



NUMBER XXI ----- SATURDAY ----- 22nd. MAY 1943

--- EDITORIAL ---

Not many weeks ago an editorial in this paper dealt with the many advantages which we in the Noumea area enjoy over other units further North. Have we ever thought how lucky we all are in comparison with, not other 3 Div units, but those men who have been unfortunate enough to have been captured in the early stages of the war and who have been held as prisoners of war ever since.

Two years ago last Thursday parachute troops started their invasion of Crete; a few weeks earlier they had overrun Greece; and then with overwhelming superiority in men and materials they attacked and finally forced the 2nd. NZ Div from their temporary island base. In those months of Greece and Crete the Germans captured many prisoners - a large proportion of whom were New Zealanders.

For two years now these men have suffered a life of extreme hardship, a life in which food has been scarce, mail limited, and much delayed, news of Allied successes must necessarily have been reduced to a minimum, and entertainment has been entirely of their own making.

Do we get good mail service, good food, daily news, and entertainments? I need not answer that question, for the average man has realised it all long ago. But there is the man who will always answer "But we don't get enough". I ask that man one question, "Will you change places?" No? Of course you won't. Then let us not grumble at our lot - we are among the fortunate ones.

WEEKLY WHO'S WHO:

MUNO E.T. To be found existing among the cream of 150. He is not a Lion Tamer, as his initials indicate, but a leader of Transport.

ORIGIN: By experience out of hardship. Truly a great combination which can only be withstood by super men or better.

RELIGION: Judging by the number of Church Parades attended during the last six months, still undeterminable.

OCCUPATIONS: Pulling things to pieces to see why they won't go, after he has fixed them.

TOOLS OF THE TRADE: A Hammer -- and brute strength.

BOOKS: "Cars and Trucks I HAVE worn Out"; Shortly to be published: "Cars and Trucks I AM Wearing Out".

VICES: Partakes of bottled beverages to a very meagre extent; swears when 'Doing the scene'; has been seen practising 'nudism' with a tin basin of water at his feet (when questioned, says he is having a wash).

PRIVATE LIFE: Full of episodes so numerous and low, that we are unable to select even one which is in any way fit for publication.

THE LITTLE RED NOTE BOOK

As the author of the "Battery Bible", of which you have learnt so much through the courtesy of the Editorial Staff of "Gun Flash", has sat rather hard of late on my neck, and has threatened most earnestly to appoint in my stead a more conservative publicity agent, it unfortunately leaves me no choice other than to discontinue these intimate little glimpses into what is undoubtedly the years best.

I do not believe in shielding from my readers anything which I feel should be publicly expressed and have always made it a policy to search diligently after the truth, and expose to the light of day any evidences of a questionable past in the lives of fable figures.

I therefore herewith tender my resignation as -----'s agent and ask all who are so deeply interested in "The Little Red Note Book", to contact direct the author of the book - I am sure he will be only too willing to reveal all.

"Mac"

(Ed. Better be careful, Mac. - he might reveal too much!!!)