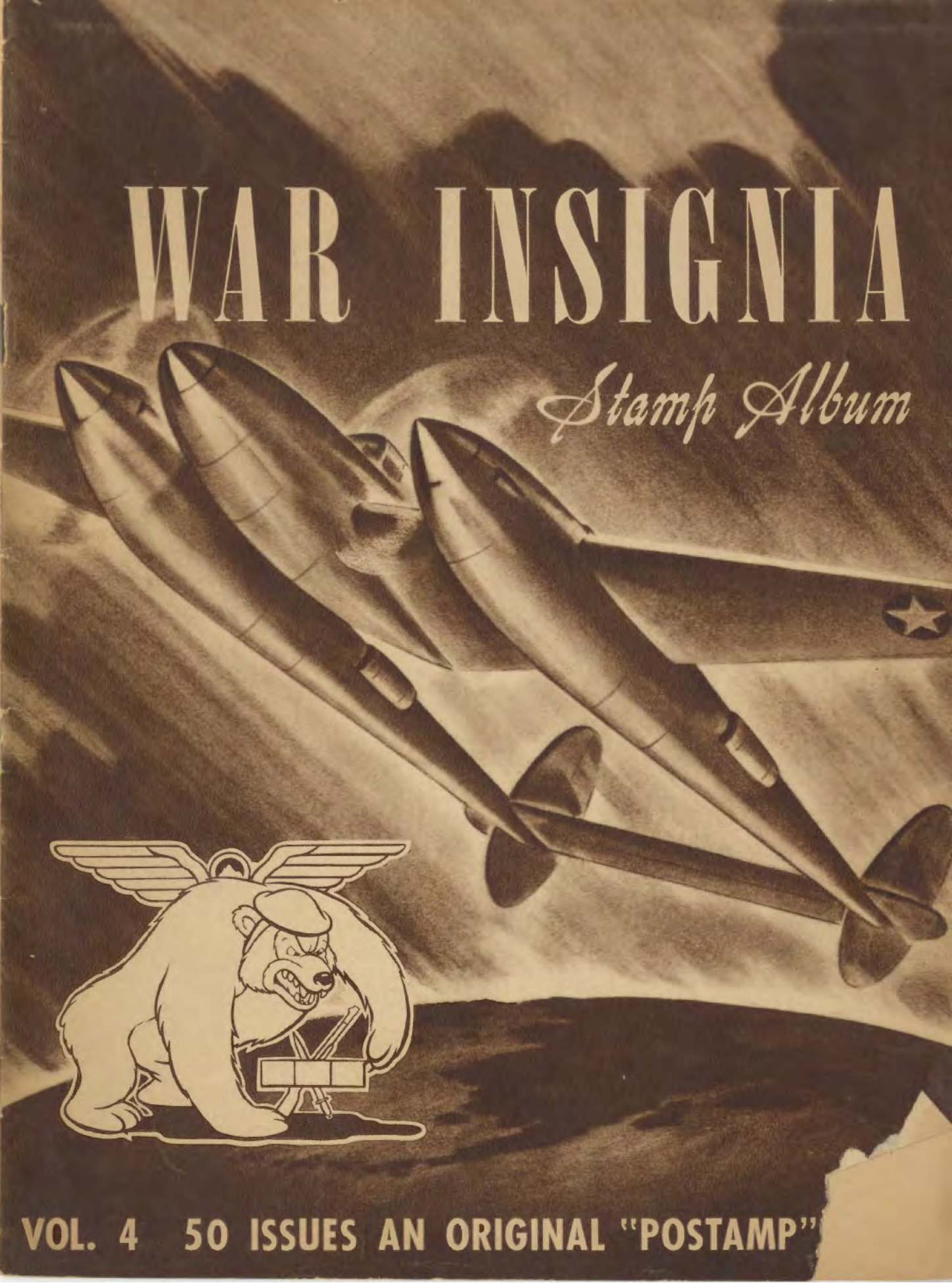
WAR INSIGNIA

Stamp Album



VOL. 4 50 ISSUES AN ORIGINAL "POSTAMP"

A SALUTE to ALASKA -

PACIFIC RAMPART of AMERICA

Headquarters Squadron, 28th Composite Group

32nd Airship Patrol Squadron

Hold Fast, Alaska! Your comrades-at-arms have girded themselves for the fray. They have pledged themselves; their freedom and their honor, to rid your snow-bound mountain peaks; your fair and fertile valleys of the plague that has infected your golden veins and has defiled the majesty of your name.

Take heart from the saga of the Coral Sea; from the logs of ships at Midway, Wake, Marshall, Gilbert, and from the records of Tulagi, Tanambogo, Gavutu, Guadalcanal and Malaita of the Solomons, and from wherever American and United Nations forces are flying and plying the incredible Pacific. Stand by, Alaska! The road to you from the vastness of our arsenals and armories and assembly lines will be cleared. It will lead through you and outward and Westward along your rugged steps of ice and stone. You will witness the passing of strong-sinewed men; sons of those stalwart pioneers who once mushed along your frozen trails. You will grasp again the hands of resolute grimly determined youth whose marching feet and soaring wings are outward bound in battle force as your America moves to purge the civilized world of unclean things.

American Ambulance Section, Free French Forces

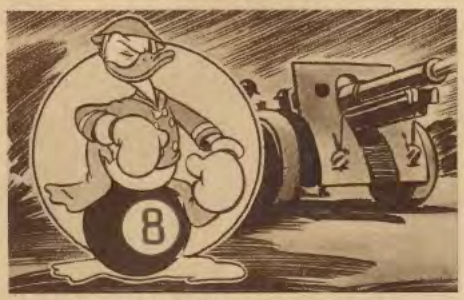
Nearly six months after Pearl Harbor, you, too, were seared by a sneaking, ruthless and treacherous foe. Death came raining from the skies over Dutch Harbor one gray fog-wrapped early June morning, without warning and while your protecting eyes were curtained by nature's own shroud.

No. 6, British Reconnaissance Squadron R.C.A.F.

These hours of infamy to which you were subjected during two days of helpless assault were but a prelude to the rape of the furthermost tip of your chain of Aleutian Islands where Agattu and Attu were attacked and ravished and occupied in characteristic fashion. Then two hundred and seventy five miles nearer the mainland, the island of Kiska felt the invader's heel. It appeared

War Insignia . . . Back Our Fighting Forces

as though, step by step and island by island, the occupation of yourself and America would become more than a possibility. A new menace was at hand. Unsinkable aircraft carriers built of your own Aleutian rock became bases for enemy supplies and



1st Battalion, Headquarters Battery, 146th Field Artillery

indestructible ramps from which to launch attacks upon your inner threshold.

A few apathetic Americans shrugged unweighted shoulders and casually said, "The Japs are only trying to save their faces after General Doolittle's raid on Tokyo. We are in no danger from attack and the worst they can do is brag about their feat." But America, at heart, knew differently and America, to the core, has started to do something about it. Momentary rifts in the fog have revealed to navy and army reconnaissance that transports and troop ships were being landed in numbers and force. Startling reports resulting from intensive observation operations have revealed that between ten and twenty-five thousand Japanese had occupied their newly acquired parts of you. All of this, augmented by factual disclosures of permanent occupation, served to crystallize the metal of your fighting men.

The middle of June witnessed sporadic engagements as American army and navy flying units came to grips with the invaders. Little was known of the score of hits and misses that resulted from each engagement because of lack of visibility from the air, but whenever the long arms of your submarines lashed out, impact was felt and seen and Japanese ships teeming with men and supplies passed into watery halls of oblivion.

But strategists and navigators know that when your fogs have lifted, Japanese boats and planes may ride in with the wind at

121st Eagle Squadron, R.A.F.

their backs along with seasonal storms that blow from West to East. With the job at hand, made a little more tough against fog banks and hurricane winds, your comrades-at-arms, United States destroyers, submarines, heavy flying fortresses and the fastest pursuit fighters in the world, the P-38 interceptors with auxiliary fuel tanks, will draw the nets more tightly toward total blockade and expulsion. The "triple threat" to Russian defense, American defense and American offense will be sealed in the traps which have been of the rats' own making.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THIS SERIES OF COMBAT INSIGNIA STAMPS

Each of the 50 issues of Volume 4 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.

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Postamp AA249020-CI-152
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152

ANNETTE ISLAND ARTILLERY

152. When Japanese military fishermen under the cloak of peaceful enterprise charted the icy waters and the fog-bound lands of Western Alaska during the years before Pearl Harbor, they failed to reckon with American ingenuity and American ability to change the pattern of their infamy.

Strict censorship, as deep and impenetrable as the fog banks that cling to the earth now prevails in the Land of the Midnight Sun; so much so that when the Annette Island Artillery in Ketchikan, Alaska, requested their insignia of Walt Disney, their regimental identification was deleted from the script.

When the war is over the tin-hatted walrus, mascot of the soldiers "from the Sunny South" will have had his toll of the trespassing military fishermen who came out of the Bering Sea.

153. To keep pace with the growing numbers of combat planes coming from American assembly lines, concerted effort is being made to turn out competent flyers to man them and ground crews to "keep 'em flying." A city of more than 100,000 men in aviation garb will be needed each month to complement the flow of winged wood and metal which will soon reach the astounding total of 10,000 planes of various types each month.

Super training schools, such as the U.S. Naval Air Station at Jacksonville, Florida, will bear the brunt of this aerial expansion. Primary Training Squadron 11-A is one of the embryo organizations devoted to the flying task ahead. Its insignia, appropriately conceived by Walt Disney, introduces one of Donald Duck's nephews as he emerges from a shell, properly helmeted and goggled and boasting newly sprouted Navy wings.

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153

PRIMARY
TRAINING SQUADRON,
11-A

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154

LUKE FIELD AIR CORPS
ADVANCED FLYING SCHOOL

154. Stepping up from the air corps training schools of the Army and Navy, the graduate cadet receives his practical induction into combat tactics at advanced flying schools. One of these, the Air Corps Advanced Flying School, at Luke Field, Phoenix, Arizona, is located among the picturesque cactus and sage brush of the desert, where flying conditions are realistically exacting. From this school, flyers are graduated into combat groups of the Army Air Force.

So expert do the pilots and gunners become in both pursuit tactics and marksmanship that their proficiency in hitting fleeing jackrabbits has become legend. The insignia which Walt Disney designed for them is tribute to such skill, for it incorporates a wiry jackrabbit holding a target full of spent arrows.

155. "We'll make 'em eat crow," promised the young flight lieutenant as he started for quarters. He was thinking fondly of the Lockheed Hudson bombers which were to take part in this enforced diet, and of the part they had so recently played in maneuvers. His squadron of heavies had just shuttled in from an especially tough assignment that had taken them far north of the high Yosemite ridge, and they were equal to anything the enemy had to offer—when that day came. The 47th Bombardment Squadron, with the help of Walt Disney, had even been thoughtful enough to provide their prospective guests with a bill of fare.

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155

47th BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON

This swaggering black crow which rides with the group is the leader of the crows straight out of the Disney feature, "Dumbo." He carries a machine gun under one wing, leans on a torpedo with the other, and presents a perfect picture of arrogant self-assurance.

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156

1st DEFENSE BATTALION, FLEET MARINE FORCE, PALMYRA ISLAND

156. Combat Insignia of Postamp No. 62, in the Second Volume of this War Library Collection is that of the 1st Defense Battalion of the Fleet Marine Force who so courageously defended Wake Island against incredible odds in the early phase of Japanese treachery. The tough chimpanzee so representative of that audacious band of "Leather Necks" has been bound and tethered somewhere in the vast Pacific, but his avenging spirit is marching on in the Solomons and wherever free fighting men are headed toward Tokyo.

In the same stance, striding forward with cannon and fixed bayonet and ever pressing the attack, the Disney insignia for the 1st Defense Battalion, Fleet Marine Force, created when they were stationed at Palmyra Island, T.H., has been transformed from the burly chimpanzee to the Devil Dog, who has been assigned to carry on the work the former so nobly began.

157. In World War I, the dispersing of unchallenged American fighters among the ranks of seasoned soldiers produced the first groups of experienced men which made up the subsequent American fighting units capable of independent action. Today, the arrival overseas of army aviation personnel is drawing to a focal point the re-organization of all-American flying combat units. It is not unusual now to see mixed into a squadron formation erstwhile Eagle Squadron members of the Royal Air Force, piloting ships that bear the insignia of former association. Familiar indeed is the Disney-created insignia of the 121st Eagle Squadron, representative of the part that American pilots played in the saving of England during the early days of World War II.

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157

121st EAGLE SQUADRON, R.A.F.

"Dumbo" is found this time in a new pose. He blows peanuts from his trunk like a machine gun and fancies himself a very effective fighting unit.

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158

17th TRANSPORT SQUADRON

158. American ingenuity under the leadership of ship-building Kaiser from Seattle and occasioned by the growing need of troop transports and flying cargo ships has turned the eyes of all toward this extended war operation.

Needless to say, the problems of carrying troops and equipment in huge flying freight cars had been mastered in its earlier stages by far-sighted military men. The 17th Transport Squadron activated in December of 1940 as a part of the 64th Transport Group was one of many designed to fit into the army's transportation pattern. It was stationed at Hamilton Field, California, when it received its insignia from the Disney Studios. A donkey galloping post-haste with such speed that it is practically flying, forms the background heraldry of the 17th. With regulation army hat and pack containing guns, bullets and shells strapped to his back, he represents the modern version of the classic army mule.

159. The "cossack guard" of our strategically vital short-cut between the Atlantic and Pacific, is that post of importance occupied by the Base Weather Station at France Field in the Panama Canal Zone. To guard against the sneak attack of submarines and the implements of saboteurs, the roving eyes of the Army and Navy Air Corps must be kept aloft. This is the job of a small group of men doing a year-round twenty-four hour weather alert in close liaison with the forces that patrol the zone and the islands of Central and South America. Weather reporting and forecasting is technical and does not call for combat duty, but the men of the Base Weather Station are "proud of the job" and their insigne by Disney. It depicts a tropical monkey wearing a tin hat and climbing a cocoanut tree in the process of analyzing the rainfall. With arm extended, the open palm of his hand symbolizes his prognostic capabilities.

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159

BASE WEATHER STATION, FRANCE FIELD, CANAL ZONE

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160

774th TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

160. Trapping tanks is a new and serious business for the units of America's armed forces whose specialized function is to seek out and destroy the lumbering dragons of steel that crush with their weight and spit fires of death from enemy ranks.

The 774th Tank Destroyer Battalion, newly formed at Camp Blanding, Florida, has mastered the technique of tank trapping and smashing with such amazing rapidity that its conduct at a recent maneuver surprised not only the tactical referees, but its own officers as well.

Equipped with 75 mm. cannon mounted on self-propelled armored vehicles it proved its full worth in aggressive action against mechanized units, and demonstrated its right to carry its battle insignia, created by Walt Disney. Men of 774th now proudly display their mascot, a powerful American buffalo charging across the ground and hitting an enemy tank with devastating force.

161. The third successive appearance of heraldry for the 202nd Coast Artillery in this series of War Library Collection is represented by Battery "C," anti-aircraft. The first, Battery "B," was that of Postamp 74 in Volume Two; the second, truck-drivers, Battery "B," was that of Postamp 143, in Volume Three.

Battery "C," 202nd Coast Artillery became federalized at Fort Bliss, Texas, early in 1941. Previously organized as a National Guard artillery unit in Chicago, Illinois, its fire control and marksmanship activities for several years earned for this battery the "E" award for excellence. Not long ago Walt Disney Studios presented Battery "C" with its combat insignia consisting of two fawn-like characters borrowed from "Fantasia." Impish in their desire to contribute the best of their animated talents, they are seen muzzle-loading a small cannon which serves to cartoon the three-inch anti-aircraft guns of Battery "C's" major equipment. One is holding a match for the fuse, while both appear delighted at the anticipated result.

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161

BATTERY "C",
202nd COAST ARTILLERY A A

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162

67th BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON

162. The almost daily clouding of European skies by American made bombers attests to the growing concern that may well be felt by Axis pirateers. To the sterling worth of Uncle Sam's personnel and materials, the resolute sky fighters of the Royal Air Force have had occasion to pay tribute. After having been practically blasted to bits during a recent windmill height operation over Nazi-occupied Holland, an American bomber and crew landed safely back in England.

When the 67th Bombardment Squadron was grouped at Barksdale Field, Shreveport, La., its desire for appropriate insigne was supplied by artists of the Walt Disney Studios. The duties of its personnel as bombardiers, machine gunners, radio operators and navigators was thought to be best expressed in composite interpretation by a huge pelican adept at traveling long distances, carrying bombs in his beak and unloading them at will on enemy targets.

163. Recent developments in the extension of Japanese military operations among the tip islands of the Aleutian group have emphasized the need for co-ordination of all American forces, army, navy, and marine, in the task of driving the Japs back into the sea. Some criticism has been offered by certain government officials who have investigated the Alaskan situation with regard to an alleged failure on the part of the army task command to act in unison with naval units in the Aleutian area.

Whether lack of initiative or a misunderstanding of orders during a critical situation were responsible for specific mistakes neither is anticipated by any member of Headquarters Squadron, 28th Composite Group at Elmendorf Field in Alaska. This organization certifies, by its Disney insignia, a collaboration among not only air forces but with ground branches of the service as well. An aggressive polar bear wearing the combat helmet of the army, advances ferociously and with menacing mien. Army wings back up his defense while his sweeping paws assure a protective union of artillery, infantry and engineers; a ribbon of whose colors forms a band over crossed rifle and bayonet.

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163

HEADQUARTERS SQUADRON,
28th COMPOSITE GROUP

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164

INFORMATION SERVICE,
FREE FRENCH FORCES

164. The 1940 "Fall of France," just preceding the disaster of Dunkirk began a new nation of patriots, such as history has never recorded in a short space of time. This nation, formed of citizenry and soldiery divorced from Nazi conquest under the leadership of De Gaulle, became a world organization wherever Free French banded together and thus became known as the Free French Forces. Wherever British Commandos attack or the armies of the United Nations deploy, the De Gaullists are as accountable as their numbers will permit.

The Information Service of the Free French Forces in South Africa, representative of such liaison units was one of the first to receive its insignia from Walt Disney Studios. Such consists of a native giraffe at rest utilizing regulation earphones and mouthpiece radio equipment. An antenna strung between his horns supports and connects the aerial with the transmitter and receiver set.

165. The 48th Pursuit Squadron, activated January 15, 1941, at Hamilton Field, California, was one of the first air force squadrons to employ the new P-38 Interceptor planes now famous in all offensive and defensive sectors of the United Nations for their speed and maneuverability.

The Disney-created insignia of this organization pays tribute to the functions and efficiency of the fighting 48th. A crafty air-minded cat, goggled and helmeted after the manner of confidence-inspired pilots is seen in mid-air in pursuit of a little flying bug which has both hands cupped in front and is diving for his life. Looking back over his shoulder the bug has reason to be terrorized. Within grasping distance, but content to play with his prey for the instant as he would with a mouse, the cat zooms easily through the air, anticipating every move of his quarry.

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165

48th PURSUIT SQUADRON

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166

120th BOMBER RECONNAISSANCE
SQUADRON, R.C.A.F.

166. With all the dash and swank of a Princess Pat or a Cold Stream Guard transferred suddenly to the no-man's-land of the air, the 120th Bomber Reconnaissance Squadron, Royal Canadian Air Force put out across the channel with a hundred others to keep a split minute "cover up" rendezvous with a commando objective. Bursts of white clouds opened up beneath them with a cackling sound as the ground artillery roared below. The flight commander signaled as the bombardiers flexed the sticks that sent the lethal pigs of steel downward. Pluto was on the loose again. He had served with the 120th since Walt Disney had ordered him to duty atop a bomb at Coal Harbor, British Columbia, to steer it with unswerving determination toward an Axis target. He will continue to serve with the 120th, for the Royal Canadians will cross the channel again and again until the invaders of France and the butchers of freedom-loving peoples have been scourged from the earth.

167. Fort Benning, Georgia, is a going concern. It has been kept going and will continue to keep going by the Corps Area Service Command. Like a huge assembly plant, men are being brought together at this military post and trained to wield the tools of war. Here there are Parachute Battalions to be maintained, Tank Corps to be serviced, Ordnance and Quartermaster Depots, Officer Schools, Infantry Regiments, Aviation Corps, and a half a score more of combat organizations to be kept in function. To supply the needs of all of these is the job of Headquarters, Corps Area Service Command.

Walt Disney artists caught the spirit of this unique department by creating an insignia around the fable of the stork. Dressed in the uniform of the army command, and wearing a regulation steel hat, this creature from the hinterland of legend scurries in majestic flight with its bundle of shells, bullets, guns and equipment, ostensibly to drop them where they are needed most.

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167

HEADQUARTERS,
CORPS AREA SERVICE COMMAND

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ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, U.S.A.

168. "Let's look at the record," is a qualifying statement that can be uttered or written about any operation where the human element bears a relationship to enterprise, whether such be private, public, or military. When a man or woman comes up for assignment to duty, promotion, or commission, there must be a record to refer to.

In the United States Army it is the Adjutant General's Office where such records as pertain to administration and personnel are kept.

At Arlington, Virginia, where the School for Officers is maintained in close coordination with the Adjutant General's Office, one of the major and most vital departments of training is "paper work." When an officer, through appointment or commission or promotion takes command of a battery, company or troop, his organization records must be inviolate. When the Arlington School for Officers requested insignia, Walter Lantz assigned the meticulous and inimitable Andy Panda to the duty of keeping the records for the army.

169. Hitler's air legions followed Dunkirk with a nerve-shattering campaign in the summer of 1940. It was called the "Battle of Britain," which the Nazis lost in spite of their numerical advantage of planes at a ratio of nearly three to one. What the Nazi hordes lacked in quality did not assuage the bitterness of their defeat. Great Britain countered successfully with a few planes which could hit harder in combat, and others which could hide out in secret bivouac, while the fledglings of Britain's Royal Air Force were in training to pilot American reinforcements.

"B" Flight, 1224th Air Training Corps Squadron quartered at Ilkey in Yorkshire, England, was one of the many cadet groups that fed flying youth into the line that blasted Nazi invasion hopes. Its insignia, a Disney Jiminy Cricket is intent on learning to fly, as he stands on a box reading his flying manual which lies open on the floor. Bird-like, he flaps his arms in preparation for the take-off.

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169

"B" FLIGHT,
1224th AIR TRAINING
CORPS SQUADRON, R.A.F.

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170

32nd AIRSHIP PATROL
SQUADRON

170. Why Johnny Chipmunk should have been chosen as the mascot for the 32nd Airship Patrol Squadron, instead of Dumbo, of the Walt Disney family of flying elephants, has given rise to considerable speculation. As the Squadron's commanding officer wrote from Moffett Field, California, "We are the nearest thing to a flying elephant there is," the selection of Dumbo seemed a certainty, but the little elephant was busy elsewhere.

Too, Johnny Chipmunk gave promise of being better fitted since the duties of the 32nd require a degree of alertness and execution peculiar to this type of lighter-than-air craft. Seated on a stack of balloons he floats gracefully over the water, patrolling the coast. With bomb cradled in his arms he is ever watchful for an opportunity to drop it on a prowling enemy surface or undersea craft.

The 32nd Airship Patrol is the second of two such lighter-than-air squadrons to be commissioned on the Pacific Coast.

171. Since Brazil has actively joined against the Axis, and Uruguay and others of the South American nations are soon to follow, a closer co-ordination of the United States and United Nations with their Latin American associates is imminent.

Already, American facilities and personnel have been employed to contribute special and advanced military and naval training to those of the Good Neighbors. Greater importance may now be attached to the new task of the Cuban Navy Flight, of the U. S. Naval Air Station at Pensacola, Florida, which has been concentrating its protective and vigilant endeavors in the coastal waters of Cuba. Its activities will now be expanded, but not without the ever-present character of "Goofy" who was assigned to duty with this unit by Walt Disney Studios. "Goofy" is seen kneeling nonchalantly on a cloud, with parachute on his back in the process of dropping a bomb on all enemies lurking in the southern part of our hemisphere.

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CUBAN NAVY FLIGHT,
U.S. NAVAL AIR STATION

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172

39th AIR DEPOT GROUP

172. The 39th Air Depot Group at San Bernardino, California, has a formula all of its own to go with the slogan, "Keep 'Em Flying." It is composed of equal parts of mechanical skill and hard work. Work-a-day hours have small part in the scheme of things for members of the 39th Air Depot Group, for they are kept busy repairing and rebuilding planes whenever there is a call for such work to be done. They have, in point of fact, thrown the clock away.

This very essential crew call themselves the "Busy Bees," and appropriately the Walt Disney Studios provided them with insignia which fitted their specialized mission. Such consists of a bee wearing a tin hat, and armed with the implements of his endeavor; a monkey wrench, cogwheel and propeller. Within the circle background a twin-motored plane of the type which has already given the Axis powers cause for consternation, stands ready for the "take-off," staunch evidence of the job accomplished by the "Busy Bees" of the 39th.

173. Today, with America united in an all-out program to prosecute the war to a victorious conclusion, Civilian Defense operations are considered to be of more than secondary importance to actual combat activities. Organizations such as the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, the Women's Ambulance and Defense Corps, and the Minute Women, have been accepted in support of the frontline and have been accorded the distinction of receiving tokens of heraldry for reasons similar to those of combat units.

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173

MINUTE WOMEN OF LOS ANGELES

Under the inspiring leadership of Commander Viroque Baker, members of the Minute Women of Los Angeles offer an example of what women are doing to help win this war. Serving without pay, these women between the ages of 18 and 45 are trained not only in advanced Red Cross and emergency work, but are drilled in the school of the soldier for benefit of discipline and co-ordination. The insignia of this Minute Women Organization is a centaurette with first aid equipment superimposed on a bolt of lightning to indicate speed.

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174

GROUP 918, CIVIL AIR PATROL

174. Banded together under the Office of Civilian Defense, over 50,000 private flyers and aviation enthusiasts have built the Civil Air Patrol into an important arm of the nation's air defense. This organization is performing many duties with the aid of the light planes they fly, including cargo carrying, courier service, and the patrolling of pipe lines and other utility carriers. Its most important function, however, is coastal patrol. Its pilots convoy merchantmen along the coastal sea lanes and have been officially credited with helping to sink several submarines. These planes are now a more potent weapon than ever against Hitler's sea wolves since they have been equipped with bombs and depth charges.

Group 918 of the Civil Air Patrol is composed of squadrons from the vicinity of Los Angeles. The Disney Studios have created a most appropriate insignia for them consisting of a grasshopper, emblematic of their low-powered civilian type aircraft, whose many arms find useful occupation with bomb, pencil, and spyglass.

175. "Fraternity—Equality—Liberty" must be restored to the peoples of France. The voices of embattled patriots are raised above the noise of cannon, sounding out this theme of the spirit of their cause wherever men fight for Free France.

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175

CHASSEURS ALPINS BATTALION, FREE FRENCH FORCES

The Chasseurs Alpins Battalion of the Free French Force in South Africa are known for their daring and dash, their indifference to enemy force or numbers. They have often been called the "Blue Devils" of the desert, perhaps in tribute to the Chasseurs of World War One from whom they are descended. Like their predecessors they are expert bicyclists and can traverse the hot sun-drenched desert with its shifting sands as easily as though they were at home in their Alpine environment. The Disney insignia for this group indicates clearly both mission and equipment. An African lion equipped with rifle is "scorching" along on a regulation bicycle, his helmet loosened by the wind, his demeanor ferocious and purposeful.

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176

92nd SCHOOL SQUADRON, AIR CORPS ADVANCED FLYING SCHOOL

176. The pilot cadet must take with him into training at the advanced flying school all of the fundamentals he has learned at ground school and primary instruction. Only then may he combine speed of ship and accuracy of gun fire into single action. He knows that it is not always luck that keeps him flying, but more often the application of the science of aerodynamics which draws that fine line of demarkation between a good flyer and a poor one—that feeling of the drag of the ship—the balance of the wings—the crushing weight of air, or its diminishing as the speed increases or lessens; all these figure importantly in the training of a potential seasoned flyer.

The 92nd School Squadron, one of five, training aviation cadets as pursuit pilots is located at Craig Field, Selma, Alabama. It is justly proud of its Disney wrought insignia, a large crow from the animated feature, "Dumbo." He is amusedly interested in the antics of a baby crow in its first attempts to fly.

177. The weight of the war was on his shoulders as the squadron climbed so that the target slanted away from the sights. He knew he was flying with one of the best pilot-navigator teams in the air force, but, after all, their relation to the final outcome of any operation was only partial. It was their job to bring him to the objective before he could make the kill. Without them he was helpless, and they without him, incomplete.

His thoughts went back in fitful flashes of pride to those days at Westover Field, Massachusetts, before the 41st Bombardment Squadron went over for the "real thing." It was on the occasion of their acceptance of the Disney-created insignia, a helmet-clad rooster, tough and pretentious, with muffler and goggles, and carrying a gray, legless "pig" under one wing. With right wing raised in salute, it represented the "Fighting Forty-First," and they were proud of it.

The bombsight drew cross-hairs across the target below. He tripped the lever of the bomb rack.

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177

41st BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON

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178

134th INFANTRY

178. "The Brave!"
Such is the English translation of the Pawnee Indian words, "Lah we lah his" inscribed on the crest of the insignia of the 134th Infantry. Let the drums begin to intone in deep-throated notes the ancestral hall-mark of this fast-rooted regiment of soldiers.

Proclaimed to be in the service of the United States by acting Governor Thomas B. Cumming of Nebraska on December 23, 1854, it fought in the Indian uprising of 1859, and later with the Union troops from 1861 to 1864. Again it served with William Cody (Buffalo Bill) in the Indian uprising of 1890. At the Philippines in 1898, its Commanding Officer, Colonel John Stotsenberg, for whom Fort Stotsenberg, P.I., was named, was killed leading a charge. In 1916 it patroled the Mexican border and later joined the American Expeditionary Forces as a part of the 34th Division in France. In 1930, after having been covered with the glory of American victories, it was re-organized and became part of the present 35th Division.

179. Running the gamut of the vehicles of communication, the Fifth Signal Company has returned to council halls of the first redmen to certify the heraldry of its functions. Up through the years the methods of long distance speaking have progressed through a succession of stages from the signal fires on hill tops through those of sun reflecting, blinking shutters, semaphore, telephone, telegraph, and radio.

The men of the Fifth Signal Company received their insignia from the Walt Disney Studios when they were stationed at Fort Custer, Michigan, in tribute to the spirit of the great American after whom the fort was named, who failed to signal for help in time but who heroically stood his ground and embraced a glorious death. It consists of a little Indian smoking a pipe after the custom of his tribesmen who signalled with the use of smoke. In doing so he is executing a Morse code of three dots and a dash with the smoke exhaled from mouth, symbolic of the 22nd word of the alphabet, the "V" which stands for Victory.

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179

FIFTH SIGNAL COMPANY

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180

BATTERY "K", 3rd COAST ARTILLERY

180. "Moonlight Cavalry" is the designation of Battery "K," 3rd Coast Artillery, of Fort MacArthur, California. As the slanting beams of light bore into night skies from the searchlight batteries of this organization and scurry about or converge upon pin point objectives, small concern need be felt for the safety of our Pacific shores and mainland. Its function is represented by an insignia created by Walt Disney Studios showing an army horse wearing a regulation steel hat. He shades the light from a candle which is tabled on top of a pile of sandbags. The candle represents the candle power in high ratio to the searchlight beams which penetrate the skies. A gleam of mirth and self-assurance lights his eye as he envisages the disaster in store for any trespasser against his beloved native land. In these words the Battery Commander acknowledged receipt of the emblem; "Not only is it clever and catchy to the eye, but it is also most expressive of the type of job we do."

181. The science of medicine and its application to human life has taken in a partner. In short the doctor has joined forces with his patient.

That is the way a grizzled Major of the Medical Detachment of the 121st Coast Artillery Battalion at Venice, California, put it. Since the Office of Civilian Defense has been laying stress on the importance of civilian study of advanced methods of saving and sustaining life, the job of the doctor is becoming freed of former complications. Courses of instruction in first aid are being injected into the training of air raid wardens and auxiliaries of the nation's defense program, and the doctor's former patient is becoming his assistant.

In the old days, opined the Major, the military medicos were often undercasts by the very organizations to which they were attached. Now they are respected and accepted within the fighting ranks. Disney artists have publicized the transition with their interpretation of caduceus in more modern dress as insignia for the group.

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MEDICAL DETACHMENT,
121st
ARTILLERY BATTALION

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182

PARACHUTE CORPS,
FREE FRENCH FORCES

182. Many of the allied troops who fought for democracy on the Western Front in World War I recall with vivid clarity the Senegals and Colonial troops dressed in the horizon blue uniforms of the French. Today the scene has been reversed. What segments of French colonial territory remains unscathed by the swarm of Nazi locusts, are being peopled by men who left their homes and loved ones in France to carry on, somehow, for "fraternity, equality, and liberty." These are the Free French Forces of South Africa.

Because the hippopotamus is a creature of huge proportions and is representative of the enormity of the Free French movement as well as being a native of Africa, the artists of Walt Disney Studios have adapted it to the insignia of the Parachute Corps of the Free French Forces. "Hippo" is seen floating gently earthward by means of an umbrella. The complacency of his expression seems to say that he considers his job no more heroic than any other branch of soldiering.

183. The men behind the men behind the guns are the men of the 110th Quartermaster Battalion. But for lack of numbers and the conditions of geographical structure, they would at present be servicing the guns of every American fighting unit in the far corners of the earth. They started out with the idea of universal usefulness when they became activated at Van Nuys, California. Wherever they serve today in their mission of supplying shells, guns, bullets, bombs, and cannons, they have become hard working stevedores in the cause of Victory.

Walt Disney so symbolized them in creating their insignia, a whimsical little rabbit trundling a wheel barrow loaded with fighting equipment. The planking over which the wheels roll have converged to form the "V" or assured pathway to Victory.

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183

110th QUARTERMASTER BATTALION

Moisten Top Edge of Postamp —Attach Here!

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184

NO. 6,
BRITISH RECONNAISSANCE
SQUADRON, R.C.A.F.

184. Somewhere back along the span of years the navigator had been a carefree boy. He thought some of his childhood as he momentarily stroked the smooth gray side of the great flying boat that vibrated and trembled from the very depth of its hull. His thoughts went back to the smell of hay and fodder being warmed by the sun's rays near the entrance to the "Big Top." He thought, too, of the circus elephants and of the fondness he had always had for them. Then as the pilot moved to give him seat, he whispered sagely, "I think we will call this squadron 'Jumbo' because it reminds me for all the world of a herd of pachyderms."

But when the No. 6 British Squadron of the R.C.A.F. had returned from coastal reconnaissance to Alliford Bay, British Columbia, it had been decided to call it "Dumbo" from the Disney feature of the same name. "Dumbo" became part of the squadron even to his trunk forming the number "6."

185. Invisible lightning and continuous claps of thunder without rain or clouds, under a sky that was serene and blue—so calm that only a very few flakes of white showed the currents of air. Below the planes a few thousand feet, staggered blotches of green and gray smoke showed from whence came the stream of tracer bullets and bursts of anti-aircraft shrapnel that fairly lifted the tail of one of the ships with its unnatural concussion.

"That was close, too close," snapped the pilot-navigator of the tow target ship as the thin cable snapped and the box kite contraption which they had been towing wabbled free and started for the ground.

Then the navigator grinned, "I'd just hate to get knocked down in this man's war by one of our own guys who can't shoot straight!"

The job of Tow Target Detachment, Ellington Field, Texas, is to pull the targets for an assortment of gunners. Its insignia by Disney shows a Pedro-faced plane towing an air sock, ragged with bullet holes against a Lone Star background.

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ELLINGTON FIELD,
TOW TARGET DETACHMENT

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186

57th AIR BASE SQUADRON

186. IN THE WORLD OF THE THEATRE those persons nearest the footlights usually get the major share of the credit for the play's success. Curtains drop and rise again, and new scenes appear almost magically. But the things one does not see, those roles which are played back-stage, are equally important to a good performance. No actor could hope to carry the whole show without the aid of carpenters, electricians, and artisans of one sort and another.

The 57th Air Base Squadron of the 67th Air Base Group, Craig Field, Selma, Alabama, is part of the back drop of the plan to "Keep 'Em Flying." Its ships and men are the make-up artists, the carpenters, painters, electricians, of the big air show that is being staged in a world theatre. They maintain base flight, conduct post engineering, and provide armaments and transportation. Their Disney insignia shows a tiny mouse astride a ferocious lion. The ensemble is encompassed by the squadron's battle cry, "Rough—Ready—Rugged!"

187. The machine gunners of Battery "B", 202nd Coast Artillery have insignia recently designed by Walt Disney, which places him in the unique position of having contributed the total of two combat symbols for one organization, Battery "B", and the fourth for the 202nd Coast Artillery in this War Library collection.

Because large guns when attacked cannot protect themselves at short range, and because side arms are ineffective when used by the personnel in close quarters fighting, new regulations permit the support of artillery organizations by machine gun units. The insignia of Battery "B" machine gunners is expressive of the function of this group. A wise old owl from the Disney feature, "Bambi," is seated in a nest behind his machine gun. He wears a regulation steel helmet and is aiming his weapon with deadly earnestness. The strip of machine gun bullets forms the victorious "V" automatically.

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BATTERY "B",
202nd COAST ARTILLERY

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188

106th OBSERVATION SQUADRON

188. Following closely the demobilization program inaugurated by the War Department following World War I, the 106th Observation Squadron was organized at Birmingham, Alabama. It was known as the "Escadrille of Alabama" as far back as 1922, and was considered to be foremost among top ranking observation squadrons. Keeping abreast with changes in airplane equipment and tactics, the 106th itself contributed the benefit of research and experimentation to a peace time schedule. When war came to this country late in 1941, it was prepared to meet the exacting requirements of an emergency. At Laurens, South Carolina it received its Walt Disney insignia which symbolized the character of the organization.

The ease with which a lion can jump through a paper covered hoop aptly demonstrates the ability of the 106th to break through enemy defenses and claw to shreds any factual opposition or interference.

189. Perhaps some of the most effective combat work performed by forces engaged in areas which have been invaded or heavily attacked by Axis troops has been that of numerically small bodies of soldiers who have banded together to harass the enemy with series of seemingly inconsequential annoyances. These, however, have had far reaching results. The gypsy or guerilla bands of unified structures are usually composed of individual patriots, united from various combat or civilian groups, who are adept at the practice of sniping and employing individual strategies.

Not unlike these practitioners of specialized warfare, the "Mobile Flight" squadron of the First Air Support Command, U. S. Coast Guard Air Station at Elizabeth City, North Carolina, carries out a varied and individual operation. It is composed of ships and fliers from nine other Observation Squadrons and patrols the Atlantic Coast against enemy submarines. Because of its gypsy characteristics Walt Disney artists designed insignia showing a tiger flying an old box crate resembling a plane, and throwing bricks at the skulking wolf packs of the sea.

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"MOBILE FLIGHT", U.S. COAST GUARD AIR STATION

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190

1st BATTALION, HEADQUARTERS BATTERY, 146th FIELD ARTILLERY

190. Being "behind the eight-ball," is not always duck soup for the cue artist attempting a shot designed to improve his score. Members of Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion of the 146th Field Artillery having decided that the most suitable position from which to circumvent any notion of the enemy that they are behind one, have elected to get on top of the eight-ball from where they can expertly direct its course. In truth, the men of this organization have already proved their efficiency at both fire control and marksmanship.

When they were stationed at Fort Lewis, in Tacoma, Washington, they not only demonstrated their ability to service their guns during a period of elaborate previews, but received their insignia from the Walt Disney Studios in the form of Donald Duck seated characteristically on top of an eight-ball. It is Donald Duck's opinion that a cue ball may easily enough be transformed into a lethal cannon ball.

191. America, and the United Nations, are engaged in a long range war. The ability to prosecute such a war, therefore, to a successful conclusion, will depend more and more upon the possibility of carrying the attack over long distances to the enemies' doorstep. This means mobile craft capable of safely and rapidly transporting troops, food and equipment to points within striking range. Since our softening attacks must be made from the air, and carriers can not accommodate the beam of our flying fortresses which have been causing so much destruction and consternation among our enemies, it must follow that more Flying Fortresses will be needed.

Personnel of the 342nd Bombardment Squadron when based at Sarasota-Bradenton Air Field, Sarasota, Florida, solemnly promised the artists at Walt Disney Studios that upon receipt of their insignia, they would repay the favor by completing any "rough and tough" assignment that came their way. The insignia shows a unicorn creature from "Fantasia," standing on a cloud, and kicking bombs into mid-air and onto the enemy below. From all reports, the promise is being fulfilled.

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342nd BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON

Moisten Top Edge of Postamp —Attach Here!

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192

66th QUARTERMASTER BATTALION

192. From the Iceland out-post of Democracy comes news that the American Expeditionary Forces are expanding with ever increasing numbers and equipment. Realizing the importance of military fortification in this strategic link in the chain across the Atlantic, the natives are lending every possible aid to facilitate the building of co-operative relationship.

Recently, members of the 66th Quartermaster Battalion gave proof of the bond existing between free peoples by requesting insignia of Walt Disney Studios. They wrote, "Our unit is a motor repair and truck company on duty at present in Iceland. Our job consists of repairs and maintenance of motor vehicles."

The artists responded with the creation of a helmeted and bespectacled monkey busily engaged at bandaging an engine. Near the monkey lies a box containing first aid equipment; a symbol of willingness to help the sick and needy.

193. The names inscribed on Battery, Company, Troop or Squadron rosters attest to a variety of national characteristics and religious denominations that come under the broader classification of "One for all and all for one." It is the essence of this conglomerate that the principles of Democracy bind men by the eloquence of concepts and convictions, to the state of being that we call America.

The roster of the 629th Tank Destroyer Battalion not only consists of the usual symposium of names and faces but boasts of personnel from the three Field Artillery Regiments of the 29th Infantry Division. Men from the North and men from the South give a lie to the fallacy that natural prejudices destroy union in a nation sired by the Bill of Rights.

When the 629th was stationed at Fort George G. Mead in Maryland, it received its Disney-created insignia; a huge boa constrictor wrapping its coils around an invading tank of the enemy, crushing it completely and demonstrating America's strength in union.

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629th TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

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194

643rd TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

194. American fighting men in Egypt, plus American fighting tanks have taken over specifically assigned battle areas as swiftly darting units of tank destroyers. Forward they move in close formation, as surging blasts of wind-driven sand blot out the landscape and all about as though each tank moved alone. Sudden breaks in the storm lifted them out into the night and the vague light of the stars. With the breaking of day the battle began amid explosions of dust and bright flame. From over the horizon the enemy tanks, like dreadnaughts in formation shuttled across the desert to meet them.

The 643rd Tank Destroyer Battalion was in fair way to validate the spirit and efficiency which prompted their Walt Disney insignia when they were stationed at Camp Blanding, Florida. It was a curious thing as Disney whimsies go, but it told a story impressively. A hand pointing down at a blazing tank set over a white circle within a black shield seems to be indicating the place to attack.

195. In the first dark days following the shameless Japanese betrayal at Pearl Harbor, planes marked with the design of the rising sun flew at low altitude over Bataan and Manila, unhampered, and dropped death and destruction at will. They had no opposition. America was unprepared for treachery and had no planes in the sky. Nearly nine months later the Marines landed in the Solomons and drove the Japs into the sea under an umbrella of American fighters, bombers and interceptors. The scene has changed.

The 308th Pursuit Squadron represents the American type of heavily armed pursuit ships capable of hurling the Solomon Island brand of lightning with swift, deadly blows. Their Disney presented insignia which they received at New Orleans Air Base at New Orleans, Louisiana, is that of a Trojan soldier complete with sword, shield, and headdress, advancing quickly on his enemy. He swings his sword fiercely to intercept the attack and hold him off for the kill.

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308th PURSUIT SQUADRON

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196

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY,
155th FIELD ARTILLERY

196. Battles of today may be won in the air; strategies may be planned for the quick terrifying invasion by paratroops and mechanized forces, and territories may be conquered and held by heavily armored troops. But, giving just due to all the streamlining and mobility of combat, there will be forever lurking in the background the spirit of the faithful old army mule.

Headquarters Battery of the 155th Field Artillery is one organization that will have good reason always to remember the sleepy-eyed pack mule loaded down with field equipment, guns, food, and cooking utensils. He is its mascot in spirit, for he is the star character of their insignia. The Battery started out with him at Camp Blanding in Florida where the artists of Walt Disney Studios made the presentation. In addition to his full regalia, he is pulling a small cannon with typical Disney nonchalance.

197. Long before America was catapulted into the maelstrom of World War Number I, ambulances donated by typical do-a-good-turn-to-your-neighbor citizenry to their Red Cross were driven by American volunteers. Everywhere one saw them on the Western Front. War torn Europe today is familiar with these covered wagons of mercy.

One of the most unusual requests for insignia received by Walt Disney came from the American Ambulance Section of the Free French Forces. This group, like many of its contemporaries volunteered for service before America entered the conflict. It was the often retold story of Yankee sympathy for the oppressed. Upon receipt of its insignia, one of the members expressed his satisfaction with a vigorous, "Just what the doctor ordered!" Disney had sketched a gorilla bandaging a finger with a wad of gauze taken from the first aid kit which, as a member of the ambulance section, he would very wisely never be without.

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AMERICAN AMBULANCE SECTION,
FREE FRENCH FORCES

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198

CHANUTE FIELD MEDICAL
DEPARTMENT DETACHMENT

198. One of the amazing highlights of civilian reaction to the exigencies of modern war has been the eagerness with which citizens have responded to the call for blood donations. Behind this reaction perhaps lies the fact that civilians themselves have in many instances had to bear the attacks of ruthless invaders. Of course most volunteer donors of blood hope that a part of their gift may be instrumental in saving a soldier or sailor life. There are many patriotic citizens who are unable to bear arms, but many of these can unashamedly say, "I gave my blood for my country." For, indeed, it is no small thing which they do.

The Chanute Field Medical Department Detachment is so proud of the work they do in this connection that they make very public use of their Disney insignia. No more professional air was ever assumed than that of their rooster mascot.

199. Even to the inexperienced ear the sound of airplane motors in the invisibility of a dark night is unmistakable. But when the eye searches for a plane and its tell tale running lights, even the few stars seem to be moving. Suddenly an irridescent finger divides the sky into halves, then another and another as though they were cutting a heavenly pie. Strings of light cross and recross from every direction until no smallest object up there can hope to remain undetected. Presently a tiny silvery speck of airplane is caught in the merciless glow of many million candles like a helpless insect.

The Searchlight Battalion of the 352nd Coast Artillery, Camp Haan, California, has found Walt Disney's baby "Dumbo" to be the perfect insignia mascot. His large ears are handily employed as listening devices, while he expertly throws the beams from his flashlight into the darkness in the form of a V.

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SEARCHLIGHT BATTALION,
352nd COAST ARTILLERY

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200

STATION HOSPITAL,
1531st SERVICE UNIT

200. The experience of many wars and more particularly the present one has taught the lesson that all casuals, especially the victims of bombings should be treated before removal to the hospital. Most casuals suffer in the major part from shock, and if not handled correctly may bleed to death. Many reversals of old procedures have been occasioned by the devastating nature of modern warfare.

The 1531st Service Unit of the Fifth Corps Area Station Hospital, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, are considered to be one of the most modernly equipped and efficient units in the United States Army. By the version of its personnel it is the "snappiest and best trained medical unit." The Disney created insignia shows a natty little figure, uniformed, and carrying all necessary medical supplies, even to a stretcher. The Post Hospital was organized in 1906 and named in honor of President Benjamin Harrison, a native of Indiana.

201. Postamp No. 64, Album Volume Two, of the War Library Collection, represents the aircraft carrier USS Hornet insignia as a nest in which are housed some of the winged stinging insects of the Navy Air Force. Her fighting complement consists of four Squadrons whose separate missions are those of fighting, bombing, scouting and torpedoing. One of these, Bombing Squadron VB 8, like its mother ship, displays a hornet motif. Contrary to current belief, the "8" on the bomb which the Disney hornet is dropping on the enemy does not represent the insinuation that the plane-winged mascot is "behind the eight-ball"; rather, it represents the craft designation of the carrier, herself. Also, the symbol "V", formed by the wings, has been designed to identify the squadron as heavier-than-air craft, although a dual meaning may be associated with the ear-mark of "Victory."

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BOMBING SQUADRON VB 8

Bombing Squadron VB 8 has demonstrated pointedly to the yellow men from Japan during naval actions in the vicinity of Midway Island that the saying "East is East and West is West and never the Twain shall meet," may not be a true assertion. Emphatically, the West has met the East, as history shall record.

48th Pursuit Squadron

THE JAPANESE FLEET invaded the shores of Alaska and the recesses of America's chain of Aleutian Islands scores of years ago. It masqueraded as an honest fleet of fishermen engaged in peaceful, but competitive enterprise with American fishermen. It was accorded the friendships and international trading privileges which Americans have always lavished upon assiduous aliens with open hands, even though a Yankee wink or a knowing nod be employed, perchance, to assuage a too zealous act of trespass. What one did not know, even if the guess was rife, was that beneath each oil skin jacket the perfidy of the Japanese military clothed brown skin.

Painstakingly, each foot of land in the environs of Alaska was explored; each harbor and cove and shoal and reef was sounded and charted, and each precognition was taken from the cocoon and pieced into a fabric that was to become the plan for the conquest of America.

The day has passed when Japanese fishermen may again conjure duplicity and invade the privacies of our domain. The codicil of their testaments will unfold for them the heritage which they have well earned; to be the fished-for and hunted and the most despised of all mankind.

COMBAT INSIGNIA
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COMBAT INSIGNIA
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COMBAT INSIGNIA
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COMBAT INSIGNIA
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COMBAT INSIGNIA
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COMBAT INSIGNIA
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