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A LETTER TO GIs

Since LIFE's Sept. 25 issue appeared, requests for extra copies have poured in from people who wished to mail them to GI friends and employes abroad. LIFE deeply regrets that these requests cannot be filled: the very few extra copies not already sent overseas are earmarked for wounded veterans newly returned to the U. S. LIFE also regrets that its suggestion that readers send their own

copies overseas was unclear as to the postal requirements. Readers may send "A Letter To GIs" to Army personnel with A.P.O. numbers only in a Christmas gift package (deadline is Oct. 15) or after having received a written request from the addressee. For Navy, Coast Guard or Marine personnel outside the U. S., simply wrap in strong paper, label "Magazine" and stamp with 9¢.

LIFE'S PICTURES

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"Oh, I musta been a beautiful baby"



CHIP: Dad, would you say my military bearing is what gives this Munsingwear two-piece job its charm, or does it give me this well-knit look? Before you throw that chair...why do you still stick to a union suit?

BLOCK: Why? Because Winter's coming, son. And the way Munsingwear knits this one-piece garment, it's light and absorbent, snug and warm at one and the same time. Couldn't want better cold-weather protection!



CHIP: Protection? You don't want underwear, Dad, you want insurance! What us modern heroes go for is comfort. Like this boon to mankind... Munsingwear's famous "STRETCHY-SEAT"*. Gives when you give, can't creep or crawl!

BLOCK: Well, son, I can see where "STRETCHY-SEAT" has plenty of basic appeal...but I'm going to keep the home fires burning in this good old union suit. The important thing, as I see it, is: Wear Munsingwear, and be well-knit!

The seat alone is worth the price of admission

MUNSINGWEAR
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
STRETCHY-SEAT underwear for men
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2-DAY-OLD RHINOCEROS SNUGGLES AGAINST HIS MOTHER'S SQUAMOUS SIDE. SECOND OFFSPRING OF MARY AND PHARAOH RHINOCEROS, ROBERT RHINOCEROS IS VALUED AT \$4,500

FECUNDITY IN THE CHICAGO ZOO

Its population is swelled by four births in 24 hours

In one 24-hour period Sept. 18-19, four herbivorous mothers in Chicago's Brookfield Zoo delivered themselves of offspring. The arrivals were: a 45-lb. baby rhinoceros, a 100-lb. baby zebra, a 35-lb. baby kudu and a nine-lb. baby gazelle. "Never in my 50 years of experience around zoos," chortled Zoo Director Edward Bean, "have I seen anything like it. The birth of any one of the four would have been unusual enough—but to get all four of them in one day!"

Although extraordinary for their variety and concurrence in time, Brookfield's multifarious births exemplify the solution U. S. zoos have found for their problem of wartime maintenance. Since exotic importations from Asia, Africa and even South America have been curtailed by lack of safaris and shipping space, zoomen have been encouraging intramural procreation. Single males and females are shipped from zoo to zoo for breeding purposes, or swapped outright as needs arise. Philadelphia, for example, traded an orangutan to Washington in return for a pygmy hippo and a male gaur (a kind of nasty Asiatic ox). Contrary to popular belief, most captive animals are easily bred. Lions are virtually a drug on the market today and in some zoos the monkey birth rate is reaching an all-time high.

Food problems in the average American zoo are analogous to those in the average American home. Owing to the banana shortage, monkeys must get along these days on sweet potatoes, prunes and vitamin pills. Birds formerly accustomed to a diet of imported Japanese ant eggs now thrive on dried Mexican flies. Pandas, notorious for their addiction to bamboo shoots from China and Japan, have been successfully weaned to Florida bamboo. Flamingos, whose favorite dish is Norwegian shrimp, appear content today with the domestic variety. Carnivores reared on beef get horse meat. Some gagged at first, but all of them ultimately accepted this new fare. When, as an experiment, the Bronx Zoo put them back on beef the animals again balked, thus proving, according to a spokesman for the Zoo, that lions and tigers prefer consistency to quality in their diets. For Brookfield Zoo's new arrivals there will be no feeding problems. All are currently in the nursing stage.



Robert R. (for Ringling) Rhinoceros is three-toed, nearsighted, sharp-eared and gnat-brained. Gentle now, he will be irascible as an adult, may live 50 years, during which period he will consume about 800 tons of hay, oats, bread and vegetables. Gestation of rhinos: 14 to 15 months.



"QUIT SNOOPING... YOU SNOOP!"

War Conscience: Never mind the sass, Sis — snooping is my business! Because *I* am your Wartime Conscience and it's *my* job to keep you doing your wartime duty.

Woman: Well, I like that! Are you calling



me a slacker? I'll have you know I write my soldier every single day and what's more I write *V-Mail* like the Army and Navy wants us to — to save space . . . and if more people did as much . . .



War Conscience: Hold on, my little bundle of T.N.T.—In your case it isn't *when* or *how* you write, it's *what* you're writing! "Rationing's such trouble" . . . "can't find

a maid anywhere" . . .! Don't you know you ought to be building up his morale? Write cheerful stuff and keep complaints to yourself. You ought to be ashamed!

Woman: And *you* ought to be keeping that needle nose out of things you don't understand. Telling *me* to be cheerful. When I can't even enjoy a cup of coffee without it keeps me awake. One cup, one *teensy* cup, and I never relaxed an eyelash all night! Go away. Go pick on somebody else!

War Conscience: My, my, we *are* upset, aren't we! Wonder how come nobody's suggested Sanka Coffee to you before?



Woman: Sanka Coffee? What for?

War Conscience: Because Sanka Coffee is a coffee that's 97% caffeine-free! Can't keep anyone awake! What's more . . . this Sanka Coffee's just the kind of full-bodied, flavorful coffee every tender young coffee bean *dreams* of becoming. But don't take my word for it. Try it! Something tells me, once you've started sleeping nights, Sis, you and I won't have *nearly* so much trouble getting along!

SANKA COFFEE
97% CAFFEIN-FREE . . . DRINK IT AND SLEEP
A product of General Foods

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New Kate Smith Hour
NOW ON SUNDAY EVENING
CBS Network, 7 p.m. EWT
Check your local paper for
time and station.



Mother gazelle nuzzles her knock-kneed daughter Tiny. Baby weighs 11 lb., measures 14 inches from nose to tip of tail. Gazelles are daintiest of all antelope family.



Baby gazelle has difficulty maneuvering on her slender legs. Indigenous to Asia and Africa, gazelles are plains animals, grazers, noted for their grace and lustrous eyes.

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Baby kudu has eccentric stripes like his mother, will ultimately grow a set of spirally twisted horns like his father. Kudus have fabulous hearing, can outrun all pursuers.



Mother and baby zebra sport their pin-striped suits in autumn sunlight. Zebras are African members of horse family. They have long ears, short manes, short tempers.