SOIL SCIENTISTS SET STAGE FOR D-DAY

Here, as far as the soil scientists were concerned the story ended. When the real trip was to be made they did not know. But one day a two-word telephone message was received—"No samples." And they knew the beach was safe.—Parks & Sports Grounds, London.

A Letter From Bud Ward

Capt. M. H. (Bud) Ward, who's with a fighter wing of the Army Air Force in the Pacific, writes:

"Just finished reading your November Esquire Sports Poll on the golfing future of pros in the service. I'm writing this just as though you and I were bending elbows at Tam.

"The article makes interesting reading, but I think the boys are kidding themselves about one angle of the effect of war service on golf. When the boys are stationed in the States I'll lay money they are playing better than before. In the first place they don't get over-golfed.

"I enlisted in December, 1941, and I won plenty of tournaments while I was in the States because I was playing just the amount I wanted to. Remember Tam in '42? I never played better in my life. Believe it or not, I was eight shots ahead of Nelson on my match rounds.

"The proof of the pudding is Snead, who wins in tournament golf right off the bat. He didn't get out of practice or over-golfed at San Diego.

"As far as Army physical training helping golf, that's the bunk. The only thing that helps golf games is golf. I worked a year in P. T. for the best in the country, Burt De Groot, and I was in the best shape of my life—but not for golf.

"What does a golfer need? Nerves? Fire, flying, and brother, they've got plenty of those. What a guy would give for a steak, milk or vegetables over here! The guys returning GI will give a damn who wins tournaments. One and two pills a day to keep the Army and Navy will perform according to where they were stationed and the life they led in service. I don't think the returning GI will give a damn who wins the tournaments. He'll be too busy trying to grab some happiness—and a job.

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