



With the Colors

April 16,
1943

Sergeant James Lee Diel writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James R. Diel of Newton from Camp Hoffman, North Carolina, where he is in the parachute infantry: "This is Saturday noon and I'm just starting from Monroe to see Dan (Private Daniel Diel, his brother). I got back from Washington, Wednesday, and I sure enjoyed the trip. I wrote you a card from there but I don't know whether you've received it or not.

"I will finish Jumpmaster school next week and it's quite a job. We jumped last week and I jumped one plane load; never had a bit of trouble. I had the pilot come into the field upwind, took my panel, shoved out the equipment shutes and jumped the men and much to my surprise I got them all on the field.

"Captain Fobel is still with us and the same old captain. I sent you a copy of our monthly magazine published by the 506th Parachute battalion. It seems to be a good magazine and will give you a good idea of what we are doing."

His address is Sergeant James Lee Diel, 506th Parachute Infantry, Camp Hoffman, North Carolina.

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Private Benjamin Fuller Franke writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Fuller Franke of Newton under date of April 1: "Well I ended up where I expected—in North Africa. I am feeling fine and the climate here is o. k. You know we are limited on what we can say, so I can't tell you a word about the trip across. I met a boy here from Lawrenceville, the first person I've met in the Army, who was from any place close to home.

"I have seen a lot of Arabs and there are plenty of citrus fruit trees here but I haven't had any fruit yet."

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Mr. and Mrs. John F. Weber of Newton are in receipt of a letter from their son, Private John F. "Bud" Weber Jr., who has been in North Africa with the United States Army Air Forces, stating that he was leaving in a few days for Jerusalem, Palestine, where he expected to visit Father Paschal, O. F. M., at the Franciscan monastery and school. Father Paschal (Frank Kinsel) is a son of Mrs. John F. Kinsel and a brother of A. J. Kinsel of Newton.

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Charles E. Geltz, seaman first class, United States Navy, came Sunday evening to spend a two day furlough with his mother, Mrs. Joseph Geltz and family of Sainte Marie. He had just gotten back from his third trip to Africa. He returned to New York, Tuesday night, and on his return will be promoted to petty officer third class.

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Roy Stanley Jr., who has been visiting his grand-mother, Mrs. W. H. Stanley of Newton for several days,

has gone to Springfield for a short visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy F. Stanley and family. He is stationed at the United States Naval Air Station at Jacksonville, Florida.

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Ensign Scott Cummins, United States Navy, has been visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Emery S. Cummins of Willow Hill, this week. He was called here by the death of his uncle, Walter T. Laws at Chicago, whose funeral was held at Mound Methodist church, Thursday.

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Private Donnace "Toots" Emery left Wednesday morning for Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, after a ten day furlough with his father, Frank Emery of Newton. He is second cook in Company C, 372nd Engineer regiment, Camp Claiborne, and wants his friends to write to him.

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Private Bertrand Richards is spending a few days furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Richards of Newton. He is stationed at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, and acts as organist for several chaplains at the regular Sunday and midweek services.

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Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Woodard of Montrose vicinity have two sons in the United States Army, Charles E. Woodard, somewhere in Northern Africa, and Ralph Eugene Woodard in air cadet training at San Antonio, Texas.

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Corporal Delbert W. Simpson has been transferred from Columbus, South Carolina, to Nashville, Tennessee. His address is Company A, 693rd Quartermaster battalion, APO 402, Nashville, Tennessee.

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Private Paul W. Vanatta, son of Mr. and Mrs. Merl C. Vanatta of Rose Hill, is now in the AAF college training detail (air crew), Duquesne Air Base, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

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Howard B. Riley has been transferred from Sheppard field, Texas, to Knoxville, Tennessee, where he will take a six months' course in the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

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Private John Howard Ross writes his wife at Newton that he is now in Iran (Persia), and that he is well and feeling fine. He has been overseas for several months.