

BEAM OBSERVES FIRST ANNIVERSARY



PUBLICATION
DEDICATED
TO
BRADLEY FIELD
PERSONNEL

VOL. II.

ARMY AIR BASE, FAF, BRADLEY FIELD, CONN.: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1944

15

NUMBER 1.

Britain Honors General Hunter



(Official First AAF Photo)

Major General Frank O'D. Hunter, Commanding General of the First Air Force being congratulated by Lord Halifax, the British Ambassador, following the award of the Commander of the Military Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, generally referred to as the C.B.E. This high award was bestowed on Gen. Hunter "in recognition of distinguished service as Commanding General of the VIII Fighter Command" in England. Although he has numerous ribbons, the General is seen wearing only the Distinguished Service Cross, with four clusters, having won this second highest U. S. decoration five times in World War I as a fighter pilot.

Camouflage School Shows GI How to Hide From All but Himself

Who was that bush I saw you out with last night?

That was no bush. That was Sgt. Magriel, camouflaged.

All of which is our own somewhat pathetic way of explaining that although it's the fall season, the Base is literally blossoming with budding camoufleurs, the perennial species.

Last week an eight hour course in camouflage was initiated at the Base with a daily schedule made up of units from the various Sections. The classes began at 0800 and concluded at approximately 1630 with the morning devoted to lectures and films and the afternoon allotted to visiting the camouflage exhibition near the West Gate. During the afternoon those attending the class get a chance to "hide" a truck, construct a fox hole cover and learn how to weave a net. Conducting the classes is a group of camouflage engineers from Mitchel Field.

As one camoufleur would say to another: "Don't look now but your shine is showing." (See! We've even learned how to disguise the humor in this report.)

Senior Class Dance At Simsbury Tonight

The senior class of Simsbury High School invites all military personnel of this Base to attend a dance in the Auditorium tonight. Admission is free and Ivan White's popular crew will play from 2000 to 2400.

Bradley Field Gets World Series News Via PA System

Every afternoon during the World Series the Base public address system emits its shrill whistle at various intervals and the voice of Bradley's own Red Barber is heard broadcasting the latest score to a waiting populace. Pete Luddy, who must definitely favor the Cardinals, gives the scores after the third, sixth and ninth innings.

During the first game his stentorian voice was hushed to practically a whisper when the Browns went ahead by 2-0. In the second fray he shouted the result as the Redbirds forged to the front, whispered the news of the Browns typing runs and nearly tore the system apart when the Cards scored the winning marker in the last of the eleventh.

Bradley's Own Newspaper Completes Year Of Service

INSIGNIA CONTEST

Approximately 50 entries were received by the Base Special Service Office in the recent Base Insignia Contest which closed on September thirteenth. All designs received have been forwarded to Col. H. E. Johnson, Base Commander, and a group of Officers who will choose the winning design. This design will then be sent to higher headquarters for approval. As soon as the Base insignia is officially adopted, the BEAM will announce the winner of the \$25 award.

SS Non-Com Wins YMCA Dance War Bond Award

Last week it was S/Sgt. Marty Goldberg who won twenty-five dollars after appearing on a radio program.

This week it's S/Sgt. George Walsh, Chief Clerk of the Base Special Service Office who won a \$25 War Bond during the regular Sunday evening dance at the Hartford YMCA.

Don't the last four grades EVER get a break? Even when we win (hah) on the one-arm bandits at the NCO Club we get paid off in Hartford bus tokens!

Bradley "Tootsies" Get Comfort From Comforters

A lot of GIs whose overcoats were beginning to get a drape shape from serving as auxiliary blankets during the past week's cold snap are looking more cheerful these days. Reason—Supply has started issuing those warm, fluffy comforters that make sleeping an even greater pleasure.

CQs, however, report trouble. Before the coming of the comforters the reveille whistle had but to pierce a wool blanket. Now it must penetrate the two-fold thickness of cotton. That's a big test for any CQ's lung power.

It was just one year ago this coming Monday that the first issue of the Bradley BEAM was distributed to a waiting Air Base—if not world.

Under the guidance of our present Base Special Service Officer, Major Gilbert Fitch, and with the approval of Col. Ivor Massey, Base Commanding Officer at that time, the publication was "activated" in the latter part of September and a first edition date of Saturday, 9 October 1943, was set.

Sgt. Bob Levi (then a Pfc.) and Cpl. Malcolm Hernandez (then a Pvt.) were assigned as editors. Correspondents from the various organizations at the Base were appointed to represent their units with columns, the Photo Lab was put to work providing pictures and the Public Relations Office began to check the copy before publication.

PLENTY OF COLUMNISTS

Since the first issue was published many columns have graced the pages of the BEAM with a good percentage of these writers now serving overseas or at other Bases. S/Sgt. Edgar A. Lansing, who wrote "Somewhere in Skunk Hollow" during the early history of the BEAM, is now in the ETO and has more recently written "A Yank in King Arthur's Court" exclusively for the BEAM. Sgt. Louise West, who wrote "Wac Facts and Fiction," is now Lt. West; T/Sgt. Max Dubin, of "Control Board" fame, is at a Southern Base and the Band's former columnist, "Szoke," is neither here nor there as we can gather it.

Sgt. Jack Brennan who wrote "Disorder in the Orderly Room" for the 29th Air Base Squadron is still at this Base as is Cpl. Don Reichert who penned "Out of a Capsule." Miss Fletcher of the Library joined the BEAM's columnists in the first issue by introducing "Joe Private," and the Windsor Locks USO Column, "You Said It Girls," has never missed an issue. "Mail Call" and the "Wolf" have been the cartoon leaders of the BEAM since its inauguration.

CHRONOLOGICALLY SPEAKING

In the first issue of the BEAM the big story concerned the expected visit of Major Glenn Miller's Band led by Sgt. Ray McKinley, which was to play at the official opening of the Base gym. Main feature for the October thirteenth issue was about the forthcoming WAC open house and review while the November sixth issue blared the visit of Sgts. Max and Buddy Baer to the Base.

In the November twenty-seventh issue the headline read "Col. Ivor Massey to Hq. FAF", while the arrival of Col. H. E. Johnson, who replaced Colonel Massey as Base CO, was heralded in the December eleventh edition. The Major Bowes auditions, which won a trip to New York and an appearance on the famous amateur hour for

Cpl. Lewis Smith of the Band, Sgt. Ginny Smith and the 5Bs of the Band, was the big news of the December eighteenth issue.

Christmas was greeted by the BEAM with a decorative front page as was the New Year's issue which also spread the news that Bradley defeated Westover in the Quiz of Two Cities radio show.

BIG NAME BAND

The appearance of Jan Savitt and his Top Hat Band in a coast-to-coast Spotlight Band Concert at the gym drew big space in the January twenty-ninth issue, while the February fifth feature story concerned the successful opening of Bradley's own musical comedy, "The Battle of Bradley." In the March fourth edition the headline announced that the Base had passed its \$75,000 Bond quota by raising \$90,000 to assure an Allied victory while the March eighteenth issue announced the NCO Club opening.

April Fools' Day was celebrated with two pages of nonsensical reports and also the good news that the Bradley basketball team defeated Fort Williams to win the First Service Command Tourney and trophy. In the April eighth issue, sports again led the news when the 93rd Fighter Control Squadron defeated the 29th AB 47-41 to win the Colonel H. E. Johnson basketball trophy. On April fifteenth the appearance of Major Glenn Miller plus his band and Broderick Crawford received the lead space while the dedication of a fighter plane "The Spirit of Bradley" was pictured.

29th REORGANIZED

The reorganization of the 29th

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Notice To ALL personnel
Bradley Field, Conn.

WARNING!

Fraternization IN ANY FORM with Prisoners of War is in the category of giving AID and COMFORT to the enemy, and as such Treason* may be charged, the penalty for which is Death or at the discretion of the Court imprisonment for not less than 5 years AND fine of not less than \$10,000.00.

*Treason is defined by Section 1, Title 18, of the United States Code which provides that, "Whoever, owing allegiance to the United States, levies war against them or adheres to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort within the United States or elsewhere, is guilty of treason."

Congratulations

This week marks the First Anniversary of our official Base newspaper, THE BRADLEY BEAM. It is with great pleasure that I extend the congratulations of this Command to the BEAM and its staff.

During the past year the BEAM has served us well. As a news medium and a morale factor it has done its job. Through the Section columns that appear within its pages the various units of the Base have been brought in closer contact. Like the newspapers in any town or city the BEAM has served as a leading voice in the affairs of our Base.

Again, my congratulations to the BEAM. May it continue to serve us well until the day that the conflict overseas makes it no longer necessary for the men of Bradley to call this Base their home.

H. E. JOHNSON,
Colonel, Air Corps,
Commanding.