



With the Dec. 24, Colors 1943

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde E. Correll of Kenosha, Wisconsin, former Jasperites, send a letter from their son, Master Sergeant James E. Correll, who has been located somewhere in the Canal Zone for the past two years:

"It begins to look like rain. It never fools around in this country. When it looks like rain it generally does; so I decided I'd better adjourn to the office to finish this letter. Can yap more and say less on the typewriter.

"Thanks for the clipping, re Raymond Hamilton. He's been with that Infantry school a long time now, hasn't he? It is a good deal, I guess. I certainly never have heard anything bad about it. They only send specially qualified officers, those who show exceptional leadership, etc. I wish I had known the guy was going to talk—would have tuned in to see what he had to say.

"I just got back from Guatemala City and the Galapagos islands. Was much too busy to do any sight seeing. There isn't much to see anymore I guess. It's all pretty old stuff now. Had some time on my hands the last time was in Guatemala though and went to Antigua for a couple of days. It's an old town, established somewhere back in the fifteen hundreds. The people being very religious built a church on nearly every block: not the small churches as we know them but mammoth affairs covering maybe one or two city blocks.

"In sixteen some odd, the earthquake hit the place and most all of them are now ruins. However, there are a couple of them still standing; they are the smaller ones, all the larger ones having been shaken to the ground by the quake. I saw one that had been built in 1540, had never been touched since then and was still in as good a state of repair as if it had been completed yesterday. Even the paint used in some of the inscriptions on the doors, etc., still just as bright as ever. It was a nice and also educational trip. The food was excellent and I had one of the nicest hotel rooms (three of them) you have ever been in. The hotel bill including food was seven sixty-five for two days. I paid up very quietly and got out of there quick before I fell over.

"The islands are quite nice too although I never have had the time to do much sightseeing around there. They are mostly of volcanic origin and one wonders just how stable they are. There is still an active volcano on one of the islands that cuts loose frequently. I found out more about the place from articles in the National Geographic than I ever did from being there. The Galapagos islands—alias the rock—the latter fits it better than the former, believe me.

"Mostly these South American and Central American towns are all alike. After a year and three months in Salinas, Ecuador, I guess I've seen them all. I made one trip to Guayquil and one to Quito while in Ecuador. Didn't see anything outstanding except a myriad of shoe shine boys; those kids would shine all the leather off your shoes, given half a chance. They will shine you up once then run around the block quick and catch you on the next corner and want to do the job all over again.

"I guess the thing I liked about Ecuador most was the Andes mountains. You never have seen really high mountains until you have seen those. Quito sets in the heart of them. The city is about 8,000 feet above sea level and there are mountains all around the place that tower up as much as 20,000 feet. They are snow capped too! There are a couple pretty tall ones around Guatemala City, just under 15,000 feet, but by comparison they look like babies."

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Mr. and Mrs. Ona M. King of Falmouth received letters from their son, Lieutenant Daniel Wayne King, who is in Italy, piloting a Mitchell B-25 twin engine bomber. He is also captain of his ship. In it he states that he is o. k. and that on November 30 he built a stove that burns fuel oil to warm the house for himself and five others who live in "what is supposed to be a house (Italian version). It isn't so bad though and it beats a tent. The other night when I started this letter the Italian lamp we had looked like a smudge pot.

"There was soot all over my letter. Tonight we have a light that compares to our Aladdin lamps back home. We have it hanging in the center of our room. Any place in here one can see to read or write. There are twelve of us in here now. Four of the fellows are playing bridge; some are looking on.

"There are six of us living in here, all commissioned, so you see mom we

fair pretty well. Someone is always thinking up a wise crack. So don't worry about me and keep the rest of my packages until I get home. Mom don't worry about me for all the worrying anyone can do won't help. And to know that you aren't worrying about me will help me to finish my job sooner.

"I must sign off now by saying Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to one and all."

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Corporal William L. Lobmier writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Lobmier of Newton vicinity:

"I am down here in the Southwest Pacific. We had a long trip of it. I will now tell you where I was the first time I left the states. We were on the Hawaiian islands for around a month. That was a wonderful place to be.

"November 14 we left for where we are now. We landed here on November 24 and on the 28th our Bomber squadron was out dropping bombs, and I mean dropping them. We are sure messing things up for those Japs. The first thing we did when we arrived was to dig our fox holes. My tent is within fifty feet of the ocean and hot. It is around 120 in the shade, although of nights sleeping is good.

"We had turkey for Thanksgiving, with all the trimmings. The food is good at all times. I would like to tell a lot more but I am going to wait until I get home.

"Papers and magazines are scarcer than money down here. I have received a Newton Press since I got here, dated October 15. I want to wish all my friends and neighbors a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

His address may be obtained from his parents.

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In a recent letter written to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Brooks of near Newton, Kenneth Brooks, fireman third class, United States Navy, who is on a sub chaser somewhere in the Pacific, says:

"I thought I would write you a letter while I had a chance to mail it. I am feeling better than I have for a long time. I weigh 175 and none of it is fat either. I have been in the engine room so long, I haven't a bit of tan. It sure gets hot here too.

"I got eight Presses this week. Boy, they sure had a lot of news in them, and I sure like to get them. Did you folks hear about the storm that struck the west coast? Well we were in it. We thought for a while our ship was sure going over, as it had just about all it could take. We grabbed our life belts and made ready, but we finally made it through all right. I must close for now. Many thanks for the Christmas box."

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Marion Kinder, seaman second class, United States Navy, writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Kinder of Newton, that he has been transferred from Farragut, Idaho, to the Naval Aviation Ordnance Technical Training center at Norman, Oklahoma, to attend school there. He says he is feeling fine and wishes everyone a Merry Christmas.

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Mr. and Mrs. Bert Ward and children Bert Jr. and Sally spent the week end at Murray, Kentucky, with their son and brother, Aviation Cadet Don Ward. He has completed his eleven weeks of training at Murray State Teachers' college and leaves this week for Russellville, Arkansas, to receive his WTS training at a Naval Air Station.

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George Bevis is spending a seven day furlough at home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy L. Bevis of Newton. He is in the Naval contingent at Indiana State Teachers' college at Terre Haute.

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Lewis H. Jenkins Jr. of the United States Navy at Portsmouth, Virginia, is spending a furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis H. Jenkins of West Liberty.

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Glenn Sunderland Jr., who is in the Naval contingent at Wesleyan university, Bloomington, is spending Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn H. Sunderland of Newton.

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Sergeant and Mrs. Delmar Lawler are visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Clark of Newton, during the Christmas holidays and with Rev. and Mrs. E. L. Lawler of Bridgeport.

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Private Raymond Swisher is spending a furlough at Newton. He is in a Military Police company, which has been guarding Italian war prisoners in Tennessee and Mississippi.

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Captain Harve Jourdan Jr., United States Army Medical Corps, is spending a leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harve Jourdan of near Newton. He is stationed in Texas.

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Corporal Donald Woodrow Wilson of Camp Barkeley, Texas, is spending the holidays with his parents, Mr.

and Mrs. Merl Wilson of Jewett vicinity.

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A telegram was received by Mr. and Mrs. Everett Hampton of Hidalgo from their son, Paul Hampton, stating that he was back in the United States and would soon be home. Paul has been on Guadalcanal for a long time and has seen some hard fighting. What a nice Christmas present for Mr. and Mrs. Hampton.

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Wilbur Mulvaney, seaman first class, United States Navy, has been transferred from Farragut, Idaho, to San Francisco, and will be sent to sea.

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Louis Edward Roberts of near Willow Hill is home after having been given an honorable discharge from the United States Navy.

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Private Joe Lloyd Monroney is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Monroney of Yale vicinity. He is stationed at Camp Atterbury, Indiana.