

It's Official Now! BLACK AIR SQUADRON IN AFRICA

ARMY ANNOUNCES NEGRO FLYERS IN AFRICA

WASHINGTON, June 8 (AP)—Allied headquarters in North Africa announced officially Wednesday what readers of Negro newspapers already knew; that a Negro Pursuit squadron, commanded by Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., was in North Africa to fight against the axis.

Several weeks ago Congressman Frances Bolton of Ohio announced in congress that "the 99th has departed for combat duty." Immediately the war department took steps to prevent Negro newspapers from printing her statement, although the Office of Censorship authorized publication of Mrs. Bolton's exact words spoken from the house floor.

That the squadron had arrived

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at its destination was revealed in a dispatch from North Africa by Ollie Stewart, war correspondent for the Afro-American and affiliated newspapers. Later Stewart stated that Lt. Col. Davis was living in a town where he was stationed. Both articles passed the censor.

It was at first stated that the squadron had seen actual combat duty in the closing days of the North African campaign, but this was denied by the war department. The announcement of Wednesday said the flyers, who use P-40 Warhawks, were being given advanced instruction in new fighter tactics by veteran pilots of the Tunisian battles, and that upon completion of this advanced training, the squadron will be sent into action.

No news of the actual departure of the squadron was allowed to be printed because of censorship regulations. Mention of embarkation of any unit is explicitly prohibited since such publication would give valuable information to the enemy.

It can be revealed now, however, that the squadron left Tuskegee at midnight April 2. The squadron had no idea where it was going. The train was completely blacked out with windows and vestibules painted black and affording no opportunity to see out. The group, composed of a full complement of ground and maintenance crew and medical contingent, had the run of the special train which zigzagged across the country to its destination. When the train stopped it was on the docks at a southeastern port and alongside the transport to which the squadron was immediately transferred.

Farewells were said as the men swung aboard at Tuskegee. Many of their families were at the school and in the community nearby. All were forbidden to speak of their departure. Families of those living in other parts of the nation knew of their boys' departure because personal belongings were sent home to them.

The night the squadron left Tuskegee the 96th Service Squadron was transferred to Selfridge field, Mich. The 32nd Fighter group composed of several pursuit squadrons and first all Negro fighter group in army history, was also moved to Selfridge.

Transfer of army pilots from Tuskegee is part of the regular air corps plan. There is no room at Tuskegee for squadrons after they complete their training because at present new flyers are reporting at the rate of 52 every five weeks. Classes are graduating frequently with from 25 to 30 men instead of five or six as was formerly the number.

GIRLS ON THE STREETS

Summer is in the air and please believe me Cats and Chics are everywhere.

Just like everything else has picked up...we are pickin' up too not only will we endeavor to write up the jitterbugs but strictly on the beam...we are forced to write up society dames now.

Bronzeville is comin' on like an Eastern Light and up 'til now those dames on Bronzeville has been wearing New York fashions—Digging California Cats—Drinking Chicago juice and Booging the Kansas City walk...So starting now...you don't need to feel like a jitterbug if we write you up...we are passing that jitterbug stage and growing more hep to the older class that look fine as wine and classic as a American Legion club...so young and old can be expecting your name in our column. We only want to write up the most society people.

Couple weeks ago everyone trotted to KC, where Lucky Millander and Sister R. Tharpe is entertaining. Enough to represent Bronzeville left over the Memorial Day to Greet the man we all loves to hear—Lucky Millander and his band!

Master Jimmy Jewel who is the only Ballroom entertainer in "Dark Town" has granted every Bomber worker's wish...since one month ago there has been a large crowd at that lovely Dreamland Ballroom. Of course as yet he hasn't been able to get those Great Big fellows to come to the Dreamland because they are playing for those cracklers in larger places. But it is only in our power to be contented with the less noted musicians who are playing hard and fine...until the real thing comes along!

The past Sat. Nate Towles really played his number and I have a hunch that Louis Jordan will be here soon.

The Dreamland Ballroom is really getting on some time...The jitterbugs no longer have trouble running out of cigarettes and dancing on pop bottles.

It would be a good idea to have a waste basket in each corner to dispose of paper cups and whiskey bottles. But some bug might put a light in it and set it on fire....

SHARE THE CAB PLAN

The local cabs around the avenue have got the wrong idea about this share the Cab plan. A certain

OCD N-E-W-S

Receipt of 5,424 gas masks, 9,600 feet of half-inch fire hose, and 500 coats for the medical and rescue service brings the supplies on hand for use of the Omaha Civilian Defense Corps up to a total value of \$120,000. P. K. Walsh, property officer of the civilian defense council, reported.

The gas masks received are in sizes for both adults and children, and some which are especially designed for civilian defense training purposes, Walsh said.

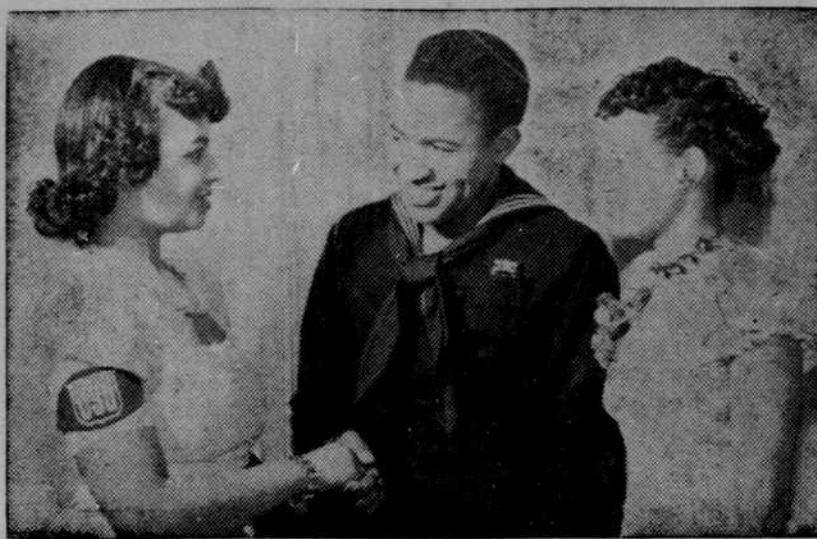
The helmets recently received from the OCD are now being rapidly distributed to members of the various groups of defense corps.

CALL OUT 35 MEN AT 1 A.M.

Thirty five men of the OCD fire and rescue corps, called out at 1 a. m. last Thursday, manned six boats to evacuate families from flooded homes during the storm which put Pappo creek out of its banks in the vicinities of 85th and Blondo streets and at 60th and Harrison streets.

Floyd S. Reep, chief training officer of the fire and rescue corps was called at 12:50 a. m. by Fire Chief Daniel O'Connor, requesting men and boats. Forty corps members were called and 35 who were reached responded immediately, reporting within thirty minutes to Fire Station No. 6, the fire and rescue corps headquarters, 24th and Cumings streets. Within forty-five minutes, six boats had been secured by the Red Cross disaster committee and were taken to the flooded scene by Railway Express trucks and private cars.

The fire and rescue corps worked from 1:45 to 7:30 a. m. in con-



USO, CHARM GIRLS IN ACTION

Waukegan, Ill., (PPS, Inc.) The USO, officials at the Genesee St. unit in Waukegan, Ill. is proud of their many Junior Hostesses who are all "Charm Girl" graduates. In the above picture, a Camp Robert Smalls sailor is "having a ball"

Chic who loves to play hard and make unnecessary creeps in Cabs called a local Cab and next to the driver sat his companion....the customer rode as far as a public phone and called another local cab....there sat another companion....Do you think that kind of sharing is the kind your Uncle ordered.

In Omaha on furloughs this week is Technical Sgt. Clarence McDavies from Senora, Mexico. He is here for 18 days and he has been playing hard every day since he's been here with young Miss Price. Do you see what I mean? Jelly-bean! Also Wendell Williams is here from Texas.

Well it's been quite a while since we buzzed ya! You only know that we have a lot to beef about. So many unnecessary things. Stale live with the fresh. Since we last buzzed you David Hughes and his sister Dorothy Hughes dug Omaha, David, former Omahan from Detroit, Michigan and Dorothy from "Chen". Both looked very prosperous and partied hard in The Blue house and Legion.

Only fine...a sparklin diamond ring Colleen Kincaid is sportin.... David Sinclair gave it to her to remember their engagement! Oh, happy day....

Viola Littlejohn also has a fine ring to flash...she is only waiting for the other one to match it and then...you can imagine how fine that Cat is she only has eye-fer!

Forget about your old time used to be...that don't set no affects on Walter Winston because up at Mary's Chicken Hut he was with that certain chic who recently (2 months ago) got back from "Chen" Groovy like a ten cent movie.

What you bet that Donald Bryant has bit off more than he can chew. Two chics...both Bomber workers...both very much in love with him....No wonder he looks so sad....Lately?

TO BE CONTINUED

The other Sunday night at the hut, Wonder where did Al Price go with Jack's luggage. Last I seen....Al Price was left holding the bag....ho, ho!

Dolly Johnson another ex-jitterbug has settled down to be a married woman. That chic has been married for three months to Mr. Ted Dalton!

I'm beginning to wonder myself...why do they call Frank Gray... "Buns"? ...

Comin' on with the come on... Lorraine Stewart with Kenneth Maroney. Ho now!

Imagine Freda Robinson cuttin' a duster with Alphonso Wesley. Daring aren't they....wonder what's to become of Phillip Love when the lights come on again!

Dorothy Gray seems to be hand in glove with "Beans" better known as Hardy Meeks.

Hey now...all you Chics on Bronzeville who haven't one time or another been told by soldier that you was cute...why not send in a picture to the Guide Office for the most beautiful Soldier Queen. You send the picture...the paper will print it free of charge and the soldier will select the best picture. Oh what publicity. Hmm, I might even send mine in.

Nona Abrams party Monday night turned out to be a killer.... Everyone played hard and the soaks soaked it in. That kick-a-bug juice was luscious. Everyone stayed until after hours.

Did you hear about the Moron

with one of the beauties. The little lady whose hand he grasps is Miss Marain Burden of Zion, Ill. Miss Helen Starks of North Chicago, right, looks on. Both ladies are recent graduates of the USO Charm School.

Willette Bryant is also home again. She is yet carrying a torch for Cowboy. Sigh....Life is rather a mystery!

Gladys Taylor is strictly for those type of fellers. Each summer she comes home from College she dices a bug and who do you suppose the creature is this time? Murrell Johnson, Nuff said, Eh Jack Hoard?

Kenneth Love who is only a great Love of Doris Pittman was spotted among the crowd of home folks the other week. Ken is back from College where he's been studying to be a teacher. Doris looks very attractive don't she Cats?...Some Kenneth!

The other week when Charles A. Williams was here on a 14 day furlough guess how that love of his made his Army life change. He got married to the well known Maggie Johnson. May this ever last for ever and ever.

Kathryn Taylor is here from College wonder how this climate agrees with her since she's been in the south so long? Good to see ya ked....Keep that knowledge a-going and I'll keep in touch with who you been seen with while you are here....

Late but straight, Alyce Cook...or shall I say the former...has been in this fair city quite a while. She has changed her name to Mrs. and that is only great.

Ella Mae Smith...a representative of South Omaha who is only Bronzeville's fashion plate...makes one think men are scarce, the way she is playing with Jesse McClen-ton. What is the score?

Didn't get to write the former Mable Longmire up while she dug Omaha from LA. She was only great. I believe she came here for Mother's Day and stayed for a while....good to see her.

Versie Winston has really showed Bailey a fine time or vice versa, since he's here on furlough. At least her customers said so!

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THE OMAHA GUIDE

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Plain Talk..



ELMER A. CARTER

"Would you want your sister to marry a Negro? That's the question" said a young white friend of mine the other day, "that is always thrown at me whenever a group of us get together and I begin to tell them they ought to oppose racial and color discrimination." From news reports of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt's talk before the Harlem City Wide Committee it appears that the gracious first lady expressed the opinion that thus far, the fear of inter-marriage between individuals of the two races accounts for the attitude of the white South towards the aspirations of the colored citizens.

In my own experience this question in one form or another is always asked when after a speech or address to a white audience the meeting is opened for questions. "Do you believe in social equality?" queried an intelligent and attractive young woman sitting in the first row a few weeks ago at a meeting in Detroit. "I think that colored people are happier together, don't you?" asked a kindly-faced matron recently at a meeting sponsored by a woman's civic group in a wealthy suburban community. In one form or another the question is invariably put to colored speakers who address white audiences. My own experience is I believe the experience of every colored person even when he or she speaks to audiences composed of people on a high cultural and intellectual level.

"Well," I said to my friend who seemed at a loss to answer the question as to whether or not he wanted his sister to marry a Negro, "what do you say?" He seemed a little confused, hesitated and then replied—"Usually I say that has nothing to do with giving American citizens a decent break. But I have the feeling that my answer is inadequate. What do you think I should say?" "I do not know," I replied. "This question seems very funny to me, because it carries with it two assumptions which I believe are unwarranted."

"What assumptions?" he asked. "I don't understand you." "First," I answered, "there is the assumption that your sister might want to marry a Negro, since marriage in America at least contemplates freedom of choice; and the second assumption is that a Negro might want to marry your sister. Are your friends actually apprehensive?" I asked, "that it is necessary to ostracize the Negro by compelling segregation in order to keep their sisters from wanting to marry Negroes? No Negro could marry your sister against her will. And it is just possible that he may not want to marry her in any event."

"Marriage is purely a problem between two individuals," I continued. "My answer, if I were you to such a question, would be—"I want my sister to be happy, to marry as fine a young man as she can, a man of ambition and character and the possibilities of achieving a

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ex. for INS.

Several colored and white workers were injured and according to some reports, at least one person was killed when white employees staged a riot after learning that colored welders were to be put on the same shift with white workers.

Described as a "cure all" for labor troubles between whites and Negroes at Addco the regional office of the War Manpower commission at Atlanta announced late Wednesday night that "it understood" the U. S. Maritime commission has approved a plan for separate shipways for Negro workers at the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding company in Mobile.

Under the new plan the separate shipways will be supervised by white workmen while Negro laborers and helpers will be continued in other jobs throughout the yards as in the past.

As a result of the riot, thousands of Negroes failed to return to their jobs. Hundreds, using up their precious gasoline allowance, have been leaving here daily, causing a sharp reduction in production at the yard.

"Rumors are lies spread by idle tongues and empty heads continue to whiz over the telephone wires, across the back fences and up and down the streets of Mobile as an aftermath of the racial affray last Tuesday," the editorial said.

"This paper is absolutely confident that this reward will never be collected because the rumors of death have been thoroughly investigated by trained members of its staff and found to be without foundation. Many persons, however, prefer to believe that news has been suppressed....To convince the skeptics we make the above offer of \$1,000 cash reward.

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CARL CRIVER

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CARL CRIVER

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