



With the Colors

Apr. 6, 1943

Dewey L. Resch writes the Press from the United States Naval Training Station at Farragut, Idaho: "I will write a few lines to let you know where I am now. We left Chicago, Thursday, March 18, and arrived in Farragut, Idaho, Saturday, March 19. This station is located in the northern part of Idaho and about sixty miles from Spokane, Washington. It is about a year old and not in very good condition yet.

"The station is divided into five camps, Ward, Hill, Scott, Bennion, and Waldron. We have a large parade ground in the center of each camp, which is called the "grinder." New recruits are sure coming in fast but the companies don't seem to be graduating as fast as they come in.

"The station is surrounded by high mountains, which still have snow on them, and there is supposed to be a large lake somewhere, but I haven't seen it yet.

"We go on schedule tomorrow, but don't know yet when we will graduate. It has been raining here for about three days, and we have seen the sun only once since we were here. I will enclose my address for the benefit of my friends.

"The Navy life is fine, which includes plenty of sleep and plenty of food. I hope that all my friends write because it sure will be good to receive letters."

His address is Dewey L. Resch A. S., Company 194-43, Camp Ward, U. S. N. T. S., Farragut, Idaho.

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Corporal Virgil Bliss, who is somewhere in Alaska, writes: "Just a line. I would like for you to send me the Press for six months. I don't think it will be necessary for you to send it any longer as I plan on being home by that time; at least it's a great plan, isn't it.

"Things in this part of the world are looking very good to us. There is nothing I can tell you about this country, weather or the kind of work we are doing; nevertheless, it is all very necessary to our winning this war.

"I have been intending to go see Lieutenant Arnold Colpitts but he has been out every time I go to see him. We would have something in common to talk about. Dear old Newton! Gosh it will be swell to see old Jasper county again.

"I understand you have been having some cold weather there. Maybe this isn't so bad after all."

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Private Donald L. Cramer, who is in training at Chillicothe, Missouri, writes: "Just recently I read in the Press a report on the Red Cross and War Bond drives. May I congratulate you in that splendid work.

"It might be interesting to you to know that we soldiers, too, make regular savings in bonds, pay income taxes and even this past week this detachment contributed to a program sponsored by the local Red Cross. I spent nine weeks at the reception center, helping soldiers to make applications for government insurance, family allotments, and War Bonds. Approximately ninety per cent of all soldiers subscribed for bonds, depending upon the amount of their dependents.

"I'm quite thankful and pleased for the attitude and cooperation of all the folks back home. Knowing that the

people of the home front are behind the Army one hundred per cent, I'm quite sure that all the soldiers, wherever they may be, representing Jasper county, can work on with more determination and be willing to face to a finish whatever may come.

"Again may I congratulate and urge you to continue the good work. We can depend on you and you on us."

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Corporal Melvin H. Foster, who is in Australia, writes his mother, Mrs. Edward Foster of near Newton: "I am o. k. I received your letter yesterday, the second one I received. Summer is nearly over here but that don't make much difference; winters are hot. This is a pretty country with mountains, hills and streams of clear water and clear, cool air at night. There are miles of pasture land with cattle, horses, sheep, kangaroos and ostriches. They feed hogs sweet potatoes and pumpkins, no corn.

"We use pounds, shillings and pence here for money. Most people ride bicycles. There are no cars. People drive on the left side of the road and the steering wheel is on the right side. They have a bird here they called the Laughing Jackass that can make more noise than any bird I ever saw."