



With the Colors

Dec. 21, 1943

Private First Class Charles W. Spelbring, son of Mr. and Mrs. U. O. Spelbring of Newton vicinity, recently completed advanced ground combat crew training at the Army Air Forces Western Training Command school at Northrop Aircraft Company, Hawthorn, California. This is one of the special aircraft factory schools in the command's Los Angeles civilian schools area.

He has been transferred to an Army Air Forces station for active service, taking his place in the vast army of expert technicians who keep our combat planes in fighting trim. Previously he had qualified as an Army Air Forces technician through general airplane mechanic training at a Technical Training Command school. He was especially chosen for the advanced course.

Prior to his technical instruction he had received basic military training at one of the basic training centers of the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command.

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The members of Battery D, 197th Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons battalion at Camp Pickett, Virginia, send greetings to the folks back home. The greeting, signed by Captain Tom Chappelle, First Lieutenants John J. Harvey, Frank J. Hess and Sidney S. Sperling, and Second Lieutenants Ney Oldham, Lyle D. Littell, Horace H. Meday, John G. Richardson and Carlos S. Kissinger, is as follows:

"All the members of Battery D, 197th AAA AW battalion join us in a wish to you for a very Merry Christmas and hope for a victorious New Year.

"We are very proud of the fine job you and others are doing at home and we feel deeply indebted to you. So, to one and all, thanks a million.

"It is our sincere hope that it will not be long before we are back with you."

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Private Adam Reisner writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Reisner of near Falmouth from New Guinea: "I am all right and hope you are all as well as common. I received your Christmas box in fine shape. We had a real party here in the tent that night, as there were several boxes that arrived that day.

"We had a good meal for Thanksgiving supper. We had 140 pounds of turkey for the company. I suppose we will have another on Christmas. We then went to a USO show presented by the movie actors and actresses Una Merkel, Phyllis Brooks and Gary Cooper in person. They were the first white women I had seen for nearly seven months. Most of the boys have been here for eleven months. We hope it won't be that long again but you never know."

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Rev. L. W. Hostetter of Shelbyville and his son, Technical Sergeant Joseph Hostetter, who is in the Anti-aircraft Artillery at Trowbridge, Texas, were in Newton, Monday. The Rev. Mr. Hostetter was pastor of the First Baptist church at Newton several years ago.

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Sergeant Loren Harvey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mose Harvey, is here on a short delayed furlough from a Texas air field, where he has completed training as an aerial gunner. Ser-

geant Harvey is a top turret gunner on a Flying Fortress and has completed all the required parachute training, including one jump landing in the Gulf of Mexico.

He will report early in January to Presidio, California, and will join the Southwest Pacific Air Force Command.

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Dale E. and Harry Lee Carlson, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Marion Carlson, formerly of Hidalgo, who attended the Newton Community high school, are now in the armed forces, and would be glad to hear from their many friends in Jasper county. Their addresses are as follows:

Private First Class Dale E. Carlson, 1137 ATC School Squadron, Camp Luna, New Mexico.

Harry Lee Carlson, apprentice seaman, U. S. M. S. T. S., B5, G60, Brooklyn, New York.

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Kennedy's Service Station of Newton wishes all the boys in the service a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. There are eighteen former employes in the armed forces:

Paul, James and Lawrence Rubsam, LaVerl Kennedy, Herschel Jones, John Howard Ross, Scott Ross, Stanley Robards, Robert Dhom, Fay Bixler, Ray Williams, James Laugel, Paul Jones, William Robards, Dale Boxley, Harry Long, Paul Jean Reep, and Harry Toland.

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Gordon Warfel, electrician's mate third class, United States Navy, spent a few days' furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Omer Warfel of near Newton. He has been in the Pacific area.

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Garland "Mike" Williams, seaman second class, United States Navy, writes his wife at Newton that he has been transferred to a new base in Australia. He would be glad to hear from his friends.

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Private First Class Grover E. Weck Jr. writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Grover Weck of Newton, that he is well and feeling fine. He is somewhere in the Hawaiian islands.

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Once again the Press calls attention to the fact that addresses of men overseas are omitted at the request of the War and Navy Departments for the safety of the men themselves.

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Harold R. McCoy, who enlisted with the aviation cadets, left Sunday for Fort Sheridan. He goes from there to Greensboro, North Carolina, for training.

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Aviation Cadet Howard Riley is spending the Christmas holidays with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. D. H. Riley of Newton. He has been in training at Maxwell field, Alabama.

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Mr. and Mrs. William Volk of Bogota vicinity, received a cablegram from their son, Private First Class Cornelius Volk, who is in Australia, wishing them a Merry Christmas.

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