## The 7th Division, veterans of the Aleutians,

 wondered if Kwajalein would be a tougher nut to crack than Attu. But when they landed, they found that our guns and bombs had already smashed it to bits.By Sgt. MERLE MILLER
YANK Staff Correspondent

$K$wajalein Island, Kwajalein Atoll, the Marshall Islands [By Cable]-The Sight this island. Puddles of water are deep red with their blood. The beaches are lined with their bodies or parts of their bodies--shoes with feet, nothing else; grinning heads, with occasional cigarettes still pinched between brown teeth, but without torsos; scattered arms and legs, far from the bodies to which they belong.
There are Jap bodies in the shambles of what, not many days ago, were considered impregnable pillboxes. Others, their rifles frozen in their hands, are huddled near the scrawny trunks of barely recognizable coconut palms. Some are lying in what were recently barracks but now are only scattered piles of unsalvageable debris. A few simply fell beside the road and along the runways of the great airport constructed here only a short time ago.
It is surprising now that there is any island left here at all; it is certainly amazing that there are any Japs alive and still fighting. Never before have so many tons of varied destruction rained on so small a space.
The entire island is not more than two and a half miles in length, along an axis varying from 2.500 feet at the east end to 1,000 feet in width at the northwest tip. Kwajalein, shaped like a slightly distended kidney and extending along the southern end of the atoll from which it takes its name, was three days earlier the headquarters of all the Jap-held Marshalls. Now it is just one more point of rapidly diminishing enemy resistance.
Kwajalein is the sixth tiny island to fall to the soldiers of the 7th Division since D Day. The islands of Enubuj, Ennylabegan, Gea and Ninni were taken with little opposition. Then the 7th captured Gehh Island.
Within a few hours of the landing of our first forces on nearby Enubuj, our field artillery began pounding the landing beaches, Red One and Two, at the southern end of Kwajalein Island across the lagoon. The guns roared constantly for an hour and a half before our first waves landed at 0930 on Kwajalein Island. Sixty seconds before the landing, the gunners shifted



Soldiers of the 17th infantry advance past a Jap radio tower that had been blasted into a iwistad pile of girders by U. S. bombers attacking the Marshalls during invasion. The island is Enubui, on Kwajalein Atoll.

## MARSHITAS MASSATGRT

Bombardments are continuing in a small confined area at the narrow northern end of the island, where there are still scattered, hungry, disorganized and shell-shocked Japs, huddled in the ruins of their pillboxes and crouched near the ridiculous stumps of pandanus and coconut palms trees. Not a single Jap plane has appeared over our task force since the operation began.
A few duds are still scattered throughout the island, but most of the shells destroyed beyond recognition every important installation here. All night the sky was red with the blaze of oil dumps set afire by our destroyers, which will continue their fire under Army orders until the last Jap is dead or captured. Navy carrier-based bombers and torpedo planes are still on call. ready to hit any neglected enemy stronghold. Throughout the offensive they have been operat-
ing a few hundred yards beyond our front lines. dive-bombing and strafing. They will continue in the morning.
The results of this bombardment are evident everywhere. Nowhere on this thickly wooded island do there seem to be more than a dozen or so trees untouched. Green and ripe coconuts and huge breadfruit are everywhere underfoot. as well as palm fronds. Shrapnel seems to be in every foxhole and dugout. Great coconut logs have been thrown hundreds of yards.

Ano yet, when the first waves of men of the 7 th Division had raced onto the Red Beaches after the bombardment, there were still many Japs -waiting, armed and very much alive. The mopup. the actual capture of this island, could, as always, be accomplished only by infantrymenthis time by men who had driven the Japs from the Aleutians and now are ejecting them from
territory that has been theirs ever since 1914 During the long minutes in the assault boats. nobody spoke about the battle that was to come Some read, others slept, the rest talked. Eventually, just before we reached the line of departure, everyone got around to talking about where he'd rather be than in the assault boat headed for the Jap-held island. And where he'd like to be having dinner-whether Antoine's in New Orleans was better than Pierre's in San Francisco. whether steaks would be better than chocolate malteds. Or maybe, since the two water canteens each man carried couldn't be opened in the boats. whether a simple coke right now wouldn't taste better than anything.

Just before the first boats reached the coral lining around the beach, the men could see dead Japs piled on shore, lying where they had died. A quick pool was formed in one of the boats on how many days it would take to occupy Kwaja-




## Post-War Justice

Dear Yank:
In a January issue Pfc. Sam Mayo says it is unfair to propose that "the German officer class must be automatically included among the Nazi war criminals
listed for punishment after the war." Pfc. Mayo arlisted for punishment after the war." Pfc. Mayo argues that their tenacity, skill and daring are not
Vices; he argues that punishment should be given for specific crimes only. But Pfc. Mayo forgets that for centuries the German officer class has sought and found its social, economic and political power by fomenting wars. Even if we are to punish the German militarists for "specific crimes alone," then every one of them is still guilty of being accessory to about $.000,000$ cases of premeditated
ASTP, Georgia Tech, Atlanta, Ga. -Cadet JOHN E. BROWN Dear Yank:
Present plans for post-war Germany are inadequate, for they are apparently based on the widely held theory that there will be nothing left for us to do anything with in Germany after the war. But if
we believe that. then we are beaten before we start. we believe that. then we are beaten before we start.
Personally I believe that with a population of close to Personally I believe that with a population of close to
$80.00,000$ people, Germany, even after 11 years of $80.00,000$ people. Germany, even after 11 years of
Nazi rule. will still have some nationals left with hiberal ideas. With the power taken a way from the nowpowerful Nazi party. Germany will thus be able to stand by herself in a post-war world. It would not, of course, be a powerful or even important Germany, as hould be able to agree on fair, unvengeful treatment for that conquered territory.
Fort Dix, N. J.
-PvI. JACK M. FOX
Dear Yank:
In a recent letter to Yank. Pfc. Sam Mayo says that tenant for merely following the orders of his superior officers, as he has been trained to do." But how far can such reasoning be extended? There are numerous proved instances of German officers and men rounding up and slaughtering noncombatants. Apparently the officers operated under direct orders, and the German soldiers in turn operated under direct orders
from their officers. On that premise therefore the ragedy of Lidice and the deliberate murders of innocent women and children at the hands of German officers and soldiers would go unpunished. for the executioners were only doing their duty. If we were willing to grant that such acts require "skill" and "courage" and "discipline" from Nazi troops, we might add that they also require a deadening of moral sensibilities and of human feelings. It is my heartfelt conviction, consequently, that any German officer or
soldier who carries out such moral abominations, under orders or otherwise. is responsible to God and to nan for his acts and should be treated accordingly The only way to cut out the cancer of Nazism from he whole German nation is to make Germans realize that the rest of humanity holds every last individual of a vicious mass responsible for the deeds of the entire mob.
Fort Bragg, N. C.
-S/SgI. MILES S. SAMPSON Dear Yank:
I have just seen the Army movie "Battle for Rustaken the oath of "Blood for Blood. Death for Death, an oath I find very interesting in view of the widely held opinion that even after victory we'll have a tough time changing the German people from their Nazi way of doing things. For with our Air Force and the RAF bombing hell out of Germany, and with the Russians killing thousands upon thousands on the Eastern Front, I'm quite sure there won't be very Personally, I hope Russia's people will be able to carry out their "Blood for Blood, Death for Death" oath so well that the rest of the German people wil oe so terrified they will never again want to pick up arms. It's my belief that most of the proposals for post-war treatment of Germany be kept out of the continent until after Russia has had her justifiable Alaska
-Pvi. R. H. FANNING Jr

## mile 1

## Mercy for Japs

Dear Yank
As God is my witness I am sorry to read of the way two American soldiers treated the enemy on Makin Island: they shot some Japanese when they might have been able to take them alive. I don t believe in killso when I get into battle I hope by His help to take as many Japs alive as I can. If I am compelled to destroy lives in battle I shall do so. but when U.S. troops throw grenades into an enemy position and Japs run out unarmed we should make an effort to ake them alive. I know that if I were in a dugout Camp Dovis, N. C.


## Boy and Man



## Mail Call

## Dear Yank:

In Yank. I notice that GIs have been throwing a lot of orchids to the boys of the Army Post Office for the marvelous work they ve been doing. I would like to add my comment-they stink!
have not received a single letter from home since
Sept. 26. In this time Ive been to every possible agency in an endeavor to have the situation remedied. My efforts have proved fruitless. The Red Cross is apathetic: the Post Office indifferent: Special Service
unconcerned. Cheerful predictions that I may get a whole bagful tomorrow console me not a damn bit, I don't expect you to do anything about this "crank" letter, still less to publish it. but I wanted to say What I feel about those puerile fatheads who think Britain -Sgi. AL FORRISTOL
Dear Yank:
Let me present the champion letter writer in the wife the following record-breaking number of letters and cards in a little less than a year: 1,385 letters. 362 cards and 12 souvenir folders. In short. he has written her almost four letters and more than one card every day for a year.
AAB, Tonopah, Nev.
-Sgi. L. KAISERMAN

## Chelsea Cigarettes

Dear Yank:
I have smoked a lot of Chelseas packed in field rations and I couldn't ask for a better cigarette. I
was annoyed, therefore. when you revealed that the Army was planning to use only the three "popular brands" from now on. I think Chelseas have been done a grave injustice, inasmuch as they seem to be greatly responsible for the cut in price of all cigarettes to the boys across the sea. This is to say nothing of their cooperation with the Government in making adjustments in size and being so readily helpful in the packing of rations. In all fairness to Chelseas and the others who so wilingly cooperated while the "big their regular place in line.
New Guined
-Cpl. I. C. HINTON

## Baseball Boner

## Dear Yank:

Sgica Dan Polier named Johnny Rigney as a former Caseball Cub pitcher in his story on the Great Lakes baseball team. Rigney detinitely is an ex-White Sox
player, and for Sgt. Polier's safety hed better enter Chicago in the future incognito. Chicagoans are very sensitive about Cub-White Sox relations; in fact. hose dubs II mean Cubs) don't even belong in the fan in Yank who is trying to pull the wool over Polier's eyes.
Camp Claiborne, La.
-lt. D. DONELLAN
Dear Yank:
the Cubs. and when that player is the husband of the reasurer of the White Sox organization-well!
Truax Field, Wis.
-Pvi. ROBERTM. BRIESChKE

## Army Bonus

Dear Yank:
The boys and I have been discussing all the recent articles on post-war help for the rehabilitation of
soldiers. But we don't want charity! If the Army would lend us any amount up to $\$ 2.000$. say, with a return of $\$ 100$ per year, and charge us no interest. we would appreciate that very much. But no bonus.
We would only have to make it up in taxes, and We would only have to make it up in taxes, and besides, I repeat, no one who is able to work wants
charity. Give the bonus to the soldiers who can't charity. Give the bonus to the soldiers who can't work. those who have lost an arm or leg or who are and take it before Congress.
Britain
-CpI. r. R. SHIPP

## Perpetual Pfc.

I think that I am the top-ranking pfc. in the Army oday, and if anyone else can prove that he has been a pfc. longer than I have been, I will gladly relinquish my "crown." I made pfc. Dec. 1, 1941, just a week before the war started. I was on the Hawaiian
Islands at the time. Now. two years and two months later, I am still a pfc. Any contenders?
AAB, Pueblo, Colo.
-Pfc. MICHAEL A. SANDERS
A. Pvt. Robert Alcorn, last heard from at Fort 3800, Texas A \& M. College Station, Tex. ... T-5 John T. Allen, formerly at the Induction Sta.. Fort Benning Ga.: write Sgt. Arthur L. Burke, Hq. Det., CMP Prisoner of War Camp, Fort Benning, Ga. ., Cpl. Mack Altschuld, last heard from at APO 302: write fa. Julius Schuiman, Co. G. 307 th inf., Camp Pickett Va. ... Carl Ament and Al Arietta, once with Co. A.,
3 d Bn., Ist Regt.. FARTC. Fort Bragg, N. C.: write
Eul Eugene M. Anderson, Ren. Co.. 658 th TD Bn.. Cpl. Eugene M.

C Lt. John Cashman. once in 579 th Tech. Sch. Sq.-- Miami Beach, Fla.: write Lt. Harry KalmanoCatullo, last heard from in Iceland: write Pvt. C. H Nonnenmacher, Co. D. 306th Med. Bn., Camp San Luis Obispo, Calif. D. T'Sgt. Harold Coleman, for merly in Trinidad, BWI: write Cpl. Ralph Swanson Med. Det., Fitzsimons Gen. Hosp., Denver. Colo. Jack Coprola. at Camp Upton, N. Y., a year ago: ASTP 4770th SCU. Grinnell College, Iowa. John Cort of New York. N. Y.: write, your old buddy trom military school, Richard J. Donovan Jr., F2c Co. C-1, Naval Diesel Sch.. Urbana. Ill.
D. Pvt. Sid Davis, once with 507th Engr. Co.. LP Dp. Bt Camp Swift, Tex.: write Sgt. I. Gertz, Prov. Gark. Fla. . . Tommy Davis and Douglas Dillard once in 1 st Preht. Tng. Regt., Co. F, Cl. 44, Fort Ben-
aing. Ga.: write Pvt. Lamar (Ed) Foreman, Med.

## Message Center

Det.. Stark Gen. Hosp. Charleston. S. C. ... Pvt. Earl AB Sq. Mountain Home. Idaho John W. Dinges, graduate of Scott Field, May 194i: write Lt. Kenneth R. Smith. Cl. 44-E, GAAF. Green-
ville. Miss. ville, Miss
E. Johnny Edgar, once at a Texas Hying school: Amarillo. Tex. . . S Sgt. James C. Edward: once at Army Flying Sch., Lake Charles. La.: write T Sgt. John G. Finley, 858th SEGTS. Matagorda Peninsula, Foster Field, Tee ... Cpl. Alexander C. Eggleston, once with Air Force Sec, TER Pool. Fort Dix, N. J.: write Lt. Ernest R. Blanchard. 650th Bornb Sq." 411 th Bomb Gp., Florence, S. C. T-4 Alvin Eisenstein nce at Camp Kilmer, N J. see Message 1.
MISCELLANEOUS. APO 520-Anyone knowing details of last flight of 2 d Lt. Nathan $H$. Greenwood, co-pilot of a B- 25 reported lost in action: write Message Center.... APO $12475-A-A n y o n e$ having information of ield $N$ C. write Sgt Sidney Rauch, 24th Tr C Sa 89th Tr. C G̈p.. Bergstrom Field. Tex. . . . Pvt. Anthon y Di Nifto and Samuel Di Nitto. twins. want former
buddies to write both of them, c: o Security Co..
Camp Murphy. Fla. ${ }^{\text {Fin }}$ Fort Bracg N. C. Anyone
formerly in 334 th QM (Depot) Co. knowing whereformerly in 334 th $Q \dot{M}$ i Depot) Co. knowing whereabouts of Claude Hilliard: write Lt. Jesse F. Tucker.
655 th TD Bn., Camp Hood. Tex. 655th TD Bn., Camp Hood. Tex. Anyone who knew Pvt. Howard Ho Field Tex-Anyone who knew Pvt. Howard H. Thomson of Oakridge, Mo.: write Cpl. Hubert W. Yeager, Ha. Apec. Troops. 91st Inf. Div., Camp Adair. Oreg. . anyone knowing whereabouts of Herman Reingold Falls (S. D.) Radio Sch.-GIs in Cl. 13-A-4 or 810 TSS, Bks. 1531 , winter 1942: write Pfc. Roland C Gardner Jr.. SS' 7. Cl. 43-51, LVAAF, Las Vegas. Nev.
*Message I: Write Cpl. Judson Ferentz. Co. A. 1552 SU
OSU, Columbus 10. Ohio.

## SHOULDER PATCH EXCHANGE

These men want to trade shoulder patches: Pvt. Wilson F. Stuter. Hq.
Co 362 d Inf Camp dai, Cpl. Harold Buskirk. 23d Spec. Serv, Co.. APO 184. East Yards, Yuma, Ariz. Lt. Elliott Wolheim, 100th Sig. Co., 100th Inf.
Fort Bragg. N. C.

Jf. Steve Ritter. Hq. Det.
SC 1751, Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.
Sgt. H. F Von Seger. Co. B
312 Engr.
Dn... 87 th Div, Fort Jackson. S. C
Sgt. Niek L. Imbriglio. Hg Sgt. Nick L. Imbriglio. Hy.
Tr.: 15th Cav. (Mecz.).
APO 187, Los Angeles.
Calif.

A mimeographed list of shoulder-patch collectors' nomes here. Write to Shoulder Patch Exchange.

