The Cleveland Press

WAR INSIGNIA STAMP ALBUM

VOL. 2 50 ISSUES AN ORIGINAL "POSTAMP" SERIES

War Insignia

"Hat in the Ring" symbol of World War Number One—Captain Eddie Rickenbacher's 94th Aero Squadron.

Express the Spirit of Our Fighting Forces—

Battery "D" 114th Field Artillery

LEADING America's First Line of air fighters in World War Number One, Ace captain Eddie Rickenbacher's 94th Aero Squadron carried on the fuselage of its ships, the famous "Hat in the Ring" insignia that was considered to be "the Daddy of them all." Actually the Indian Head design was employed by the 103rd Aero Squadron which was originally organized from American fliers fighting with the historical Lafayette Esquadrille prior to America's entry into the late War, and from which the 94th was formed. But "Hat in the Ring" is usually considered to be Number One heraldry, since its use was commemorative of the event which placed the armed forces of the United States in the conflict arena along with France and Great Britain and their allies in the war against Germany.

Volume One of the War Library Collection of Combat Insignia was published in Postamp form in a series of fifty reproductions of the emblems of the United States Army and Navy Air Corps and was made available to the collecting public February 1, 1942. Number 43 of the series was devoted to a pictorial description of the insignia of the 94th Aero Squadron.

Volume Two of the War Library Collection of Combat Insignia published March 29, 1942, featuring, exclusively, fifty of Walt Disney created designs for military units of the armed forces of the United States and the United Nations, consists of Branches of the Service identified as Coast Artillery, Field Artillery, Infantry, Marine Corps, Signal Corps, Anti-Tank and Anti-Aircraft Battalions, Medical Corps, Submarine and Destroyer craft, United Nations Aircraft carriers and the United States Mosquito Fleet, in addition to units of the American and allied Air Corps. Supplementing Volume Two of this series and prefacing the publication of some seven hundred heretofore unheralded military symbols, Combat Insignia Number 101 has been added by popular request, commemorating the famous "Jiggs" design of the 11th Aero Squadron, one of the illustrious immortals of World War Number One. As were the previous issues of this series, all Combat Insignia stamps will be made available to the American public. Producing, writing, editing and publishing all of the items which go to make up the several volumes of the War Library Collection of Combat Insignia at a time when

1st Marine Brigade

War Insignia... the History of American Courage

our nation is at war, presents a task for several hundred persons that is nothing short of being herculean. At the outset, an artist confronted with the assignment of creating a design for a particular organization must be governed by the regulations which prohibit the employment of a motif which might be construed to be undignified or which might insinuate a malicious or obscene gesture toward an enemy. Whimsies and inventions of humourous entities as they may relate to the historical back-drop of an organization's achievements or, otherwise, enjoin the Spirit of the Corps, find greater favor with the personnel of units requesting insignia designs than the more conventional type of artistry developed in former years. Proof of this exists with the hundreds of requests for organization insignia received by the Walt Disney Productions whose output of animated cartoons has been particularly keyed to the modern funny-bone.

5th Reconnaissance Squadron

22nd Pursuit Squadron

Once the insignia has been designed and accepted for use, research and writer members of the production staff have their problems to qualify and extreme circumspect must be exercised to the end that no tactical or vital information be disclosed about any unit and that all factual data be composed in a very general vein.

Too, all unit designation must be omitted from the insignia, save whatever the pattern, itself, might be moulded to suggest. The Walt Disney artists have developed an ingenious technique of their own, using star formations in many instances as numerical digits. For example, Combat Insignia Postamp Number 29 in Volume One represents "56th Pursuit Squadron." Close inspection will reveal an arc made up of five stars on the one side of the figure of the bird policeman and six stars describing an arc on the other. Reading from left to right the number suggested would be "56", hence the 56th Pursuit Squadron. Devious star devices are employed in most of the creations and provide a study of considerable interest in themselves. Six-foot-six Henry Porter is the lead-off man for the Disney staff of artists, while George Jahns of Hollywood compounds the formula of insignia and back-ground design; studies both text and character of organization and polishes the artistry of a completed Postamp with the fruits of his industry, an authentic theme. Follows, now, Volume Two, War Library Collection of Combat Insignia.

34th Combat Engineers

War Insignia

SYMBOLS OF AMERICA'S WILL TO BE FREE!

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THIS SERIES OF COMBAT INSIGNIA STAMPS

Each of the 50 issues of Volume 2 is limited in number and is protected by registration with the U.S. Patent Office. A serial number has been assigned to each issue in accordance with copyright class AA249020, pertaining to the evaluation of poster stamps; therefore the Postamps represented by this series have a collector value with relation to their copyrighted serial number and are limited in publication to 350,000 copies of each issue.

Authentic background designs by George Jahns.
Text and art work copyrighted 1942 by
Postamp Publishing Co., and Robert Lash Robbins.

51. "SOMEWHERE IN THE PACIFIC, January 28, 1942. Lone United States motor torpedo boat sinks Japanese battleship and escapes unharmed."

"AUSTRALIA, March 17, 1942. Fast torpedo boats play major role in the historic 'break-through' of the Japanese blockade around Bataan Peninsula as they whisk General Douglas MacArthur, hero of the Philippines, and staff to rendezvous with waiting planes." These and other units of the United States Mosquito Fleet are writing history into the log of the American navy. Faster and more mobile than any surface craft, more accurate, and therefore more deadly than submersibles, these tiny super-charged motor boats may launch torpedoes with rapier-like speed. Each may deliver the capable sting of destruction so aptly symbolized by a Walt Disney artist—a business-bent mosquito riding atop a torpedo in full flight.

52. On the morning of March 4, 1942, news came that in a single engagement sixteen Japanese war planes out of a possible eighteen were brought down in flames by American fighters. At that instant eight huge two-motored bombers, the first of several hundred to be built by the citizens of Southern California, stood groomed and ready at the end of an assembly line. The ceremony was brief and without ostentation, in order that the business of building more planes might not be interrupted. Headed by Mayor Bowron, a handful of civic leaders placed on the nose of each plane the insignia, created especially by Walt Disney, which was to identify them as "Los Angeles Bombers."

Until recently, the California bear has been content with living in lazy abundance under a peaceful sky. Now he is aroused, angry, and from his standing height he hurls the first of a long line of bombers, far into the Pacific.

53. Mode of attack and mode of defense change with the strategies of battle. But tradition stands unaltered and unbowed with The Spirit of the Corps. The caisson is the solider's first and last concern. It carries the ammunition without which guns are just so many pieces of useless machinery. When enemy tanks come rumbling into an unprotected flank the caissons must be safeguarded. An anti-tank platoon has been added to the rifle corps, so that tradition may carry on.

The 133rd Field Artillery, when stationed at Camp Bowie, Texas, was the first army unit of its kind to employ anti-tank ordnance and personnel to man it. "As Long As We Breathe We Will Protect," their battle motto translated from the Latin, "Dum Spiramus Tuebimus," has been personalized by Walt Disney artists in the character of an English bull dog dressed in cowboy togs. With the characteristic tenacity of his breed, he will stand his ground to the death.

54. It was not unusual for guns to be decorated, as well as men, when olive-drab added a new color to the landscape of France in World War I. Take the case of "Fritzie's Finish," an 155 millimeter gun of "D" Battery with the famous fighting Second Division. She wore the coveted fouragere of the Croix de Guerre, having been cited by the men of the battery for "sustained gallantry in the line of duty."

When cannoneer Smith first saw her in action, he remarked, "That gun is human. Counter-recoil mechanism that has no mechanism. She hikes up and talks like a human when you give her the charge."

The 36th Field Artillery was formed as an "outfit" of 155's at Fort Bragg, N. C. in November 1939. Mindful of the story of the humanized gun, Disney artists created an insignia for Battery "E" showing a perky parrot setting off a toy model of "Fritzie's Finish" against a panel of the regimental colors.

55. "Hard-boiled as an M.P.," has been the army catch-phrase of description since the first cordon of American Military Police was thrown about Paris in the early spring of 1918. Despised by those who sought to place self above duty, and personal gain before honor, the soldier policeman soon took his place as not only an accredited member of respectable constabulary, but as a first-class fighting man. He cooperates with civil as well as military authorities in carrying out his varied activities, including patrol and traffic duty, as well as the guarding of prisoners and occupied zones. When the 504th Military Police was organized at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, seasoned veterans were selected from the regular army Second Division, all under thirty years of age, over five feet eight inches tall, and weighing more than 140 pounds. Their Disney-designed bull cop insignia well expresses the alertness, and belligerency of this military police unit.

56. The Line of Communication is the "life line" of every combat unit. Without communication an organization is as isolated and as vulnerable as was Major Whittlesey's famous Lost Battalion during the first World War. Food, ammunition, orders, conduct of fire, contact with the enemy and with supporting units; the winning or losing of battles depends on the maintenance of communication. "Keep the lines open at all cost!" That is the job of the signal corps.

When requesting a Walt Disney insignia for their organization, members of the 63rd Signal Battalion suggested that Goofy "should have that well-known harassed look on his face and seem to be the epitome of frantic speed." This was the only clue the artists needed to produce the most completely outfitted image of Goofy that was ever dreamed up. The facial expression could be none other than his, while the urgency of his mission is unmistakable.

57. "It's sabotage!" bellowed the irate commanding officer of the 62nd Signal Battalion. "Yesterday it was the pigs. Today it's the cows. I'll bet the enemy is at the bottom of this!"

So saying he turned his attention to the business at hand which was the ordering of fresh insulation for wires of their communication lines recently chewed bare by bovine visitors. When an organization is participating in war games, many unusual happenings may be expected, but the events of these 1940 games in Georgia near Fort McPherson, would be remembered long after others had been forgotten. So memorable, indeed were the events of that week that it was decided to incorporate the principal characters in a Walt Disney insignia. The result was a colorful emblem illustrating "Never a Dull Moment" an apt souvenir for any soldier who has ever come face to face with a foraging pig or a hungry cow with a salt "sweet-tooth."

58. When the first thin line of skirmish deploys, the men from the signal corps go forward to their shell craters or dig "fox holes" within the foremost ranks. The second wave, and the third, sweep over these and the signal corps goes on with them. Liaison with the artillery must be established and maintained. Correction of firing data in co-ordination with advancing units must be communicated to supporting forces so that shells will not strike within our own lines. An enfilade of enemy fire rips the landscape into a downpour of men and dirt. Fresh signal corps squads rush in to mend the broken threads of wire. The commanding officer of the 56th Signal Battalion envisioned the activities of the corps as not unlike the movements of a scurrying rabbit. He communicated his idea to Walt Disney in the form of a rough sketch. The result was a well-equipped Disney rabbit with that symbol of communication which is lightning.

59. "The Navy will not let you down" was the terse but significant comment of Rear Admiral Ralston S. Holmes, Commandant of the 11th Naval District, when on Feb. 22, 1942, he paid tribute to the heroes of Pearl Harbor. His words echoed the flashing guns of 124 warships of the 1931 roundup of the fleet in Los Angeles Harbor under the command of the late Rear Admiral Frank H. Schofield.

The newly-formed 11th Naval District Section Base at San Pedro, California, grimly goes about its job of backing up that guarantee. Its small boats comb the coastal waters sweeping for mines and stopping water gaps through which enemy torpedoes might be launched against our shore line. The rich blue background of the Combat Insignia Postamp shows an authentic patrol boat in action. The baby seal fishing from a small boat for mines, is a typical and unmistakable Disney inspiration.

60. The sergeant wrinkled a grizzled patch of skin over one eye and scanned the horizon expectantly. This was different from the old days of throwing cans of explosives out of reckless Trench mortars. Things had indeed changed for the infantry. Today the outfit were tank spankers. A bobbing line of armored blockhouses came tumbling down a nearby hill, laying a carpet of brush and trees before it.

"Deflection! Right, seven!" The chief of section raised a hand. "Fire!"

The muzzles of slender cannon reeled angrily back from lances of flame. "Spank a tank, you little imp," urged the sergeant.

When Company "B," 86th Infantry Training Battalion was back at Camp Roberts, California, its men envisioned a scene like this. It was their reason for requesting Walt Disney to create the inspirational insignia showing a winged imp prodding an enemy tank with his spear.

61. All had been serene and peaceful on the beach at Waikiki. Palms swayed and leaves rustled in the soft air. Purple shadows stretched long feathered fingertips toward the lighter blue panel of approaching day. Then, sudden and treacherous death rained down from a Jap infested sky. Stunned, momentarily, by the audacity and unreality of this attack, men of the United States forces rushed to battle stations aboard ship or batteries on land, and guns belched their flaming answers.

Officers and men of the 251st Coast Artillery will never forget the Pearl Harbor of that fateful Sunday morning of Dec., 1941. Their Disney-created insignia, when they where stationed at Camp Malakole, T. H., fits them well with its helmeted lion guarding an airplane carrier. In what theatre of the far Pacific they are now operating only history will tell. Formerly a National Guard unit from San Diego and Long Beach, their reputation makes them "the travelingest National Guard unit," ever to hail from California.

62. Isolated and alone in their defense of Wake Island during the first dark weeks of the Japanese attack on American soil, a radio flash from "Command Headquarters" was received by this intrepid group of Marines; the 1st. Defense Battalion of the Fleet Marine Force.

Their reply electrified the world. "Send us more Japs!"

They were not satisfied at being outnumbered ten to one. Day after day, reports filtered through. We knew that "Our flag was still there." We knew that each invasion attempt was being met with the same technique, courage and efficiency that had marked the conduct of American "Leathernecks" the world over.

The Disney studios are proud to have designed for these Wake Island Marines their insignia; a tough burly chimpanzee, striding forward with cannon and fixed bayonet pointed firmly and uncompromisingly to the attack.

63. Practical demonstration of the good-neighborly friendship existing between the United States and the South Americas is evidenced by the comrade-at-arms spirit of the American and Guatemalan air corps. Jointly patrolling hundreds of miles of land and sea in both the Caribbean and Pacific areas of Central American territory, the huge bombers, scouters, and fighters of both nations frequently dip wings in passing.

Operating from Ponce Air Base, Puerto Rico, the Twenty-second Pursuit Squadron of interceptors does its "trick" over vast expanses of water and land in this new formation of co-ordinated patrol. A part of the Thirty-sixth Pursuit Group, the Twenty-second, the first tactical squadron, was formed February 1, 1940 at Langley Field, Virginia. Symbolizing the fire engine red of the squadron and its fierce striking power, the Disney studios vitalized its insignia as a fierce eagle, talons spread, descending to the attack within an aura of lightning flashes.

64. Waiting for the dawn patrol to warm its motors the flight officer had a few moments for rumination. The open hatch of the rear elevator showed more planes coming up, each with the hornet motif displayed on its fuselage. It was high time the ship itself, the U.S.S. Hornet, had its own lineament. As though conception of the thought was its own execution, the lead ships left the ramp and swarmed upward; the drone of its motors sounding like the sharp whirring of myriad insect wings.

Walt Disney artists acted on the suggestion that the ship housing all its "stinging insects" should be represented in its insignia by a hornet's nest. A wicked looking hornet, wearing a gob's cap and middy is shown in fighting pose, while from the nest a swarm of his fellows is about to loose itself upon the target.

65. A new creature from the ranks of the animal kingdom has given up his nocturnal habits of life and has joined the armed forces of the United States. He is the sole-walking, long-clawed, sharp-eyed canny badger from the clover-scented dairy lands of Wisconsin. Walt Disney artists placed a large pair of binoculars in his hands to aid him in scouting for enemy planes or ships. They seated him on a toy plane and sent him to the 126th Observation Squadron at Fort Dix, New Jersey, whose personnel had requested him.

In days past this group of "high flying" eyes had operated as a National Guard unit of Wisconsin. The new assignment and station of its members only served to bind them more closely to the place where they had grown their wings. Wisconsin is known as the "Badger State". Whatever the locale of its future activities, the boys of the 126th will be paying tribute to the home state as they "badger" the enemy in his lair.

66. When calling cards are left on the doorsteps of Tokyo or Berlin, there will be among them visitations from a huge two-motored "Pomona Bomber." This ship will be one of more than a hundred realized through contributions and purchases of Defense Bonds and Saving Stamps by the citizens of Southern California.

To Mayor James B. Pettit of Pomona goes the honor of being the first to request of Walt Disney an insignia for a community-sponsored bomber. The lowly sage hen, athletic symbol of Pomona College, has been transformed into a ferocious epitome of aroused citizenry. She carries with her "The Spirit That Never Dies," reproduced from the beautiful bronze group dedicated to Pomona's fallen heroes of the first World War.

Located in the fertile orange-growing valley near the foot of "Old Baldy," Pomona is considered to be the greatest potential industrial center of the West. The city is often referred to as the gateway to Southern California.

67. "Sighted Sub, Sank Same!" This laconic report of an aerial sinking of an enemy submarine, twice achieved by naval pilot Donald Francis Mason, will take its place in the hall of immortal sayings along with Admiral Dewey's "You may fire when ready, Gridley," and thousands more. Men who accomplish great things have little time for narration. They know only that there is a job to be done. It is the American fighting man's way to do that job, and leave the rest to the historian.

So it is with the 5th Reconnaissance Squadron of Boriquen Field, Puerto Rico. Its diversified duties of seeing subs and sinking same has earned for it the Disney-created insignia featuring one of the personable cherubs from "Fantasia." The little fellow is crouched in the soft fabric of a cloud mattress mischievously employing the tools of the squadron, camera, machine gun, or bombs, as conditions below may dictate.

68. Organized in 1939, from a part of the second battalion of the old 156th Infantry, the 204th Coast Artillery gives an apt illustration of a practical conversion of a hobby into profitable business.

Infantry, long chronicled in army curriculum as a subordinate branch of the service, has pulled itself up by its own bootstraps into the higher bracket of military technology. Officers and men of this unit, all troops from northern Louisiana, selected for signal mechanical qualifications, were stationed at Camp Hulen, Texas, when the 204th Coast Artillery received its insignia citation from Walt Disney studios. It consists of a militant little black helmeted kitten astride a hobby horse. As guns roar defiance he brandishes a sword and rushes full tilt into the fray.

69. Some months ago an item of publicity was accorded the Alaska Defense Force by a national magazine upon the receipt of its newly-created Disney insignia—a chesty seal balancing the letters ADF on his nose. In a letter to the Disney studios the commanding officer remarked that the morale of his men was considerably heightened coincidental with the proprietorship of the insignia.

But more recently the Alaska Defense Command, feeling that the spirit of corps evidenced a rating of offense rather than defense, requested a new Walt Disney insignia for the inspiration of the armed forces of the land within the Arctic circle. The result was a polar bear of fierce mien, helmeted and in readiness to run the enemy into his hole, "pull the hole up by the roots, and then beat the enemy to death with one of the roots."

70. When Tank meets Yank, the 609th Tank Destroyer Battalion will be at hand to protect its division. Fully equipped as a motorized unit, it is capable of "blitz" tactics and may operate in advance of its own supporting artillery through use of trucks, command cars, radio cars, and jeeps. Its striking force is augmented by the newest type of anti-tank guns, already put to use with such effective results by General MacArthur's magnificent defenders at Bataan.

When stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina the 609th Tank Destroyer Battalion received its insignia from Walt Disney. Offspring of one of the most-feared members of the animal kingdom, this tiger cub is gloweringly concerned with the business of putting a miniature tank out of commission.

71. Occupying an important and enviable station with the United Nations armed forces, the ships of the 31st Pursuit Squadron patrol the skies over the Canal Zone, carrying the insignia of the Disneyesque fox in the stance of the sly strategist about to engage in a duel on the field of honor. This time the order of the "Little Fox" of ballad fame is reversed; he is the pursuer, of crafty and conniving propensity, so much in the every day makeup of the personnel of pursuing and fighting units.

From its base at Albrook Field, the 31st Squadron performs a mission both hazardous and epic. Timing and co-ordination of the fleet forces in their relation to both the Atlantic and Pacific war theatres is dependent upon the strip of man-made waterway between the two oceans, which must be kept open and secure at all cost.

72. When the 16th Reconnaissance Squadron was stationed at Fort Douglas, Utah, a crystallization of morale was felt to be so vital that one of its members journeyed to Burbank, California and the Disney studios to expedite at first hand the creation of a suitable design for an insignia. A rough sketch of little Hiawatha in a militant pose had already been prepared as a preliminary suggestion, and Disney artists completed the character by placing a bomb held at ready in a throwing posture against a laciniated background of Indian color. In little Hiawatha's left hand a pair of field glasses brings the enemy objective into clearer range.

This intrepid group of sky fighters, the 16th Reconnaissance Squadron, reared in the hard school of desert fighting, has accountably formed the vanguard of the vast fleets of America's planes winging daily off the assembly lines.

73. Another characterization of Walt Disney's "Little Hiawatha" was sought after by the 77th Bombardment Squadron. They were an organization of wind-blown, two-fisted fighters reared among the sharp-ridged hills of Boise Air Base, Boise, Idaho. Its glorification was the embodiment of action, and they wanted something of the dash that comes with a fast and furious attack. So the roly-poly little redskin baby became the main character of the insignia. Into his hands was placed the taut bow, an aerial bomb substituted for an arrow and fitted to the string. He was braced firmly against the head of a mammoth arrow in swift flight.

"Little Hiawatha," not undignified, yet expressing the characteristic whimsy of a Disney creation, will ride with the ships of the squadron wherever duty may call them, a portrait in motion of the immortal spirit of the corps.

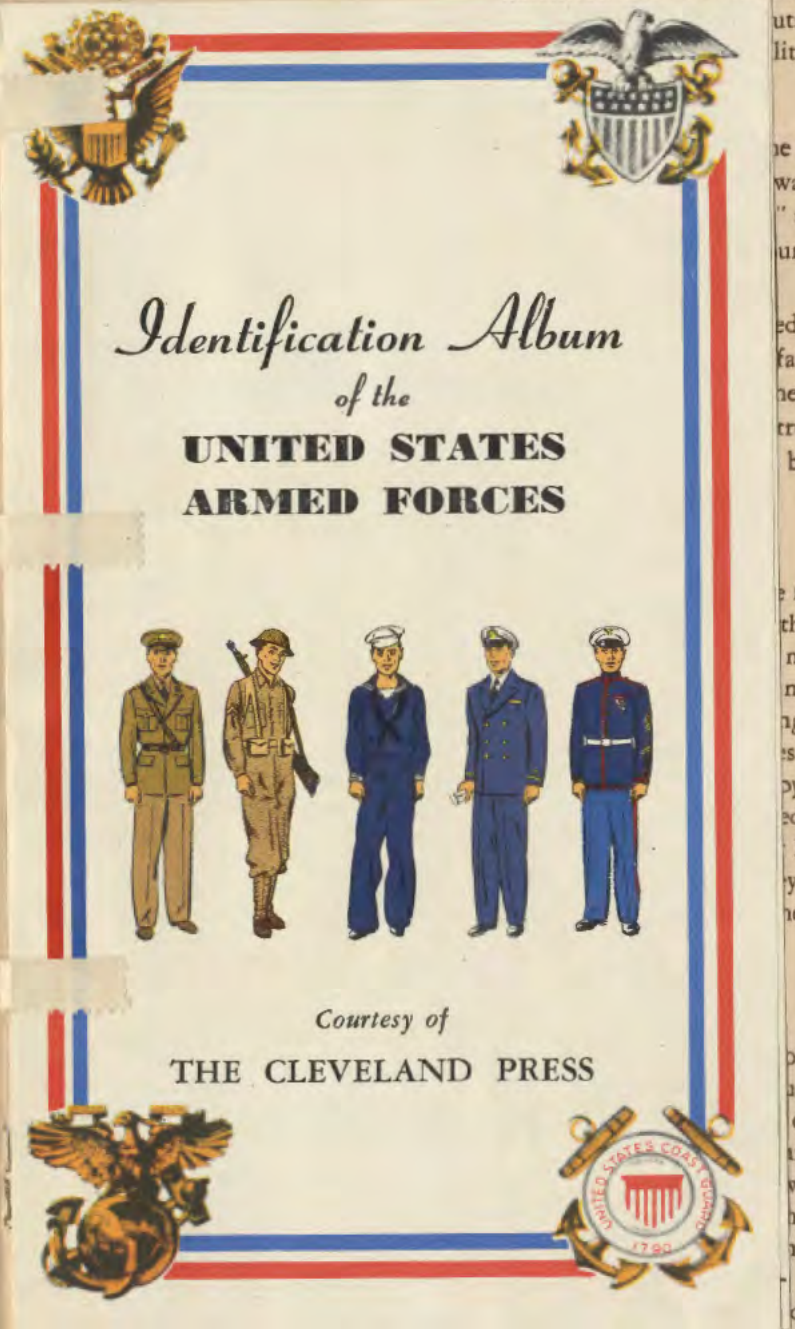
74. When the guns roar from Corregidor, there is something added to the powder charge that seems prophetic to the men who serve behind them. "Go find your mark," they croon to each shell as it slides from the cradle into the breech.

The sergeants of Battery "B," 202nd Coast Artillery, have a philosophy of their own as they go about their work. They say it with a grin. "We'll huff, and we'll puff, and we'll blow their house in!"

It happened back at Fort Bliss, Texas, at a time when they decided to have an insignia for the outfit. Walt Disney artists responded with one of the three little wolf offspring of the "Big Bad Wolf." He was given a helmet and toy cannon in readiness to fire behind a sand-bag emplacement. A spyglass held to one eye enabled him, with gleeful satisfaction, to draw a better bead on the enemy and to "blow one home."

75. Home ties that are never broken were not ever more traditional of any unit of fighting men than with the 121st Air Corps Observation Squadron after they had moved their tactical base from Washington, District of Columbia, to Lexington Airport, Columbia, South Carolina.

Formed originally as a National Guard organization in April, 1941, they became federalized five months later. Taking the military background of the youthful pilots as serious enterprise, the Walt Disney artists created an insignia for this squadron around the character of a busy bee. Patroling the skies over the White House and other Government buildings, he wears a helmet made to resemble the dome of the nation's Capitol. The mission of vig- utstretched in both hands, while the position main- lity and importance of this particular organization.



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71. Occupying an important and enviable station with the United Nations armed forces, the ships of the 31st Pursuit Squadron patrol the skies over the Canal Zone, carrying the insignia of the Disneyesque fox in the stance of the sly strategist about to engage in a duel on the field of honor. This time the order of the "Little Fox" of ballad fame is reversed; he is the pursuer, of crafty and conniving propensity, so much in the every day makeup of the personnel of pursuing and fighting units.

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It happened back at Fort Bliss, Texas, at a time have an insignia for the outfit. Walt Disney artists resp three little wolf offspring of the "Big Bad Wolf." He was given a helmet and toy cannon in readiness to fire behind a sand-bag emplacement. A spyglass held to one eye enabled him, with gleeful satisfaction, to draw a better bead on the enemy and to "blow one home."

75. Home ties that are never broken were not ever more traditional of any unit of fighting men than with the 121st Air Corps Observation Squadron after they had moved their tactical base from Washington, District of Columbia, to Lexington Airport, Columbia, South Carolina.

Formed originally as a National Guard organization in April, 1941, they became federalized five months later. Taking the military background of the youthful pilots as serious enterprise, the Walt Disney artists created an insignia for this squadron around the character of a busy bee. Patroling the skies over the White House and other Government buildings, he wears a helmet made to resemble the dome of the nation's Capitol. The mission of vigilance performed by this unit is symbolized by the spy glass held outstretched in both hands, while the position maintained over the nation's nerve center gives indication of the vitality and importance of this particular organization.

76. One of the important functions of destroyer craft in time of war is that of guarding troop transports and supply convoys, as man-of-war flotilla hold the navy's front line intact. With submarine wolf packs "on the loose," the greyhounds of the fleet maintain constant vigil, setting up a sort of "outpost" course through which a skulking marauder may venture at dire risk.

When the United States Destroyer, U.S.S. Blue was stationed at Pearl Harbor, members of its crew requested insignia that would espouse their faith and pride in a ship which they considered to be the "top in its line." The fulfillment of their wishes was an unmistakably Disney pelican, wearing a gob's hat and strutting along with symptomatic navy confidence. The bird's commodious bill has become somewhat [illegible]ng with the weight of formidable-looking torpedoes.

77. Wherever men are fighting, there too, men are falling. It is the place where the men of the medical corps take over. A life must be saved—many lives must be saved, many broken men repaired. There is much pain to be alleviated, and a great many words of encouragement and comfort to be spoken. They are the unsung heroes of battle, these men who carry the stretchers or drive the ambulances.

Not to be outdone by their more heralded brothers-in-arms, the 2nd Battalion of the 134th Medical Regiment made application for its quota of insignia when stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. It turned out to be a classic. One of Walt Disney's best and most fabulous Saint Bernard dogs was outfitted with helmet and Red Cross band, and he came back to the battalion "hotfooting it" on an errand of mercy with the indispensable balance of a sizable cask of brandy.

78. From the 34th Engineers at Schofield Barracks, Territory of Hawaii to Walt Disney Studios in Burbank, California, came an urgent request for an insignia that would typify the varied functions of that organization. It is one of the army's newest units and consists of men trained as infantry equipped for small arms combat. It is a completely motorized unit competent to hold advance position while constructing roads, bridges, fortifications, buildings, or demolitions. For the transporting of tanks, artillery and heavy ordnance across rivers and lakes, it carries a complement of envelope pontons.

Considering the multiplicity of its tasks, Disney artists replied in the person of "Jiminy Cricket," shown in his own little beep, with tools strapped to his back. He is racing along at top speed, characteristic of cricket industry, in quest of a new building or engineering project.

79. "He who laughs last, laughs best," might well be the caption for the insignia furnished Battery "A" of the 98th Field Artillery Battalion when it was stationed at Fort Lewis, State of Washington.

This is strictly a mule pack organization, especially equipped for mountainous travel. When the going is tough for mobile organizations, made less tractable over rough terrain—when the long ropes are pulled out from the caissons and hooked on to men and groaning chassis, the mule pack battery trots lightly by.

Then, too, the implied caption, or the insignia, or both might well have a double meaning. The cannoneers and drivers of Battery "A" are not fooling when they get down to work at the breeches and lanyards of their capable field pieces. For as surely as the sunrise, when the smoke of firing has cleared away, theirs is the last laugh.

80. To put it in their own words, men of the 21st Bombardment Squadron aspire to be "the hardest flying, the best at navigating, and the most accurate at bombing of any bombardment squadron in the air force combat command; thus the best in the world."

Surely there was little more to be desired, unless, perchance an insignia that would complement the picture, or supply any details that had been left out. This the Walt Disney artists conceived and presented to the squadron while it was based at Muroc, California.

"Wee Willie" as the tough little bee was dubbed by members of the 21st, is seen sweeping to the attack with all the speed and determination his wings and legs can muster. Unlike the bee who stings once and dies, "Wee Willie" will be in the thick of the fight as long as there is an enemy to receive the sting of the bombs he hurls.

81. "Malicious" was the name they gave him. Vivacious, might better have described this pure bred little Scottie dog, for he was as eager to fly with the 7th Bombardment Squadron as any of the seasoned pilots who adored his wagging personality. Now they were occupied with routine duties at Langley Field, Virgina, but the time must come, they opined, when the stern exigencies of war would "ground" their little comrade until the boys came home. The Squadron presented its case to Walt Disney.

"Malicious" came into new being on the shining fuselage of the squadron ships. Attired in a typical Highlander's costume and carrying a bomb under each arm he strides forth to battle with rakish assembly of meerschaum pipe and glengarry—a full-fledged combat insignia.

82. With the transformation of a nation's peacetime pursuits to those of war, come problems of grave responsibility involving organization and reorganization. For units without the background of experience, the process is often slow and full of errors. But for the 101st Infantry it was just a matter of going on from where they had left off with some slight variations.

The outfit was re-formed at Camp Edwards as an anti-tank company. As an organization its history dates back to the days of Miles Standish through an avenue of battle flags of which it is justly proud. Its present function is that of searching out and destroying tanks. The Sherlock Holmes bird which Walt Disney created for their insignia is armed with net and spyglass, and is relentlessly on the hunt for the worms which are the enemies of present day civilization.

83. A sergeant of the old artillery school met with the platoon that night in barracks at Ford Ord, California to while away the last hour before "taps." Discussion came around to the old days, for the sergeant was a vivid narrator, and things had happened "way back when" good old army horses were used to haul the pieces and the caissons. Deep reverence prevailed for the reliable patriarch of the harness and saddle days, a reverence that boded an ambitious crusade against the platitudes of inanimate machinery.

So a salute to "the old gray mare" and her uncles and cousins, now nearly forgotten in a modern mechanized procession. For the horse was the best friend an artillery man ever had, and his reincarnation as Horace Horsecollar will serve to immortalize him. This Disney insignia was an appropriate choice for the 74th Field Artillery Battalion.

84. Keeping the water ways clear of enemy rubble and instruments of destruction, more particularly those floating derelicts of demolition seeded by hostile craft in lanes of our sea commerce, is the one assignment of Mine Division 19, that it performs exceedingly well. The dangerous phases of this employment are carried out by men who laugh at the risks of their job as though they were the most prosaic of pursuits.

In a burst of admiration for this heroic group, Walt Disney artists reached the peak of ingenuity by designing an insignia that gave "Pluto" a new role without lessening his appeal. The whisk broom attached to his tail indicates that he has put a rather literal interpretation into his new job, but then, no one could possibly confuse him with a mascot for any other branch of the service. In case he has overlooked anything, the boys of the division will make it right.

85. When the 754th Tank Battalion was formed at Pine Camp, New York, the personnel officer of the army's Reclassification Bureau wanted to assemble the "roughest and toughest" assortment available for the armored forces. The roughest and toughest responded. They came from the infantry, the cavalry, and the field artillery.

On barracks inspection the following morning, the Battalion Commander strolled into quarters. No one called out "Attention"! The indignant Major ordered the First Sergeant to get off the cot and suspend his game of "African Dice."

"Just a moment, Major," responded the sergeant, "'til I roll a seven!"

Yes, they're rough and tough. Their insignia shows that. An enraged Disney bull crashes a brick wall in symbolic fury, while the colors red and yellow salute field artillery and cavalry; gold the armored forces.

86. A drop of rain fell into a placid pool starting a circle of ripples that grew larger and ever larger, until its widening rim touched upon the distant shore line where it lapped upon the beach. A bomb fell from the sky into Hawaiian waters one peaceful Sunday morning. The circle of American fighting planes, and bombers, and ships, and men, and weapons of every description that it started is growing larger and more tempestuous with every passing hour; the storm of its widening arc will some day break upon a distant shore.

The 43rd Bombardment Group, lately of Langley Field, Virginia, is already a part of that giant ripple. Its movements are slow, for it does heavy work; but its bombs drop surely and swiftly. A Walt Disney hippo travels on each fuselage, tearing through the skies in a tiny plane, and dropping bombs with a kind of careless accuracy.

87. Into Norfolk, Virginia, came His Majesty's Ship, Illustrious, aircraft carrier fresh from the war. She lay with deck and sides gaping like a wounded thing, but not as she was thought to have been when totalitarian planes left her for dead by the side of the quay at Malta. She lives to fight again, this time with fresh incentive.

While the Illustrious was undergoing repairs at Portsmouth Navy Yard, her equally illustrious commander, Captain Lord Louis Mountbatten, paid the West Coast and Disney studios an unofficial visit. He was especially interested in the career of Donald Duck who was a favorite of him and his men. When he requested an insignia for the Illustrious, Donald seemed to be the obvious choice. They dressed him in the uniform of an admiral and have given him a toy model of the great aircraft carrier for his very own command. "Admiral Duck" has gone to sea with the British Navy.

88. "From the halls of Montezuma—" to the friendly shores of Iceland, the First Marine Brigade has landed. From Reykjavik reports come that the marines "have the situation well in hand." Treading on the toes of attempted world encirclement by the Axis powers, they offer strategic aid to the natives of that far northern island.

Although the men of this unit of "Leathernecks" were inclined to be tolerant of their original insignia depicting a polar bear on a cake of ice, they felt that a more suitable one might be found. Such was promptly provided by Disney artists—a helmeted penguin making a landing of his own, in the custody of an ice-covered cannon. Although it is well known that penguins inhabit only South Pole areas, the design was acceptable because it suggested the service of this brigade in cold climates.

89. No group, or groups of fighting men have earned the respect of a freedom-loving world more than have those engaged in the cause of Free France. They represent the true spirit of the French people no matter what her political misfortunes.

A "Lone Eagle" of this courageous handful of men had been stationed in England while flying with the Royal Air Force. On the eve of his departure for a rendezvous with other Free French pilots, who were planning to organize a separate United Nations Squadron, he requested from Disney studios through an American friend, an insignia for his plane. The rough sketch which he furnished was followed in detail. It depicts Donald Duck holding aloft paddles of Royal Air Force design and color. With his feet planted on the territory of England, he reaches across the Channel to pluck the Nazi worm from French soil.

90. The threat of war has made itself felt in nearly every part of the globe, not excepting those regions who, by the very nature of their tropical placidity, seem most remote from its horrors. Such a place is Guantanamo Bay where the waters lap at the palm-studded Cuban shoreline. Here the First Defense Battalion of the 3rd Division is ever on the alert for the invisible hand of lightning attack. Without ostentation this group of seasoned sailors merit well their self-imposed designation of "the fighting third." Theirs is a combination of defense and offense activities. They are equipped to lay the mines which will ward off enemy attack as well as to remove those which menace our own safety.

The Disney-created insignia for this group has been aptly designed to show a brisk and personable little seahorse busy "house-cleaning" the waters of the bay against a background silhouette of a floating mine.

91. Although they were stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington, at the time they received their combat insignia from the Walt Disney studios, the men of Battery "D" of the 114th Field Artillery claim unfaltering allegiance to their native state, California.

By no means an untried unit, the members of Battery "D" can trace their origin and activity as an organization back to the days of 1917 when they were known as "the Grizzlies" of World War I. It is only natural, therefore, that their mascot should be a California bear. The more mischievous of the species, and the one which exemplifies an adulteration of the deadly seriousness of war with a bit of American frivolity, is the cub bear. This youngster has a typically Disney expression of impish truancy. But he is right down there on the firing line with the boys of the battery.

92. "With General MacArthur's Force, February 5, 1942."

"American and Filipino troops today annihilated the main force of a Japanese suicide battalion.

"American tanks paved the way for the final mopping up, mowing down trees with gunfire, smashing underbrush, and blasting the Japanese out of their foxhole trenches."

Typical of this type of fighting where the new medium-sized tanks were in use, is the equipment of the 751st Tank Battalion. After their organization early in 1941 under the direct command of General Headquarters of the Army, these men of Fort Benning, Georgia, lost no time in requesting their insignia. The Disney artists to whom the job was assigned borrowed an elephant mascot from the make-believe world of "Dumbo" and "Fantasia."

93. The influence of environment attending the early training of new army units is often reflected in the kind of hallmark that is selected for insignia. For example, the 2nd Signal Armored Battalion became attached to the idea of an Indian boy motif ever since the colorful canvas of the great American Southwest became a background for their activities.

Although at first glance a miniature tank might seem out of its proper element as part of a design for a signal corps, in this instance it is not. The 2nd Signal Battalion is more directly associated with the armored forces than other regulation signal units. In addition to the tank, the cunning little redskin is properly outfitted with earphones and helmet. The lightning bolts represent the use of communication agencies.

94. Following closely the aggressive tactics of the Axis armies on the battlefields of Europe, American military experts designed equipment improvements and assimilated organizations in their development and employment. Offense operations have always been the crux of American war strategy which fully recognizes the value of initiative. In 1940, when a regiment of the Florida National Guard, the 124th Infantry was mustered into the Federal service, plans were already in progress to provide the maximum of tactical equipment. New units were added—notably an anti-tank company.

Walt Disney artists provided the heroics in the form of an insignia attesting to the effectiveness of anti-tank operations. The snail and the turtle are endowed by Nature with armored protection. The finished Disney drawing was a perfect illustration of a "tank fighting a tank."

95. In one of Walt Disney's films a few years back there was a bee who played a brief but very emphatic role. His was not the starring part, but in the course of the story his freedom of action was somehow hampered and he struck at the trespasser with furious accuracy. As bees are so well equipped to do, he made himself felt, with the result that he gained the admiration of the men of the Interceptor Squadron who base at Losey Field, Puerto Rico.

The members of this group think nothing of patrolling the skyways hundreds of miles from their home base. They are well aware of the dangers which lurk beneath the shimmering waters of the Carribean sea, and they know, too, how much depends on their eternal vigilance. The Disney bee which they have taken for mascot is at last playing a starring role in the most gigantic theatre of any age.

96. South of the fog line of Labrador, north of the "bridge of ships" that connects New York with London across the North Atlantic, American troops moved into New Foundland not many months ago.

Operating exclusively as an anti-aircraft unit, the 421st Coast Artillery Battalion is the first military organization of its kind to be stationed north of Maine. That section of the country in which Camp Alexander is situated abounds with caribou, and so for good reason Disney artists created an insignia showing an angry caribou smashing an enemy plane with his antlers. What with four inch shells from the new anti-aircraft guns reaching seven miles into the sky at the rate of 25 shells per minute, it would appear that the caribou may expect to enjoy good hunting this season.

97. Coming in with the cross wind and from a long afternoon patrol over the Carribean they looked for all the world like a herd of straw-colored pachyderms stampeding across the Veldt. From behind purple hills the sun threw their long grotesque shadows before them across the southwest ramp of Boringuen Field like scurrying patches of winged tar.

These were the ships of the 40th Bombardment Group coming in. Their pilots and bombardiers were veterans of many a flight over the air lanes that stretch between Puerto Rico and Panama. They were the "heavies" of the United States Air Corps. Significantly the fuselage of each displayed insignia which aptly described the motto of the crew, "When records fall, we'll put the shot." In the athletic stance of the shot-putter a Disneyesque elephant emulates with clumsy grace, the strength and forcefulness of the group.

98. East of the Virgin Islands lie twelve thousand miles of shipping lane connecting New York with Asia and the Middle East. Within this life line and the Panama Bulwark, warships, planes, blimps, destroyers, and submarines of the United Nations forces form a ring of steel against the Axis surface and under-sea marauders.

The Submarine Base at St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands operates essentially as a repair station for allied craft, but offers additional offense facilities as a net and boom depot. Its several functions are symbolized by its Walt Disney insignia showing an octopus holding a ship in his tentacles while he bends his gob-hatted head to the task of diligently repairing the vessel with a monkey wrench.

99. The Anti-Tank Company of the 16th Infantry, of Fort Devens, Massachusetts is part of the First Division of the regular army. It has an enviable record from World War I having been the first division engaged in France, and having taken more ground from the Germans than any other United States division.

When the members of the company, who are composed mostly of New Yorkers, Pennsylvanians, and New Englanders, requested a Walt Disney insignia they described their type of gun, the shell it fires, and the First Division emblem. The tortoise of their company insignia now wears the First Division emblem on its breast plate and is shown speeding along on roller skates. The slogan of the tank companies is "Keep 'em rolling" and you can count Mr. Turtle in as long as there are wheels to turn.

100. Confining their operations to small patrol areas, the single-motored ships of the 32nd Pursuit Squadron employ tactics which relate primarily to their own home ground at Ponce Air Base, Puerto Rico. However, while they are trained to intercept attacks made on their own or adjacent territory, they may if need be take part in more extensive fighting operations, for they are capable of incredible speed and are highly alert and maneuverable.

Members of the squadron, when requesting a Disney-designed insignia, suggested one embodying the idea of one arrow being intercepted in its flight by another arrow striking its shaft. However, since they presume to be the "goats" of the air corps, their insignia in the squadron colors of blue and gold, shows a menacing goat's head intercepting and stopping an arrow in flight.

THE SPIRIT of youth and vigor and courage and undashed hopes—the drive and power and eagerness to win through! But with the spending of all of this—what if the line "won't hold?"

What if the odds are too great—the pressure of greater numbers turns a near victory into rout and then defeat?

Back in reserve are those older boys—those men who once held that thinning line—those veterans who once held that stubborn receding line that youth is holding now. These men are older; seasoned; made steady and sober by the sting of bitter defeat along with the sweets of victory. They will back up the line—and the line *will* hold.

In Volume One of the War Library Collection of Combat Insignia were recounted exploits of organizations of the old line—the 103rd and the 94th Aero Squadrons, and the 94th Pursuit Squadron. The reassuring presence of these veterans of the last war will not only hold the line, but will inspire it to go forward. It is fitting, therefore, that another veteran, the 11th Aero Squadron, be accorded place in this dedication to the world's best fighting forces.

101. The beginning of the 11th Bombardment Squadron was so humble that one scarcely remembers the designation of the training school cocoon from which it emerged and took wings at Kelly Field in Texas. That was in April, 1917, before Kelly was little more than a maverick sand lot, unbranded on the surveyor's map. But the men of the 11th, were cracker-box Americans and they covered themselves and the Corps with victory and glory. They tasted defeat as well—dismal defeat in the dark hours before dawn. But they brought down a total of sixty-nine German planes. And all through it until the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, the noses of their ships carried the figure of "Jiggs," beloved hero of "Bringing up Father," created and sustained by the inimitable George McManus. "Jiggs," veteran of many a domestic battle, joined the 11th at Moulan, France.