Superfort "Ernie Pyle", Gift Of Plane
Plant Workers, Here En Route To Japan

CELEBRITIES of one calibre or another
turn up so frequently at Hather Field
nowadays that there's nothing unusual
about it at all. In sails a B-29 and
out steps a crew — with perhaps one of
its working members a celebrity in his
own right, or a passenger or two all too
used to the spotlight. For instance,
week before last, Base Personnel enten-
tained (take notice — the word entertained
isn't to be taken in its literal sense)
the composer of the Army Air Corps Song
during his stopover on the way across
the Pacific; a few days later that
world-famous war correspondent-author of
Guadalcanal Diary, Richard Tregaskis,
stopped over for briefing and process-
ing along with the members of the crew
of the B-29 he was aboard. But last
week there was a "guest" here which
because of cause certain association and national
publicity had more than the average
amount of drawing power for even the
more blasé Hatherites: looking at it
from the ground as it circled the field
it was just another big B-29 on its way
to the combat zones. A curious glance
at the right side of the fuselage told
no more, but the left side did.
Embazoned thereon above the name in cap-
tital letters was a lifesize sketch of the
late most beloved of all war correspond-
ents — ERNIE PYLE.

Inside the plane, right in front of
the flight commander's eyes, was a plaque
which told a little human interest story
of its own: "This Boeing B-29 Super-
fortress was given its name by the men
and women who built it at Boeing, Wichita,
and who paid for it through the purchase
of bonds in the 7th War Loan Drive.
It was dedicated at Boeing-Wichita on Ma-
arch 1945, in the presence of the 60-year-
old father of the war's greatest front-
line reporter — a man beloved by America
and its fighters everywhere — whose
first dispatches from the Pacific covered
B-29 operations against Japan. With the
ERNIE PYLE go our sincere best wishes for
eyes successful missions."

It was a smart looking crew aboard
the Ernie Pyle — the kind of a bunch of Amer-
ican youngsters the laconic writer
would have enjoyed talking to, living
with, riding with. They were kids from
widely scattered states — New York, Penn-
sylvania, New Jersey, Washington, Mass-
achusetts, Missouri, Nebraska, Illinois —
with names such as Lipscomb, Silver,
Bills, Darner, Clark, Huston, Linn, Bell,
Gollin and Newby prefaced by titles from
compral to first lieutenant, eager and
willing to use the knowledge they
have acquired in that final training
course just completed at the Davis Mon-
ton for trollies of 17 and 27. Playing in
that shiny new Superfortress with the name
that means so much to so many, as a per-
fectly integrated, co-ordinated group,
they are ready to avengel.

Tune Written By
Matherite On Air
Program This A.M.

ON THE RADIO PROGRAM — Report to the
Nation — originating in New York City,
the words and music of a brand new song
written by a former first sergeant
were broadcast for the first time over
the Nation this morning at 10:30 A.M.
(PT) (11:30 to WQO GMT). The composer
of the ballad titled "Furlough Time," is F/Sgt.
H. F. Klauer of the 156th
AAB Base Unit here. He was called to
San Francisco to be interviewed over
the station of KFRC and to sing the first
verse of the song at the Palace Hotel
there during the program.

The inspiration for the words of the
new number, which constitute a true
story, came to Klauer, who has been
in the army over three years, while he was
stationed at Atterbury Field, Ala. A friend
of his, who was leaving on furlough,
discussed the trip, its occasion and occurrences so vividly that Klauer felt
compelled to write down the impressions
he received from listening. After making
up a verse and two refrains, one for
man's voice and one for woman's, and
naming the composition, "Furlough Time," he did nothing much further about it,
excepting to play and sing it now
and then for his own or associates' enter-
tainment.

"Last month, a war correspondent,
Capt. J.M. Winchester, passed through
Hather Field," explains Klauer. "I
played and sang the piece for him.
He liked it, contacted CBS in New York,
and here I was — on the air with my brain-
child.

Music is the sergeant's avocation
while he is in service, but before join-
ing up he had written several numbers
and conducted a dance orchestra in
Chicago. His home is in Cassville, Ohio.

WING TIPS