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THE NATIONAL GUARD

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Dear Guardman:

Mr. Beilerdrome of the movie unquestionably is a genius, and so, too, it appears, is my 64-year-old Bob Richardson, The Aurora, Ill., creator of our monthly "Phantom" end of occasional cover illustrations. I heard about a Chicago N-R and p.s. movie publicity contest for people who claimed the title of "genius" because they could do something better than anyone else—maybe it might be at making paper dolls, or maybe not, but as I understand it they all have to demonstrate. Just as I write this, Sergeant Bob is busy with his eight feet in the air, painting his famous "Phantom" design on the side of a cement building. With all due respect, Sergeant Bob, I wish you'd get on with some real business. By the way, I've got a bit of a project of my own in mind. Last night, I had a dream of building a flying saucer. I'm not sure, but maybe I'll go into this as a hobby. I'll write you later about that. My project is to design and build a flying saucer that can travel at the speed of light. I believe it's possible, and I'm determined to make it happen. I'll keep you posted on my progress. Take care, and good luck, Sergeant Bob.

The Staff

The period immediately following the close of hostilities is for the combat soldier, a special time. War's in a state of suspended animation. The explosive energy he must generate in action has to have an outlet and it is too soon to find the right escape valve. Indiscriminately, he turns to conversation. Combat man has become a social being. If you've never been in on a meeting, then by all means relax and read Harold Winiker's "Hot Sunday in Leyte." Winiker, a former newspaperman and now strictly a magazine writer, served five years in the recent war. Most of his Army career centers around the Engineer Boat and Shore Regt. He made two assault landings with the 6th and 7th Infantry Divs. in Luzon; the other at Zembongs in Mindanao. He's contributed to a number of the nation's top magazines and we're glad to have him aboard.

The Staff

Want a bridge built? Call the Engineers! Our cover shot of a crew at the 11th Bridge Co. (C) is throwing a pontoon bridge across a wary stream in the Wood Lake area. Only three of the men ever did such a job before, but they completed the task in two hours and 15 minutes.

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