



## With the Colors Dec. 10, 1943

Corporal Charles Schackmann, who is a code man in the Army Air Force, writes his grand-mother, Mrs. Ella Schackmann of Newton, from British Guiana, South America: "I'm in British Guiana, South America. The base is really nice. Of course, we have a little jungle around, but its no worse than the swamp around Homestead, Florida.

"I expected to find mud knee-deep since the rainy season has begun, but instead, it is all sand. The foliage grows abundantly in it, though. I'm in the nicest barracks I have ever been in since I have been in the Army. The food is good and maybe I'll get fat.

"I'm having a heck of a time learning the British money system. It is really complicated. They won't let us send any of it home, so I will bring some of it back with me.

"Tell the folks to write to me and I'll answer. Mail means a little more to us than it did before." His address may be obtained from Mrs. Schackmann.

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Corporal Ferdinand L. Hartrich, now in Italy, writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ferd Hartrich of Sainte Marie, under date of November 17.

"The man who called this country, 'Sunny Italy,' didn't see what we've seen these last few months. The mud is so deep and so slick one can hardly stand up.

"When a guy has to make a fast dive for his foxhole, he has to be darn careful so as not to drown, for every hole is full of water. My buddy and I got a few fence posts and an old tarpaulin, and rigged ourselves up a 'house,' and we are sleeping dry now. Sometimes we wonder if we will ever sleep in a clean bed or put our feet under a table and eat a meal like a white man again.

"We hope we will be with you next Christmas. That's a long way off, but even that seems grand. This Christmas we will be thinking of you all."

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Madison, Wisconsin, December 8.—  
A young Naval ensign now on the high seas became godfather by proxy when Pamela Jane Scott, infant daughter of Staff Sergeant and Mrs. Dorris E. Scott of Truax field, was baptized recently in one of the chapels at the post, an Army Air Forces Training Command radio school.

The ensign is Dale L. "Deke" Huddleston, high school friend in Newton, Illinois, of the Scotts and Mrs. Scott's sister, Miss Norma Jean Westendorf, who stood as godmother.

Private First Class Martin Kinkann of Truax field acted as proxy for the seaman. The baptism, performed by Chaplain Ronald C. Reny, was his first on this field.

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Recruits at the United States Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Illinois, include two Jasper county boys. They are now receiving instruction in seamanship, military drill and naval procedure, and soon they will be given a series of aptitude tests for determining whether they will be assigned to one of the Navy's service schools, or to immediate active duty at sea.

Upon completing their recruit training, these men will be home on a nine-day leave. They are: James Harold Dunnigan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold U. Dunnigan and Earl Dean Kirk, son of Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Kirk of Newton.

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Corporal Noah Bunton, who is in

England with an Armored division, writes his brother, Joseph Bunton Jr. of near Newton: "I received your letter yesterday (November 14) and thought I'd better answer. I'm doing all right. It's been pretty damp and cold here most of the time. I suppose it's getting kind of cold back there now. I received a Christmas box from Gerald Bunton the other day. I wish you'd get me a fountain pen if you can and send it to me."

*Dec. 10, 1943*  
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Two brothers, First Lieutenant Leland E. Conley and Private First Class Donovan Conley of Newton, recently met somewhere in the Southwest Pacific. Lieutenant Conley is a medical administrative officer and Don is in a bomber squadron, based in New Guinea. They wrote their parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Conley of Newton, that they were well. They hadn't seen each other for many months.

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Private Robert D. Ferguson writes from Camp Hulen, Texas, where he has been transferred recently. He adds: "We are spending a moderate winter here in Texas. However it rains quite often as is to be expected, being on the Gulf of Mexico. It is very seldom cool enough for a coat."

His address is Private Robert D. Ferguson, Battery A, 587th AAA AW battalion, Camp Hulen, Texas.

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Mrs. John S. Wright of Newton received a cablegram from her husband, Lieutenant Wright, Thursday morning announcing his "safe arrival." The message didn't say where he was but it is believed he is in Italy. He had been in England for several months and was recently transferred to a Signal Corps unit.

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Coxswain Frank Worthey is spending a twenty-one day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Worthey of Newton. He recently met John Connor of Newton on the Pacific coast. Since the beginning of the war, Frank has participated in several sea battles against the Japs.

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Clarence Fulk, seaman second class, United States Navy, is spending a furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alva Fulk of South Muddy township. He has been at Great Lakes Naval Training Station. He has been boxing.

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Private and Mrs. Todd Fouty left Wednesday after spending a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam J. Fouty of near Yale. Todd is in training at the University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio, taking special work for the Army.

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Ennis Frazier, son of Mr. and Mrs. Grover Frazier of Gila vicinity, who enlisted in the Air Corps a few weeks ago, left recently for Fort Sheridan. He will then be sent to Keesler field, Biloxi, Mississippi, where he will take up training to become a pilot in the Air Forces.

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Corporal Sam Ragsdale is spending a few days' furlough with his father, Albert E. Ragsdale of Wheeler, and taking advantage of the quail season. He is stationed at Fort McClellan, Alabama.

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Sergeant Earl Huff, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Huff of Newton, has been transferred to the Sixty-sixth Mess squadron at Lowry field, Colorado. He is a cook.

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John A. Connor is now a gunner's mate aboard a destroyer in the Pacific area. He has been in school at San Diego, California, until recently.