GROUP MARKS 2 YEARS OVERSEAS TODAY

TWO YEARS AGO today a troopship steamed out of New York harbor, and this Air Depot Group began its foreign service. About a month and a half earlier, our advance detail sailed, voyaging as far to the north as the main body voyaged to the south.

THERE was the very welcome view of Rio Harbor, then the cool and later, cold winds before Capetown. A stop at Capetown among the friendly South Africans, visits to Table Rock, a view of the Indian Ocean.

THEN THE VOYAGE north, with the trade winds blowing cool and fresh until we hit the doldrums of the Tropics. A stop in steaming Freetown; the last lap by sea, and the trek by convoy.

THERE ARE still plenty of two year veterans on hand to mark the anniversary, although many of the original arrivals left for OCS, Aviation Cadet, transfers, hospitalization. Newcomers have arrived to fill the gaps, to carry on the spirit of the original Group.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

To Whom It May Concern:
It is requested that all men of this Group having any debts or other pecuniary obligations to the deceased Sgt Steven S Bazdar, ASN 35324424, make them known to the Personal Effects Officer, Major Charles E Black, AC.

3rd Day
Group Adjutant

THE GROUP CREST shows the mythical giant bird of the Arabian Nights, the Roc. He is grasping a hangar, indicating the Group's readiness to set up an air base. The crest is the official insignia of the Group, authorized for wear on flight jackets. The motto probably refers to the long voyages which brought us to the Gold Coast.

SOFTBALL games scheduled today will be played Saturday.

WE GO FOR!
WEST FRONT: Fierce fighting for the Rhine crossings in Holland raged as the Germans sought to keep the Allies from cutting through to the Zuider Zee. An allied advance to the Zuider would cut off an estimated 100,000 Nazis in the Netherlands, turn the flank of the West Wall at Kleve, and bring the Allies on the northern plain which leads to Berlin. The Nazis were counter-attacking with armor to prevent the airborne troops at Arnhem from making a junction with other airborne troops and the British 2nd Army, which has reached Nijmegen. The corridor north from Eindhoven to Nijmegen is being strengthened hourly and expanded. West of the corridor, other British 2nd Army forces continued their drive north of the Beach Canal, pushing the Germans toward the coast. The Luftwaffe has come into action again, bombing Allied movements between Eindhoven and Nijmegen. Meanwhile Berlin announced that Hitler had assumed supreme command of his armies in the West. Gen Montgomery issued a special order of the day, giving this news to Allied troops, and declaring they could be thankful for Hitler's assumption of command, recalling the disasters on the Russian front when Hitler assumed command there, and adding, "It means the enemy is commanded by a lunatic."

...Boulogne is in Canadian hands, with 3500 Nazis taken prisoners. Withdrawing south of the port, the Germans are shelling the Canadian positions. At Brest 4,000 prisoners were taken by the Americans. The port and the peninsula south of Brest have been occupied. Calais appeared to be next on the list, as the RAF dropped 4,000 tons of explosives on that port in 2½ hours. 3 million leaflets have been dropped on other Channel ports. There was hard fighting around Grasse, near Stolberg while in the Moselle Valley between Metz and Nancy, Americans freed Pagny-sur-Moselle and Nomeny. Advances toward the Salfort Gap from the north and west were reported. The 3rd Army occupied Luneville and Nancy 13 miles southeast and 17 miles northeast of Nancy respectively, after repulsing the heaviest panzer attack since the German attempt to break through at Avranches. Flying bombs caused damage and casualties in the London area last night...

SOUTH FRONT: The 5th Army is 25 miles from Bologna, Americans making the advance toward the big road junction, with British and Indian units expanding the flanks of the spearhead. Bologna is on the road running northwestward through the Po Valley from Rimini to industrial cities in north Italy. The Allied advance down the slopes of the Apennines, into the Po Valley has already been begun by the 8th Army. On the east coast, 8th troops took Rimini airfield. 750 US heavies bombed rail bridges near Budapest and the railway between Budapest and Vienna. Americans destroyed bismark destroyers enemy positions on the Italian Riviera. Crete, in the Aegean, was shelled by British destroyers. Greek patriots liberated Missolonghi on the Gulf of Corinth, the German garrison surrendering...

EAST FRONT: The Red Army captured Kunda on the Gulf of Finland, and Tapa on the main highway to Tallinn, capital of Estonia. An estimated 15 German divisions were trapped in the Riga area, while Red troops were fighting in the outskirts of Riga. The battle for Warsaw was in its 52nd day, while for the past three days the Polish patriots in the capital have been free of Luftwaffe attacks, due to Soviet air protection. Further details of the armistice terms for Finland reported the lease by Russia of the Porkkala peninsula near Helsinki for 50 years; the use of Finnish airfields by the Reds for the duration; the use of the Finnish merchant fleet for the duration. The USSR returned to Finland the Hango peninsula, taken in the settlement of 1940...

PACIFIC FRONT: The US 81st Division has liberated Angaur in the Palau group. On Peleliu the town of Ngerulolok has been occupied, along with almost all the southern half of the island. Mitchell's bombed Buayan airfield, harbor installations at Saragoni Bay on southern Mindanao. Liberators also attacked Mindanao and Davao, meeting no enemy fighters. The US minesweeper Perry was sunk by the Japs at Palau with light loss of life. The US sub Flier and the auxiliary transport Nea were recently sunk in the Pacific.