire which started in mid-morning of Monday, July 24th at a point about four miles south down Canal Road and which spread rapidly northwest toward Route 25A was finally brought under control late Wednesday. The area covered by the fire is estimated in the thousands of acres according to local authorities. The State Warden, Mr. Clarence Dare of Seldon, said that the fire was believed to have been started by huckleberry pickers. The fire destroyed five buildings, three of which were homes, and burned through a cemetery off Whiskey Road. The water works of Groveland Park were put out of commission and its residents were without water for several days.

Six local Fire Departments as well as the Conservation Corps took part in the fighting of the fire. Port Jefferson, Mount Sinai, Miller Place, Sound Beach, Rocky Point and North Shore Beach all sent equipment and men. Shoreham had volunteer fire-fighters and equipment at the scene.

The blaze was whipped by a
(Continued on Page 4)

Edited and Published Weekly
by Peggy Haslett.
Address Shoreham, N.Y.
Telephone Shoreham 2327

Subscription Rates \$1.50
per season; \$.20 per issue;
Adv't Rates on request.

EDITORIAL

As this is written, a large fire of three days duration is still burning nearby. This is not God-given destruction, nor can we turn from the sublime and call ridiculous the fact that it is believed to have been started by huckle-berry pickers smoking as they worked. Carelessness is never ridiculous. It caused not only this fire but two others in the vicinity last week. The resultat damage fortunately does not include loss of life, but countless acres have been rendered charcoal and five buildings ashes.

In this period of drought, Shoreham was threatened by each of these fires, but more imminently by the largest and most recent. The head fire on Monday night was rapidly approaching Route 25A beyond Radio Road. Although the main road was back-fired, a stiff wind was urging the flames in that direction. Had the fire crossed the road, the fate of this thickly housed area would doubtless have been an unhappy one. Only the shifting of the wind prevented what might have been disastrous.

This village can no more live in isolation than could America. The fact that we escaped this fire is pure good fortune -- perhaps the mere shifting of the wind. It would behoove us to augment this good fortune by taking an active part in both the prevention of fires in this neighborhood and the fighting of them. We are at present dependent upon the equipment of our neighbors; if it is in use at a time that we need it, we are dependent upon the mood of the wind. This hasn't happened yet, but it could happen here.

MARINE GIVES WAR VIEWS
(Continued from page 1)

attack. He suffered wounds and malaria and returned to the states eight months ago; five of these months have been spent in a hospital.

"I speak not only for myself, but for all the men coming back when I comment on the splurge of spending that we encounter on our return. We do not object to people having a good time, but we cannot enjoy ourselves in the midst of such spending when we remember the boys still fighting. The abundance of money now prevalent should be put into War Bonds, for there will come a time in the future when it will be needed as much as it is now. The period of reconversion at the close of the war will last from ten to eighteen months. Until industry is again geared to peace time production, jobs will be scarce. Too many people overlook this.

"The greatest thing that this war has done," he concluded, "and the one thing that our enemies did not count on, has been to prove the remarkable adaptability of our nation. America, from the midst of so-called indolence and peace time prosperity, girded herself for global warfare not only in time, but with great dispatch. This will whip our enemy!"

WARNING!

Do not throw matches or lit cigarettes out of your car! Cut grass has been piled along many of the curbs awaiting removal. It offers a chance for fires. Do not take that chance!

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS:
MENTION THE SHOREHAM ITEM.

LARGE BRUSH FIRE RAGES
(Continued from page 1)

stiff breeze which carried it across several roads. At times on Monday the fire was traveling at a rate of 20 miles per hour, according to local fire officials. The fire was fought for the most part with water and back-firing. Volunteers carrying knapsacks weighing 100 pounds entered the brush where the engines could not maneuver. Numerous homes were saved by back-firing the brush around them and wetting down the ground.

Alarms were sounded all day Monday and heavy clouds of smoke hung over the surrounding countryside. Back fires were started along Route 25A about a mile west of the Rocky Point-Yaphank Road Monday evening and threatened buildings were wet down and surrounded by sand. The head fire veered back from the road when the wind direction changed after midnight. A fresh alarm was sounded about 2:30 A.M. Tuesday, when a home was threatened. All that day the brush smoldered and sporadic flames burst up in pine trees and scrub oak. The Rocky Point Fire Department was called out twice to protect homes newly threatened. Wednesday, the fire was given new life by the wind and the section north of Whiskey Road including the cemetery burned. The Conservation Corps and the Rocky Point Fire Department extinguished the blaze and backfired the perimeter of the head fire, preventing further spread.

Although Camp Upton was called on Monday for assistance, it was unable to send men because their unit was engaged in fighting the Medford blaze.

The prevalence of fires at this time is laid to both the draught and to carelessness on the part of those working near dried grass and tinder. No sabotage is suspected.

COMING EVENTS

There will be a Box Supper at the Shoreham Country Club this Saturday Night at 7 o'clock. All ladies are requested to bring a shoe box containing some tempting food and their name, and wrapped in an attractive manner. The gentlemen will select a box (or two, if they're very hungry) and have as their supper partners the owners thereof. Punch (of both varieties) and coffee will be served. The entertainment will be a repeat performance of "A Delicate Operation" which was enjoyed at a recent Wednesday Evening Dance, and a leg show with a prize for the lady and gentleman with the most discerning guesses as to the owners. A voluntary contribution of \$1.00 is requested of all attending to defray the cost of the punch and coffee. A large crowd is hoped for.

The leader of this Sunday Night's Song Service will be Mr. Sheldon DuCret. Mrs. Sarkany will provide the music, and Miss Mildred Talbert, a member of the Metropolitan Opera will sing.

Hosts and Hostesses for next Wednesday Evening's Dancing Class will be Mr. Seldon Heatley for the 7:30 Class, Mrs. L. Perenyi for the 9:00 Class. Thursday morning, Mrs. George Beatty will be in charge.

Next Saturday night there will be a dance at the club featuring the music of Mr. Fuller's dance band from Port Jefferson. Entertainment will be provided.

LAST SATURDAY'S DANCE -

The dance last Saturday night was a very festive one. The Whiz Quiz, presided over by Prof. N. G. (for Groucho) Roberts was a diz. Contestants for the first ten questions were Mesdames Gilbert Frei, Albert George, Booth Hemingway, J.W. Haslett, the Misses Sue Miles and Jean Laurencot, Messrs. Edwin Barnhart, Gilbert Frei,

Frank Heiss, and Captain Daniel O'Brien U.S.M.C.R. They all acquitted themselves with dispatch if not with total success. Winners for the ten True-False statements about Shoreham were Misses Jean Laurencot, Sue Miles, Julie Hopkins, the Mesdames J.T. Miles, and Mervin Pallister. Professor Roberts revealed a distinct bent for M.C.ing and his talents were appreciated by all. The program was sponsored by the Munchie-Crunchie Breakfast Food Co., according to the professor, and someone should take him up on visiting the factory at 5 o'clock some morning, any old morning.

PORT JEFFERSON THEATRE -

Friday & Saturday July 28-29
Matinee Saturday 2:30 PM

Marjorie Reynolds & Dennis O'Keefe
in
"UP IN MABEL'S ROOM"

News ... Cartoon .. Short Subjects
1st Eve Show at 7:00 PM
2nd Eve Show at 9:03 PM
Feature shown at 3:17, 7:47 & 9:50

Sun. Mon. Tues. July 30-31, Aug. 1
Matinee Sunday 2:30 PM

Robert Walker & Donna Reed
in
"SEE HERE PRIVATE HARGROVE"

News Cartoon
1st Eve: Show at 7:00 PM
2nd Eve, Show at 8:57 PM
Feature shown at 2:47, 7:17, 9:14

Wed. & Thurs. Aug. 2 & 3

Nelson Eddy & Charles Coburn
in

"KNICKERBOCKER HOLIDAY"
News..Cartoon..Two Reel Western
1st Eve Show at 7:00; 2nd at 9:00
Feature at 7:37 & 9:39 PM

FIRST HAND REPORTS ON THE FIRE

All Monday afternoon, Shoreham was darkened by the great clouds of rust colored smoke that swelled from the nearby fire. The water took on a peculiar dead color and ashes carried by the wind were in the air. The unholy sound of sirens wailed sporadically and a sense of excitement was as heavy in the atmosphere as the smoke. Monday night, the red glow of the fire could be seen against the sky. All day Tuesday, blue-grey smoke seeped from the burning area and occasional spurts of red flame flared from the brush. Wednesday afternoon, huge thunderheads of smoke again rose into the air and were carried past Shoreham toward the east.

At the scene itself Monday, eyewitnesses told of the great roar of the flames as they consumed the pine trees, the smoke like thick and dirty cream slowly reddening as it rose ponderously. Families huddled helplessly outside their homes and watched the inexorable approach of the billowing smoke and flames. Back fires crackled around them and the steady sound of fire trucks pumping water mingled with the threatening sound of the fire and wind.

Monday night, the eastern horizon echoed back the glow of the fire with others raging near Medford and Manorville. In Groveland Park fire trucks and smoke-blackened men patrolled the area of the blaze, and with smarting eyes peered around homes for stray flames that might threaten.

Crowds of people gathered on Route 25A toward midnight as the ruddy mass approached the road. The Haesloop home, a youth hostel, was outlined in scarlet by the flames back of it and the home east of it was surrounded by anxious people hefting shovels. The sky was overcast with what was taken for rain clouds and occasionally a voice would call out that rain had started. Although this was untrue, the veering of the wind averted the spread of the fire across the main road.

The charred acres of scrub are bleak in the day light, with the black bones of massacred pines grim evidence of the destruction. An occasional lonely chimney rises from the wreckage of a home, and battered bodies of burned automobiles give mute evidence of the fire's fury.

Rene Laurenot of Shoreham fought the fire continuously for 10 hours along with York Brightung of Port Jefferson. "The heat and flames of the fire make it impossible to fight the main body of it except from the rear. We carried our knapsacks of water through brush for a half an hour to get at it."

Charles Robinson, a director of the Rocky Point Fire Department fought the fire almost continuously from its inception, remained on the alert to take out the fire-wagon. He remarked on Thursday, "I, for one, sure am glad that it is over." A resident of Groveland Park remarked with wonder on the stealth with which fire consumes; "Last night they backfired around a cottage and made sure that all the brush was burned and the flames out. This morning the cottage was nothing but ashes."

Although there were minor burns sustained by some of the fire fighters, there were no serious injuries caused by this fire.

ABOUT TOWN

Mrs. August Wittnebel and her daughter, Stephanie, of Scarsdale, N.Y. have been recent visitors at the home of Mrs. Wittnebel's mother, Mrs. F. A. Koch. They will return to Shoreham later in the season.

Mrs. Stuart Dickinson of New York City was a guest last weekend at the home of Mrs. F.W. Finn. She will stay with Mr. and Mrs. John Keating this weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. William Van Arnam and their young son arrive from Maryland to be the guests of the William Van Arnam Sr.s this weekend. Mrs. S. G. Van Arnam, and Miss Jane Van Arnam of Buffalo have been guests in the same home for several days.

Mr. and Mrs. James Bowie, Mr. Louis D'Arclay, and Mrs. Cassidy of New York City were guests of Mrs. W.R. Callender last weekend.

Guests at the home of the George Roedelbergers last weekend were Miss Astrid Varnay of the Metropolitan Opera Company and her husband, Mr. Hermann Weigert. They returned to New York last Tuesday. Visiting the Roedelbergers this weekend will be Mr. and Mrs. Frank Linden of New York and their children Anita, and Roger; also Mrs. Narjan Hansen and Miss Briget Linden of Brooklyn.

Mr. and Mrs. James McGoldrick of Bronxville, N.Y. and their daughter Mary Ann, who have been guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Palm for the past two weeks will return to their home this Sunday.

Mrs. Charles Hapgood of Pittsburgh has been a guest at the home of Mrs. E.T. Hapgood for the past two weeks.

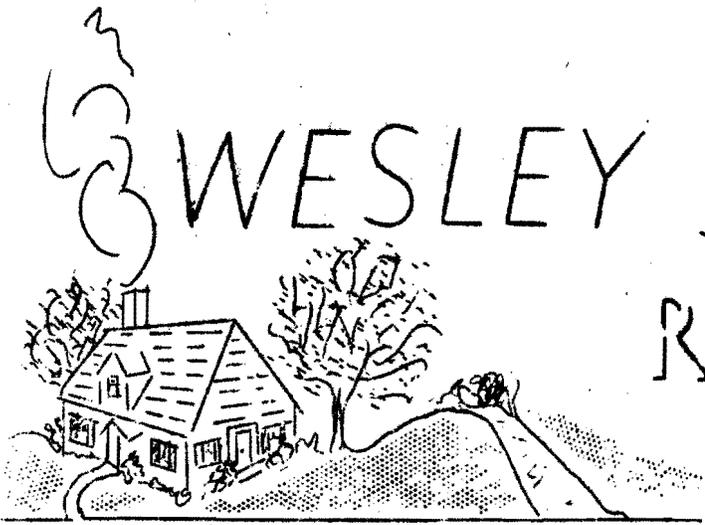
Mrs. M.F. Walsh is in her home on Woodville Road for the rest of the season.

Mrs. James D. Ingraham of Florida is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Sackett. She was last in Shoreham seven years ago, when she visited her sister Mrs. Sackett.

Mr. and Mrs. Leland L. Landers of Richmond Hill, N.Y. visited Mrs. Kenneth J. Kerr and Mr. and Mrs. C.J. Patton this week.

LAST SUNDAY EVENING'S SONG SERVICE.

The song services last Sunday evening were conducted by Mr. William Van Arnam, with Mrs. Geysa Sarkany at the piano. The service was opened with the pledge to the flag, and selected hymns were sung. The service closed with the singing of "Now the Day is Over" and the repetition of the Lord's Prayer.



WESLEY J. SHERMAN

REAL ESTATE
INSURANCE

TEL 2345

WOODVILLE ROAD

SHOREHAM, N.Y.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor of the Shorehamitem:

July 27, 1944

To the best of my recollection in over twenty years of residence in Shoreham, we have had only two fatal accidents. One was caused by a gentleman touching a live wire downed in a storm, with instant death the result. The other occurred when Nora Gavin fell from the running board of a car and hit her head on the edge of the concrete. She lived less than twenty minutes.

That car was travelling in a straight line at fifteen miles an hour. How much easier it is to fall from a running board of a car whose driver has had for any reason to make a sudden swerve or stop, while you were chatting about the latest adventures of Terry, Dick Tracy or Smiling Jack. How about an unwritten law to keep all Shorehamites inside the car at all times that it is travelling, and in that way hold to a minimum the chance of any accidents that we would regret.

N.F.H.

WADING RIVER REPORTS

Arnold Wolffraat, who is in the Medical Corps stationed at Fort Knox, Kentucky, paid a surprise visit to his parents this past week.

Mr. and Mrs. William Parrot of Smithtown were the recent guests of the W.A. Millers.

Word has just been received from Sargeant William Meier, stationed in England, that owing to an emergency operation he was forced to miss the invasion on D Day.

Mr. William E. Miller, who has been visiting his parents, left yesterday for Knoxville, Tenn. to resume his work for the T.V.A..

The Russell Meiers gave a dinner Friday night in honor of their cousins, Mrs. D.A. Thompson, Mrs. Cecil Smith and Mr. William Miller

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Meier are entertaining this week-end Mrs. Robert Hall and daughter of Chatham, N.Y.. Mrs. Hall's husband is a Lt. Commander stationed somewhere in the South Pacific.

The Jessie Heatleys had as their guest Miss Rachel Albertson last weekend. Fay and Jessie have finished redecorating their charming cottage on the beach.

The Congregational Church is giving a benefit Clam Bake this Saturday at 6 P.M. to be held at the Club Beach. You are cordially invited! Should it rain, the party will be held at the school house.

Church services are held in the Congregational Church each Sunday morning at 9:30, the Rev. Charles MacLean officiating.

The Sunday Night Club, which constitutes a group of prominent families, met last Sunday at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Rowley.

Ruth Thompson

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DANCE.

Last Wednesday night the Shoreham hep-cats were really cookin' with gas at the weekly jam session at the club. I mean they definitely were! Slick chicks Claire Laurencot and Rusty Kerr were junior hostess and host. All the movie stars (the party was exclusively for celebrities) danced while the judges, Mrs. Grover Nulty, Mrs. Helen Hughes, and Mrs. Kenneth Kerr got into a huddle. Pigeon Ann Kale, who was really Shirley Temple, and Sue Miles, who was a smooth impersonation of Veronica Lake, were the winners.

Mrs. J.T. Miles, who acted as senior hostess, served delicious refreshments next, and boy, they were groovey. Cooking on the front burners the gang swung out with the Virginia Reel, the Farmer in the Dell, and many other old favorites.

Query: Where were the boys?

Sue Miles

News and Views of G.I.JOE.

Captain Daniel T. O'Brien, USMCR, now stationed at Quantico, Virginia was a guest of Mrs. Mary Hemingway at the home of the Albert Roberts last week-end.

Lt.(j.g.) Robert Oliver, USQGR, was in Shoreham Saturday night, and attended the dance at the Country Club. Lt. Oliver expects his station to be shifted shortly.

Master Bill Wolf was christened last Tuesday afternoon at the post chapel in Camp Upton. Chaplains James Johnson and John Watson officiated.

The following are excerpts from the letters of our G.I.Joes, and G.I.Jills:

Lt. Col. John F. Varian continues the letters to his wife, Elayne:(Lt. Col. Varian wrote last week describing the LST that carried him and his troops across the Channel.)

June 27th: "As senior officer I drew a bunk in the captain's suits while it gave me more room and some privacy, the other bunks looked softer and the ship's telegraph could not have bothered every cabin. The ship's telegraph is that system of bells and indicator controls used to signal "Full speed ahead" etc.. I guess the captain wanted to know what his juniors were doing, because every signal sounded right next to his bunk at all times.

The captain looked like a real movie sea captain-probably one who hated to see steam replace sails. Actually he had been a farmer in Oklahoma until the outbreak of the war. He seemed to know his business-probably he had taken a correspondence course-or had read McFee's stories in the Saturday Evening Post. He was prone to object to things being done in a "land lubberly" fashion. He was able to tell interesting stories of the landings in Africa, Sicily and Italy, in all of which he had taken part so that this trip was just a ferry ride to his way of thinking."

June 29th: We had a couple of alerts for enemy aircraft and were able to see some beautiful displays of anti-aircraft fire at night. After the first one, since there was nothing I could do about it, I let the others tell me about it rather than bother getting out of bed. Except for the night air raids we saw no enemy action and even the channel was as quiet as a millpond.

As we approached our landing beach we could see artillery firing on the peninsula, but none could reach us if it had tried. Other than that, the area might have been the lower bay of Manhattan on a busy day with lots of traffic waiting to unload.

July 1st: Our LST finally arrived off our 'beach' just east of the Cherbourg peninsula on D plus 7, several days later than we had originally anticipated, due in part to unloading difficulties caused by D weather and 2 Nazis. The latter had apparently been able to delay the initial landings for almost half a day which permitted reinforcements to arrive and slow down the whole push inward.

NEWS AND VIEWS OF G.I. JOE
(continued)

Lt. Col. Varian continued:

July 7th: One of our OP's initially was in a large chateau—we used one room on the top floor. The building must be fairly old since it has neither closets, central heating, nor bath rooms with running water. The Nazis had used it for headquarters of some sort but had moved everything out and, it seemed, almost scrubbed the place clean. Since we took over they have not taken such good care of it. They apparently register their guns on it and at times a stray shell hits it. The walls are quite thick and the wine cellar would be safe against almost anything. One dud came into the building and bounced around in what was once the nursery, judging from the rabbits on the wall paper.

After being at an OP for a while you get to know the habits of the other side—one group has breakfast at 7, another at 8: reports are sent by messengers at certain hours: rations are received at other times. Yet at first, to an untrained eye, nothing seems to be happening.

(to be continued.)

Following are excerpts from the letters of 1st Lt. Lila Seals to her family. At present, she is a nurse in Italy:

Last Winter: I had five days leave last week and while I was waiting at an airport for a plane, Jimmie O'Brien came up and spoke to me. I didn't know him, but he recognized me. He looks fine and so grown up.

May 20th: Italy. The country is lovely around here now—all kinds of flowers blooming everywhere—red poppies, daisies, roses, wisteria, honeysuckle, calla lilies, all kinds of little white, yellow, blue and purple flowers that I don't know—they just pop up everywhere. We have them around our tent with the poppies. The weather is quite warm now and it very seldom rains—in fact the climate reminds me of springtime in Georgia.

We are fairly busy since the push started—the reports though are very good and that makes us very happy. We are all anxious to get the thing cleaned up here and get going some other place, mostly home for a change. We still have a few air raids and they don't bother us so very much if they come before we go to sleep, but it's kind of annoying to be awakened and the first sound of the ack-ack always wakes me up. I don't even bother to get up and look at them anymore unless it's a little out of the ordinary. I do wish you all could be at a safe distance sometime and see a real good show. It's one of the most fantastically beautiful sights when the planes drop their flares and light up the sky—all the ground barrage going up—a plane caught in the beams..... Remember me to anyone you see in Shoreham that I know.

CORRECTION: The address of Lt. Seals was printed incorrectly last week. It should read:

1st Lt. Lila M. Seals N-723060
9th Evacuation Hospital
A.P.O. 758
%Postmaster, New York, N.Y.

(Continued)

Captain James O'Brien:

June 15th (Corsica): "All is going quite well. Hope that Jack is making out o.k. these days. I got a letter from Otto the day before the drive on Rome. I imagine he will do all right. Says he meets his brother Jack once in a while. I hope to pay him a visit soon.

It is not a very difficult job. Been working very hard in some respects, and have gotten quite lazy in others. A Battery Commander really has a job cut out for him when men stay away from home over a year. Some of the problems would make 'Mr. Anthony' tear his hair out. However, problems of this sort are always different and keep the 'gray matter' busy.....Listening, as usual, to some good Jerry music played by German stations for us. We do appreciate it, and are not affected by their ideas.

All in all, I'm getting fat. Must weigh darn near 150 lbs., I'm afraid. Time seems something we all have a lot of, though it's strange how quickly it seems to go by.

Lt. Jack Hughes to his family:

June 28th: In a house we were looking out of, we lay in some oats in the attic, picked some out of my pocket yesterday and found they had been growing nicely-that's how damp it is here.

July 1st: You speak of seeing landing pictures etc.-most of the photos I've seen (Of rough spots on the beach) were taken right in the spot we came through. I've recognized numerous pillboxes, houses, roads, boat hulls etc.. I walked within a few feet of 'em and the poor bodies, too, laying around everywhere, guys sleeping right beside 'em-pitiful-terrible price to pay-worst of it all is they're just a bunch of civilians at heart and none of them has anything but a professional interest in this war, and first paper we see-"STRIKES on D DAY"! You can always get ahold of money, but I never saw anything deader than those bodies were. Death isn't so commonplace nor so obvious now, but I'll never forget that beach-not the horror of it, just the pity of it.

July 14th: As I've said, war isn't generally as bad as pictured, the trouble comes in spurts(and then sometimes you think the end has at last come). We were careening and clattering along in a jeep(always worries me to be on the road at a bad time, cause you can't hear things coming)up forward yesterday, when I became conscious of the rattle made by planes strafing, then the bedlam of ack-ack-I motioned the driver to stop so I could 'spectate'-at that moment the driver and the radio operator saw where it came from. The radio operator started over the side without waiting for the jeep to stop-driver gave one poke at the break and started to scurry out, then changed his mind, pulled back, stopped(and stalled the jeep and took off. I, in the meantime, didn't ask questions but headed over the side and landed about where the driver had instinctively headed the jeep, in the ditch. As I rushed over the side I caught a glimpse of Jerry planes, smoke trailing behind(from firing guns) and one swooping down in our faces. (Our ack-ack was swelling to a happy crescendo at this moment which is enough to scare anyone. AA is the most violent sound of combat, mostly caused by heavy caliber machine guns and they always seem to be at your elbow I was just finding that the jeep and I couldn't occupy the same place at the same time(though I sure tried!) when the planes were

NEWS AND VIEWS OF G.I. JOE
(Continued)

Lt. Jack Hughes continued:
gone and the ack-ack died out. (Anything to do with planes is over in a second.) Don't know whether they were firing at us or not--no way of telling--but they go for moving vehicles, only thing they can pick up. A second later we were moving on, laughing about it--that's the way it goes."

Corp. Otto Hagenah writes to his sister-in-law, Mary Hagenah:
June 29th Italy: I am allowed to tell you that I was in the Anzio beachhead affair. I shall long remember that happy little table top. Every morning I used to open my mouth and say ah! for the benefit of the Jerry doctors. They were looking down our throats so I figured I might as well give 'em a squint. Not as bad as all that, but as a matter of fact they held all the high ground, and we were on the flats. Actually, when I was there the tough days were over for the American Army. There was shelling on occasion but not as bad as you may imagine.

I had a chance to see the big gun that used to lob shells into the beachhead--a monster if I ever saw one. The barrel was 70 feet long; it was mounted on a railroad car. The whole shebang weighed 231 tons. I think I would have ducked a little harder had I know what was going over! I am happy to say that none of the stuff came our way.

Well, after almost two years in the army I finally got me a real good bed. Yep, one that lets me sleep like a log. The whole thing just sort of accumulated as time went by. Naturally, at first I had blankets, then one evening when we stopped at a wrecked power house, I spotted an ancient straw mattress. I figured it might be louse bound but, armed with a can of louse killer and the will to sleep in state, I hit the hay. My slumbers were improved greatly and I carried my straw mattress as regular equipment. Later some of the boys brought in an abandoned German ambulance. In it were some fine folding stretchers, I glommed onto one of them and my 'horizontal study' was complete. Going to bed is a little more complicated but well worth it. I take an unholy ragging about the huge mattress roll, blanket roll, and stretcher. The driver of one truck throws it out now and then, but I'm still going strong. It will take an awful event in history to make me give up my bed. If they won't let me go home, by golly, I'm going to see this show through in comfort!"


Beautiful Cut Flowers
Fresh from the Garden
A. COOPER
Wading River, L. I.
Near Catholic Church


Locust Tree Farm
Fresh fruits & vegetables
in season
ROUTE 25 CALVERTON, L. I.
2 miles beyond Wading River

NEWS AND VIEWS OF G.I. JOE
(Continued)

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Near Catholic Church 


Locust Tree Farm 
Fresh fruits & vegetables
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ROUTE 25 CALVERTON, L. I.
2 miles beyond Wading River

OFFICE & MILL
STONY BROOK
S.B. 290

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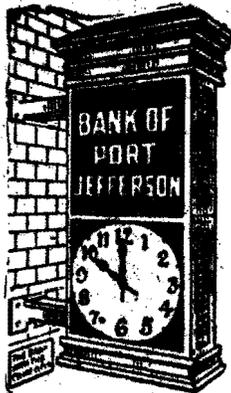
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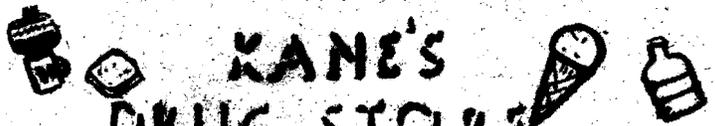
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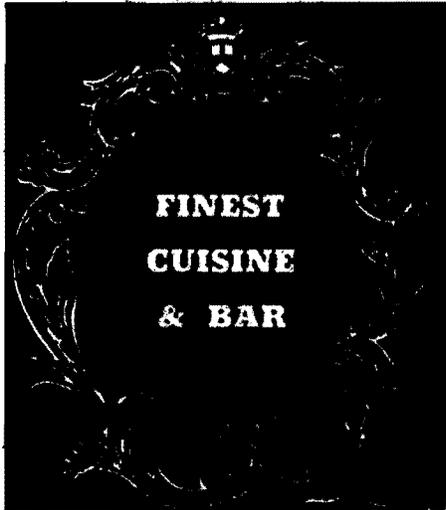
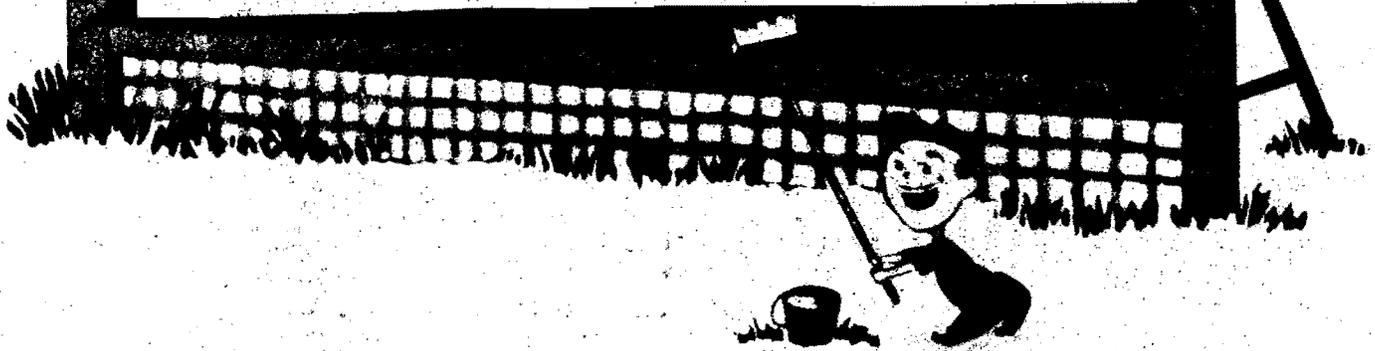
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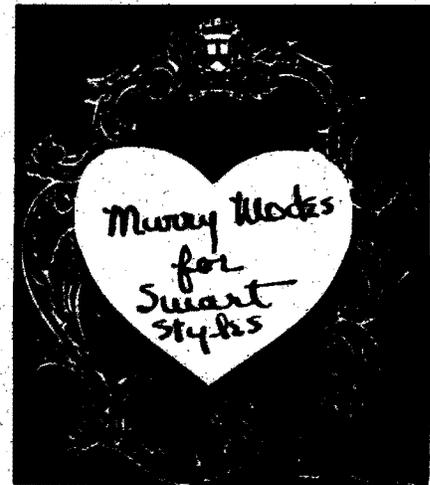
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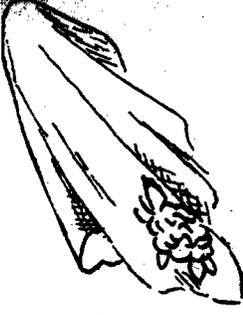
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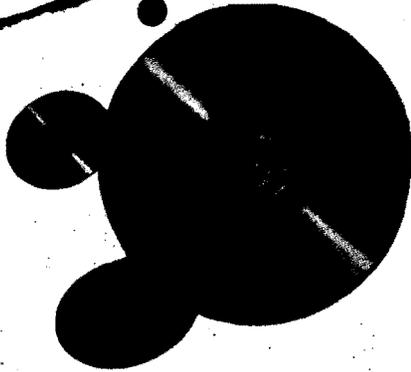
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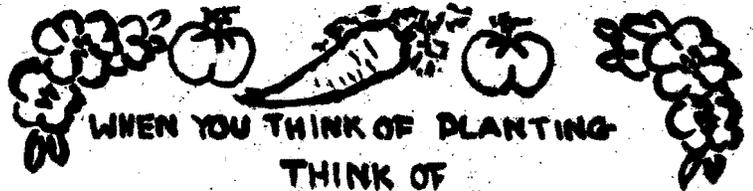
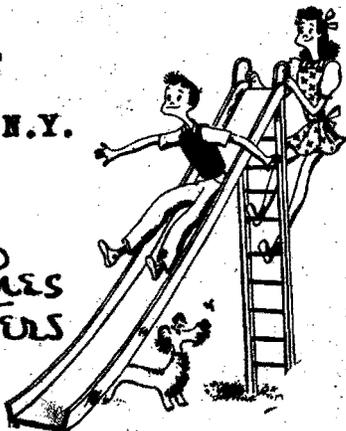
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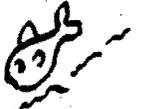
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