



With the Colors

Feb. 5, 1943

Gerald Michl, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Michl of near Newton, who is in the United States Navy in the Pacific ocean area, writes the Press under date of January 28: "I received the first edition of the Press today, the December 28th issue. I was very much pleased with it, especially the space you provide for the letters from the boys in the service. Although I can't say where I am or what I am doing, I will say I am in a swell, safe place.

"Since I left the States I have spent six weeks in the Naval hospital. I never spent six weeks time in a nicer place. The Navy nurses, Red Cross aides and shipyard workers saw to it that everyone of the patients had a nice Christmas. They gave each one of us cigarettes, candy, cards, stationery, etc."

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Lieutenant Colonel Harry T. Eidson, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Eidson of Indianapolis, formerly of Willow Hill, has recently been awarded the distinguished flying cross and an air medal for "heroism and extraordinary achievement," in photographing 2,500 square miles of enemy territory in dangerous flights at treetop level in the North African war theatre. The awards were made by Major General James H. Doolittle, commander of the Twelfth United States Army Air Force.

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Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Chapman are in receipt of a letter from their son, Private Andrew Chapman, written January 10. He says: "I got the box of candy you sent and also grandfather's and mother's. There is not anything new to write about, only we went on a hike yesterday and my feet are sore. I am on k. p. in the morning."

He didn't say where he was, but they think he is overseas.

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Clyde Routt, a son of Marion Routt of Newton, has been promoted to corporal. He is attached to the Chaplain Corps, serving as a bodyguard for a United States Army chaplain, as chaplains carry no arms. Clyde would like to hear from his friends here.

His address is Corporal Clyde Routt, Chaplain section, division headquarters, Sixth Motorized division, A. P. O. 6, Desert Maneuvers, care Postmaster, Los Angeles, California.

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Mrs. Emma Carlton of Willow Hill has received a letter from her son, Edmond "Speck" Orr, that he had just received his first copy of the Press, dated November 12, and was glad to read what the folks back home are doing. "Speck" is with the United States Army stationed on an island "somewhere in the Southwest Pacific."

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Word has been received here that Lieutenant (j. g.) Robert Whaley is safe after his ship was sunk by enemy

action off the Solomon Islands. Lieutenant Whaley was raised in Willow Hill, living there until going to Massachusetts in 1935, where he joined the Merchant Marine, going into the Navy after Pearl Harbor.

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Private Florent J. Fear was home over the week end. He has been stationed at Aberdeen, Maryland, but was expecting to be transferred when he returned.

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Private Jesse Wells, Fifth Armored division, Camp Cook, California, is spending a fifteen day furlough with his father, Albert Wells of near Newton. He likes it where he is.

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Staff Sergeant and Mrs. Charles C. Smith are here from Camp Chafee, Arkansas, visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William H. Jourdan of Newton. He is in a supply unit.

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Carl E. Lewis, formerly of Newton, where he was manager of the McDowell service station, is now in the mechanized calvary at Fort Riley, Kansas.

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Private Donnace H. Emery is here from Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, called to Newton by the death of his step-mother, Mrs. Frank Emery.