

# Clearing the Desk

*WE HEAR* quite a bit about the weather in Italy and in New Guinea from our various correspondents. None of the comments, as you could easily guess, is complimentary. Capt. Floyd A. Sooy, '38, writes that the weather in New Guinea has now been reduced to a very simple formula, however. The formula is: "If you can't see the mountains, it is raining; and if you can see the mountains, it is going to rain."

*WITH NEARLY* two thousand Sooners scattered around overseas and on the seas, it's a small-world stories are practically a dime a dozen (keep sending them in, though). One of the best is about Doak Stowe, Turner Armstrong, Bill Wilson and Jack Yocum, all members of the same fraternity chapter at O.U. Assigned to four different ships, they all ran into each other at a certain port in the New Hebrides on the same day.

*ACCORDING TO* the Army weekly publication *YANK*, Pvt. Bill Weldon, '38-'41, is the only G.I. in the ETO with a sure-enough legal permit to carry a gun. Weldon was a magician in a Special Service show on tour in England, with an act which called for a pistol to be fired at the psycho-

logical moment. He ran into the fact that British law prohibits carrying firearms on the stage without a license. After about six months of red tape, Weldon got the permit, and everything was strictly legal.

*THERE'S A LOT* of talk about government aid to service men wanting to go to college after the war. Some of you G.I.'s might like to know just what's provided for in the Thomas bill now pending in Congress. It's the bill that so far seems to have most support. It would make all honorably discharged men in service six months eligible for government aid for a training period of one year, with extension up to three additional years for those who do satisfactory work, and who have had longer periods of service. Persons eligible may choose any approved institution. There would be a subsistence allowance of \$50 a month, with additional sum for dependents. Compensation would be paid to institutions having no tuition fee. President Roosevelt and the Senate Committee on Education and Labor are supporting this bill, to promote morale in armed forces, ease problems of demobilization, and to overcome educational deficit caused by military service.

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## Sooner Sports

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duced his championship football squad. Coach Bruce Drake did likewise for his kid cage team. Sgt. Red Foster's Tinker Field dance band played.

### Luster's New T Vogue Clicks in Football Drill

Oklahoma's new single wing T, which Coach Dewey "Snorter" Luster will use this autumn as a "chaser" for his standard single wingback formation, is a wartime expediency that may go well with the light Sooner football material now available. The Sooners finished a five-weeks spring football drill April 13.

"Homer Sparkman, our best blocking back, weighs only 155 pounds, and in Charley Heard, Johnny West and Bobby Estep we have three speedy lightweight backs whom we will try to break into the open with speed and deception," Luster explained. "Besides we have lost Bob Brumley, our line-plunger of last year who was an excellent single wing fullback. Derald Lebow, his successor, is a fast-breaking buckler well suited to a T offense."

John Harley and Millard Cummings, Sooner spring practice tackles, are fast, rangy lads who brush block well, are difficult to reach over, and are tall enough to screen fast-developing plays from the de-

fensive line. Their style of play was among factors considered in adoption of the new formation as a correlation for Oklahoma's Warner style.

"We're not changing horses," emphasizes Luster. "We'd be silly to abandon something that has been successful."

Last year Oklahoma rode to the Big Six championship upon the vehicle of its Minnesota version of single wingback, with a highly effective dash of the tricky A formation thrown in. And don't discount that A. It brought four of the five Oklahoma touchdowns against the three toughest opponents, Texas, Tulsa, and Missouri.

"Our single wing and our single wing T are closely related," Luster points out. "Both operate off a balanced line. Since our T lines up with the backfield overshifted, all we have to do when we change from single wing to T is put our blocking back up behind center. And yet we maintain the T formation principle. When the ball is snapped, our wingback is approximately where the T wingback ends up after he starts in motion."

Always an exponent of hard, deceptive running as well as of forward passing, the Oklahoma coach believes the new Sooner version of the T will put strong pressure on the defensive guards and tackles, as well as prevent the defensive line from over-sliding.

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