

On the Line

With **CONSIDINE**

New York, Sept. 10.—Lieut. Comdr. Roland Logan, who was trainer of the Boston Red Sox, and the West Point, Pittsburgh and George Washington University grid teams, as well as personal trainer for Glenn Cunningham, is back in the United States. After 13 months of duty in the South Pacific.



Logan, a good-looking, muscular little guy whose nick-name is "Kick-Apoo," succeeded Lieut. Comdr. Jim Crowley as chief of the largest recreation center in the South Pacific. It was located in the New Hebrides—affectionately known to our fighting men out there as the He-Brides—and took care of 5000 men a day.

It was a remarkable investment in the morale of fighting men. It cost the Government about \$250,000, one of the largest sums ever expended for anything as ephemeral as the state of a boy's mind and muscles. It paid rich dividends.

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Mrs. Roosevelt, when she visited the establishment, called it "the Coney Island of the South Pacific," but that wasn't quite apt. Admiral Nimitz hit it a little closer when he said, "This place is worth five battleships."

Battle-scarred warships, filled with war-weary and restless men, have been ordered to put in at the place—to give the boys a breather, let them play at some games, drink some beer, eat ice cream, or just lie on the lawns and look up at the sky.

Among the sports celebrities who brought men to the center were Comdr. Tom Hamilton, Comdr. Gene Tunney, Comdr. Sam Barry, Chief Fred Apostoli, Lieut. Wellington Mara (part owner of the New York football Giants), Lieut. Jim Poole, Lieut. George Sauer, Lieut. Babe Le Vois, Lieut. George Swenson, Lieut. Hal Schumacher, Chief Bob Feller, Maj. Sam Francis and hosts of others.

Men like that know the value of sports. More jangled nerves were straightened out at the center, more cases of "battle anxiety" were cured and more homesickness evaporated there (and still does) than any spot in the ocean they call Pacific.

It saw sights, including a football game that started at 5:30 a. m., to beat the heat, and the bug-eyed reunions among buddies who believed each other dead.

"We couldn't have done it without the Seabees, Gob bless them," Logan tells me. "They built just about everything, though some of the fields were laid out by hard working boys in other branches. But the Seabees are tops, in my book. One day about seven months ago two admirals came by and said they wished we had a golf course. That's all. Three weeks later the Seabees finished a swell 9-holer."

The most popular game on the island is softball, followed by basketball, then boxing, hardball, football and tennis.

Logan will be sent next to Sampson (N. Y.) Naval Training Center for a four-week course in physical training rehabilitation, and then report to a large West Coast hospital as rehabilitation director. To my mind that's making wonderful use of a man's talents.

Inasmuch as Winchell continues to ignore it, we think we should let you know that Whirlaway is expecting 29 sons and daughters between next February and May.

Great Lakes Training Center is going to have another crack football team. The club this year will be coached by Lieut. (j.g.) Paul E. Brown, the former high school coach who was a sensation at Ohio State.

The team is using the T-Formation right at the moment, because it was the system in vogue when Brown took over as head coach from Lieut. Comdr. Paul (Tony) Hinkle. However, Brown is going to put in the old Ohio State offense—single wing with a shift either to the right or left.

The club will bristle with college stars from all over the country, including several Notre Dame boys whose otherwise perfect record was spoiled last year by Great Lakes.