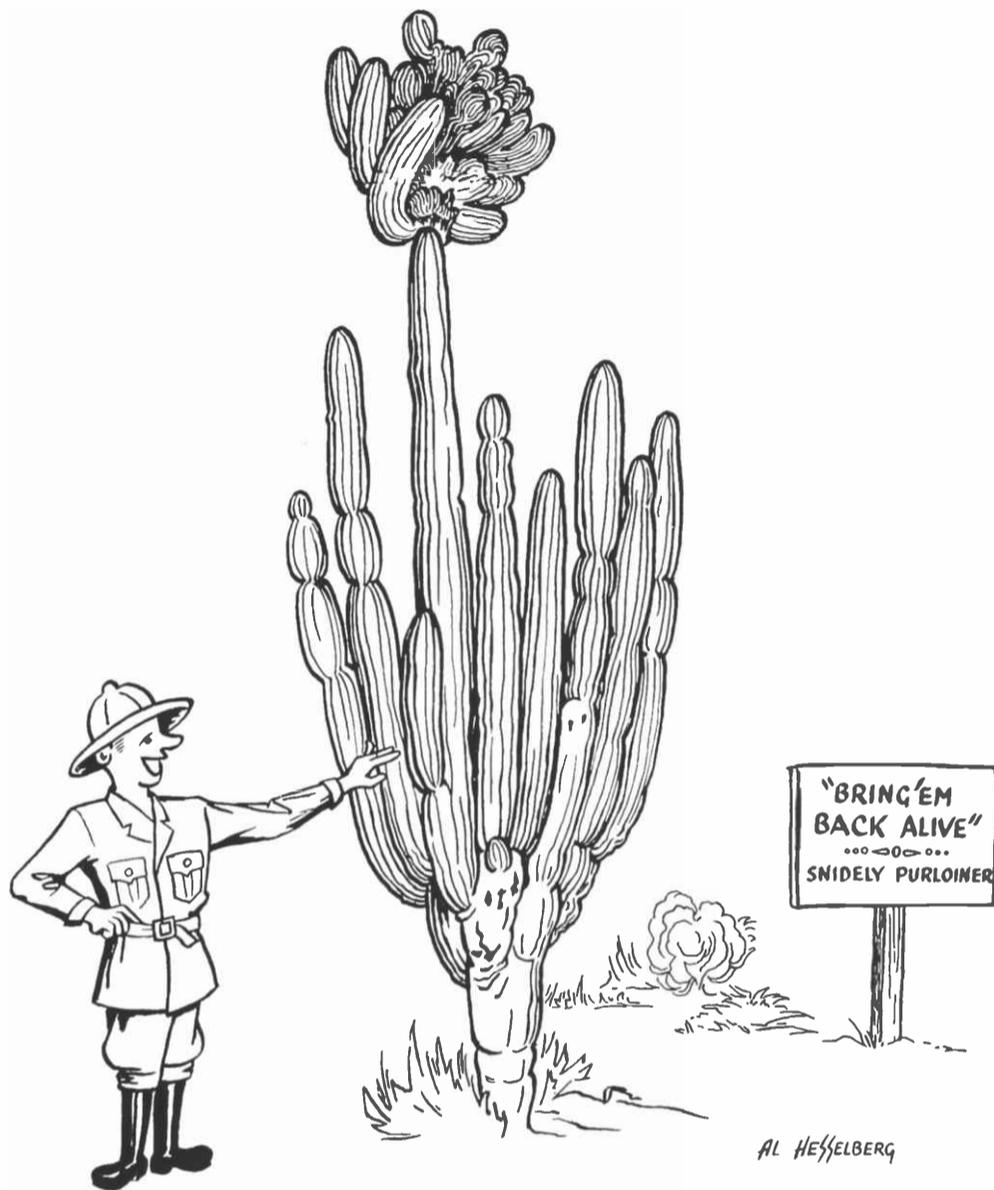


Border Bug Battle



As you drive down Highway 15, south of Hermosillo, you see a Saguaro which looks like it had been crossed with an organ pipe cactus, with many stems coming from one base. In Baja California there was one of these, *pachycerous pringlei*, which was crested. It was admired by travelers for years, then was gone. Plant inspectors found that it had entered through Calexico, Calif., arrested and fined the San Diego cactus collector who was proudly displaying it.

"Food For Peace" Extended 2 Years

New Public Law 480 legislation — the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954, since amended — was passed by Congress last fall, extending this law through 1967 and 1968. As amended, it will

continue and can increase the large flow of U. S. farm products to other countries.

Amendments tacked onto this extension of the 12-year-old law give it more flexibility to expand exports, and to foster the agriculture and total economy of developing countries.

The new food act differs from the earlier one in several objectives. Chiefly they are:

1) Self-help efforts are now linked

USDA Sterilization Program Is Stopping Mexican Fruit Flies

Sterilized flies have been used in place of insecticides for the third year to prevent Mexican fruit fly infestations from becoming established in the United States.

Fruit flies, reared in a U.S. Department of Agriculture plant at Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico, were sterilized by exposure to Cobalt 60 radiation and released in target areas near plants attractive to wild flies. Cooperating in the campaign are USDA's Agricultural Research Service and the Departments of Agriculture in Mexico, California, and Arizona.

The sterile technique involves releasing artificially reared and sterilized insects into infested areas to mate with wild flies of the species. Eggs from these matings do not hatch. Weekly releases of the sterile insects in the border area of northwestern Mexico prevent establishment of flies that emerge from host fruits brought to the target area from interior Mexico.

This destructive fruit fly has been a continuing threat to fruit and vegetable production in Arizona and California. Before scientists developed the sterility technique, annual insecticide treatments were applied to keep the pest out of the United States.

In 1966, slightly more than 20 million flies were reared, sterilized, and flown to target areas. There were 29 releases in Tijuana, Mex., 8 at Ensenada, Mex., and 6 at Nogales, Ariz.

to food aid. Recipient countries will be expected to show they are taking steps to increase per capita food output and to improve storage and marketing facilities for farm products.

2) The range of commodities is no longer limited to surplus items. This means that almost any foods can be produced to meet needs abroad as long as aid exports do not pre-empt domestic needs, carryover and dollar export supplies.

3) Nutritional content of food aid will come in for special emphasis.

4) Sales for local currencies are to be phased out by Dec. 31, 1971, where practicable. Long-term dollar credit agreements will be substituted in most cases.