



PLANETALK

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U. S. S. SARATOGA

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the U.S.S. Saratoga

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PEACE AND "A" BOMB

The war has ended, but on a rising crescendo of destruction which has terrified the world with its implications for the future. In two brief appearances, the atomic bomb brought peace to this earth and at the same time opened the door for future aggression which could easily overwhelm all the countries of the world before being checked.

These years to come, then, will be years of unending discussion and harsh words as to the fate of the atomic bomb and its implications. Though some "soft hearted" Americans, who thought nothing of the previous agonies and tortures of war, condemned the use of our weapon, there is no doubt but that it was a military necessity. The 100,000 dead Japanese could have been instead 100,000 American soldiers killed storming the shores of Japan and the redoubts of Manchuria.

What is to be done with the "A" bomb? Will its secrets be destroyed, distributed to all United Nations, or zealously guarded by its three possessors (United States, Britain and Canada)? Time alone will tell what the future of this most deadly of all weapons will be. May God guide our decision!

SARA SOUVENIR

A recently-formed committee, headed by Lieut. B.J. Richards, has begun work on a bound souvenir war history of the Sara. The project will be pre-dominantly photographic, will be financed with money from the Welfare Fund and will be distributed to all officers and men of the ship as soon as finished.

Unless the costs of production are a great deal higher than expected, the book will be given away; not sold. In case of excessive costs, a small charge will be made for each copy.

Officers and men who are transferred or discharged are requested to leave, in the Captain's Office and Executive Officer's Office respectively, their new naval address and their home-town address so that their copies may be mailed to them. After publication, a notice of the book's availability will be published in "All-Hands" and ex-members of the crew may write in for what extra books are available.

Serving as associate editors under Mr. Richards are PLANETALK'S editor and Chief Photographer Zimmerman. Members of the staff include Lt. Cobb, Lt. Scales, Lt. Espy, Chaplain Henrich, Lt.(jg) Ross, Robinson, PhoMlc, Kupp, Prtrlc, Kelly, Y2c, and artists Unger, Blatt and Clarke.



SARA'S STORY

(This is the fourth and final chapter in the story of the Saratoga)

During her long over-haul period in Bremerton in the summer of 1944, Sara received more of the modernization which had been begun in 1942. Then, in September, after the "bugs" had been eliminated in her shakedown cruise, she steamed south to Alameda, loaded planes and personnel and headed west for Hawaii.

The fall and early winter of 1944-45 found the Sara engaged in intensive training operations out of Pearl Harbor. She would be in port two days, then out at sea from 4-6, then back to port for 48 hours. Periodically, she received week-long yard periods for maintenance purposes.

During her three months of training the Saratoga set a high standard of efficiency and intensity in her air operations. Thousands of landings were made on her flight deck by every type of American carrier plane. The constant flow of air groups to the flattops fighting the costly Phillipines battle was, in no small part, contributed by this ship. Only one incident marred the tour of duty, that being the collision early in October with the destroyer escort Howard E. Clark. Though damage to this ship was negligible, the Clark suffered material and personnel casualties and was barely able to limp back to Pearl Harbor.

West

Early in January '45 the Saratoga received aboard her first air group since Air Group 12 had disembarked the previous summer. The new arrivals were a carrier group which had been formed by a composition of two CVE squadrons.

After a short indoctrination cruise with the new air group, the Sara sailed west late in the month in company with the new battle-cruiser Alaska and four other carriers. She joined the mighty

5th Fleet in Ulithi early in February and was assigned to TG 58.5 with the Enterprise, Alaska, Baltimore, Flint and destroyers.

Tokyo-Iwo

The story of the first carrier raid on Japan and the Sara's fight for life off Iwo Jima have been publicized and written of in newspapers, magazines and official navy reports for the last two months.

Of the air attack on the nite of Feb. 21, it has been generally agreed that it was the most concentrated and well-organized air attack ever thrown at a single warship by any air force. From 15-20 Japanese planes, most of them with suicide intentions, caught the Sara all by herself with three destroyers and gave her a terrible punishment. Any other carrier..or any other ship in the fleet, excepting the battlewagons and new heavy cruisers, could not have survived. Having been built as a battle-cruiser itself years ago, the Sara could take punishment and, with luck and the grim courage displayed by her crew, she did and lived to tell about it.

Training

Limping back to Bremerton by way of the Marshalls and Pearl Harbor, the Saratoga received the biggest hurry-up job of repairing ever attempted at that Navy Yard. In May, after only 60 days in the yard, she was fit and ready for sea. Once again, by way of Alameda, she hurried west and resumed the pilot-training operations she had been engaged in the previous year.

As this is written, the ship is on her way to the states with 4000 returning veterans of the Pacific. A recent navy broadcast, made as the Sara pulled away from her dock at the Pearl Harbor Navy Yard, reveals she is to be occupied in transporting servicemen to the states for some time. Beyond that, time alone will tell what the future holds in store for the gallant "old Lady".

Male Call

by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"



Kipling Didn't Know American Soldiers



WHAT ARE YOUR



Arthur G. Lennon, S1/c
Portland, Oregon

*'I plan on buying
myself a new car and
painting the good old
home town red. Then
set out to see the
country in good old
civies.*

Horace C. Rogers, Jr., Pfc.
Detroit, Michigan

*'I plan on finish-
ing high school, then
going to work for my Dad
at his service station.
By that time I may be
married to a cute little
girl from Buffalo'.*



POST-WAR PLANS ?

*Kenneth R. Schneider, S1/c
Green Bay, Wisconsin*

'After my discharge I plan on taking advantage of the G. I. Bill of Rights to continue my education'.



*Ricardo G. Miner, PhM1/c
Santa Clara, Calif.*

'I will take a few weeks vacation and then return to Santa Clara where I hope to join the Santa Clara Drug Co. Perhaps I can get financial aid through the G.I. Bill of Rights in this venture'.

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and here's your date. I—er—told her all about you!"

In a fighter vein

We may have lost our heads a little on these two pages. For no matter how deep you dig into the contents you can't help but feel that the more serious side of the news is herein completely ignored.

Wonder how many times the scene in the cartoon directly above was re-enacted, And how about those French gals casting aspersions on our technique? How

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"Don't leave . . . There's a girl for everybody!"

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"Why, yes! As a matter of fact I am rather busy!"

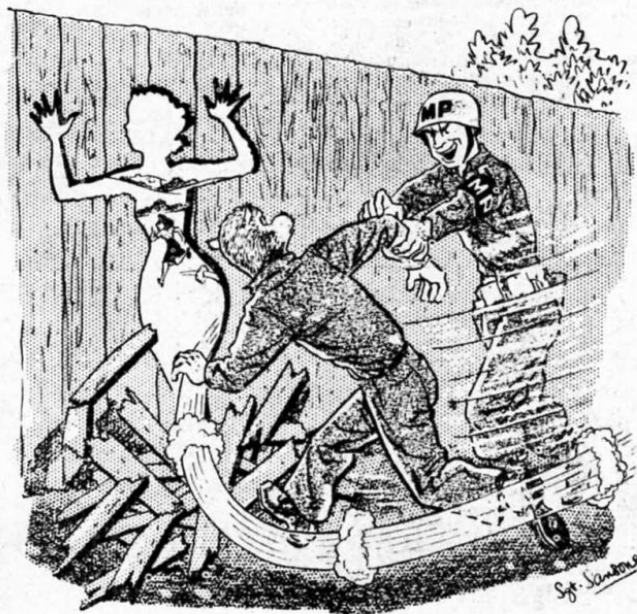
many Sansone Wolves are there on Sara?

Going back to the states affects a guy this way. It's going to be pretty tough, trying to crowd into a few days all the things we want to do. But the Sara's crew has a reputation of making the most of every minute and that's O.K.

Don't get too many bad ideas from these cartoons, but don't ignore them completely, either. And I'll see you at the Snake Pit.....

the Editor

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"Looking for someone?"

Yanks Lousy as Lovers, Some French Girls Say

Paris (CNS)—Are Yanks lousy lovers?

Some French girls think so, according to a poll conducted by the Parisian Weekly, "Saturday Night."

Many Yanks, according to the poll, are either "too loud," "too devil-may care" or "too unbearably drunk," French girls believe.

Another complaint is that GIs are "unable to distinguish respectable women from the other kind."

News From Home

Chicago (CNS)—George Leenhewer, fatigued from his day's grind at the office, came home, lay on the couch. "Let me make you comfortable, dear," said his wife. She removed his shoes, brought his bedroom slippers, then shot him.

Cleveland (CNS)—The meanest blind man in Cleveland is Willie Johnson, 43, who slugged and robbed a 79-year-old deaf man in front of a local saloon. Johnson, who has been blind since birth, was caught by police as he tried to make a getaway.

Detroit (CNS)—The first Ford car to roll off the assembly line here since February, 1942, was a gray, 2-door sedan, which made its debut early in July. Similar



(Mat 151-961)

to pre-war Fords in many respects, the 1945 Ford has redesigned chromium plated bumpers and grille.

Hollywood (CNS)—Kisses in the movies have their own distinctive sound, a Warner Bros press agent advises, so that "any keen-eared fan, under blindfold, should be able to select her favorite heroes via osculatory audibility."

Lansing, Mich (CNS)—Seeking parole from Jackson Prison, convict Ted Bentz penned this note to the State Parole Board: "In Luke 11:10, Christ says: 'Everyone



This sketch of "Mona," famed pin-up gal of the Antilles, graces the noses of 6 planes in that department, including that used by V. Adm Robert C. Griffin, commandant of the 10th Naval District.

that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh, it shall be opened.' By virtue of the above how about a parole?" The board replied: "Trouble me not: the door is now shut!—Luke 11:7."

Miami (CNS)—Strong man Bernarr Macfadden, 76-year old spinach-eating publisher, has filed a divorce complaint against his wife. His charge: She let her figure get out of hand "when I wanted her to be an example of my work and a credit to me."

New York (CNS)—The glorious postwar world we've been hearing so much about will be complete with telephone service from your auto to the office, home, or any place else in the world. The American Telephone and Telegraph Co has a unit to be mounted on the dashboard, which includes phone, receiver, antenna, and 15-watt transmitter. A "central" office would handle calls, the way it handles ordinary traffic. With the system, a business could control its fleet of trucks, or you could call your wife from the midst of a traffic jam and tell her you'll be late for dinner.

Philadelphia (CNS)—Philadelphia's pigeons, condemned to death as disease carriers, have been given a stay of execution. The reason: It's mating season.



San Francisco (CNS)—Three strangers tied Nick Demicheff to a chair in his jewelry shop, stole \$1000 in jewels from the show case. Then they untied Demicheff so he could open the safe. Instead he opened their heads with a baseball bat. The 3 strangers dropped \$325 worth of their loot in their haste to depart.

St Louis (CNS)—Page St Patrick. A trolleyman made 3 unscheduled stops, killing a snake each time, and knocked off a 4th one at the end of the line.

Vicksburg, Miss (CNS)—On July 4, 1863, after 47 days of siege, the city of Vicksburg fell to the forces of Gen Grant in one of the momentous victories of the War Between the States. Since that date Vicksburg has been the only city in the U.S.A. which refused to observe Independence Day. This year, however, Vicksburg let the bars down and had a whopping celebration on July 4. The principal orator—a Yankee from New England, M/Gen Edward Brooks, just back from the ETO.

New York (CNS)—Dale Belmon—the sweater girl to end all sweater girls, has busted out in

a new lawsuit. Dale, a night club singer, last winter sued a publishing firm for using her picture to advertise a book called "The Complete Guide to Bust Culture," now is suing a Hollywood producer for \$50,000. She's disappointed because the producer, after signing for a picture, decided he could do without her ample charms.

Boise, Ida (CNS)—"I have reformed," wrote State Prison inmate Verdy McWilliams in an application for pardon, "but in case I haven't, you'll get me back."

Birmingham, Ala (CNS)—GIs returned from overseas have found these changes in local gals



since they went away, according to a survey: (1) They're thinner, (2) they're blonder, (3) they seem more beautiful.

WASH
WASH
WASH

VJ DAY...
CELEBRATION



SPORTS

Ship's sports news is dwarfed this week by the drama of the last month of the 1945 baseball season, and it is to this activity that we turn first in today's column.

In defiance of the catcalls that may follow, we present our June 1 predictions matched against the way the teams stood on the morning of Sept. 8. Then we'll try to make our excuses and find out why we slipped on a couple of teams.

In the American League;

We picked

1. Detroit
2. St. Louis
3. Cleveland
4. New York
5. Chicago
6. Boston
7. Washington
8. Philadelphia

On Sept. 8

1. Detroit
2. Washington
3. St. Louis
4. New York
5. Cleveland
6. Chicago
7. Boston
8. Philadelphia

In the National League;

We said

1. New York
2. Chicago
3. St. Louis
4. Boston
5. Pittsburgh
6. Cincinnati
7. Brooklyn
8. Philadelphia

It now reads

1. Chicago
2. St. Louis
3. Brooklyn
4. New York
5. Pittsburgh
6. Boston
7. Cincinnati
8. Philadelphia

Right now it looks like we made only one glaring mistake in the junior circuit and that the Senators. It didn't seem possible that their ancient pitching staff could go as long and as well as they have...and we'd never heard of a guy named Binks.

The National League is about the same story. One team crossed us up - the Giants. This time it was a negative double-cross, however, as the Gints faded far out of the picture after leading the pack earlier.

We picked Mel Ott's boys to win when they were way out in front of the pack in the early days of the season. We counted on tried and true sluggers like Ott, Medwick, Weintraub and Lombardi to atone for any pitching deficiencies. On the mound Mungo kept going for a while, but rookies Hanson and

Brewer folded, and Voiselle has been an "in-and-outer". Weintraub fell off at the plate and Ducky Medwick went up to the Braves.

With a little over three weeks of play left, the Cubs seem to be in and the American League's ramble is still on. Cecil Travis will give the Senators another boost, but Tommy Bridges' return to the Tigers will counter-balance that. We'll say it's anybody's flag and give a gentle inclination of the head in the direction of the Motor City and another all Mid-West World Series.



by Chaplain D.E. Spradling

Peace? What does it mean? It means that the war is over. It means that we will return home. It means that the lights of the world are now burning... some brightly as in New York, Dallas, and San Francisco, where fear no longer weighs upon the minds of the people... some dim as in London, Paris, Berlin, Yokohama and other places where destruction followed in the wake of nations at war. The peace means hope for the nations of the world, for families, and for men and women who have been living in undesirable ways for so many months. It means an opportunity to build and rebuild where destruction and waste have brought ruin to the works of men.

I don't doubt for a minute but that we will succeed in this job of rebuilding material things. The difficult task for you and I will be in correcting the abnormal circumstances that have developed in our social order. Homes have been broken, moral standards have been lowered and many have forgotten good in their scramble for gain. The hope for the future lies in our willingness to speak out for the things that are right. This is the only way that we can protect our homes from decay that has shown up so vividly in the last few months; you and I must do it and place in the "lights" that reflect the ways of Christianity and freedom. Jesus, in the sermon on the Mount, said, "Ye are the light of the world... Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father."

"The great world's heart is aching
fiercely in the night,
And God alone can hear it, and God
alone give light;
And the men to bear that message,
and to speak the living word,
Are you and I, my brothers, and
the millions that have heard."