



## With the Colors

June 1, 1943

Private Roe Songer, 1650 S. U. Sixth S. C. T. C., Barracks 2426, Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, sends the following poem:

### A Trip to the Army

We got on the bus,  
The bunch of us,  
We started on time,  
And I had some wine.  
The driver was good,  
For he understood,  
We were going away,  
That not forgotten day.  
They all had a seat,  
And looked very neat,  
I was still up,  
Bouncing like a pup.  
We got to Mattoon,  
And I saw a saloon,  
It didn't take long,  
Before I was gone.  
About three hours,  
And too many beers,  
I staggered back over,  
And found me some cover.  
I sat down to sleep,  
And it jumped like a jeep,  
I was sitting on top,  
Which I thought was a flop.  
I hit the bed,  
I wish I was dead,  
I just got sound,  
When I heard that bound.  
His voice was coarse,  
And it made me curse,  
But I said gee,  
I don't want k. p.  
I went to chow,  
And this is how,  
We got in line,  
And waited for time.  
The sergeant said,  
Is anyone dead,  
And looked at me,  
As if only to see.  
I needed some rest,  
The very best,  
We started to march,  
My mouth did parch.  
When I got to the mess hall,  
I thought I'd fall,  
We went through the line,  
In five minutes time.  
To win this war,  
Stop driving your car,  
Lucky Strike green,  
It hasn't been seen.  
After the duration,  
There will be a great nation,  
The greatest flag,  
As some of us lag.  
It's flying high  
Up in the sky,  
You count the stars,  
You'll know it's ours.  
So I'm kinda blue,  
Just thinking of you,  
I am a lonely boy,  
In Camp McCoy.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Nagle of near Willow Hill are in receipt of a letter from their son, Captain Howard J. Nagle, United States Army Signal Corps, indicating that he had arrived at an unnamed destination overseas. He wrote that the ship had been plowing through heavy seas for a day and a half and that many of his men were seasick, although he hadn't been yet. He added that the V-mail letter wouldn't be mailed until the convoy arrived at its destination.

Before they sailed his company received their arms, submachine guns, semiautomatic carbines, machine guns and other weapons. The convoy consisted of many vessels, escorted by a large number of naval vessels, all heavily armed with heavy machine guns, automatic cannon and large caliber cannon. They practiced constantly with antiaircraft guns and daily lifeboat drills are held. Soldiers slept in their clothes and wore life jackets except when asleep.

He had hoped to sail on one of the largest liners afloat, but didn't say whether or not he was able to take this boat, although he added that he was sailing on a passenger vessel, which carried no freight except ammunition for the large caliber guns.

Great Lakes, May 31.—Four names were added to the roll of former Jasper county residents serving in the United States Navy, when they reported to the Naval Training station here recently for a period of recruit training.

They will participate in a training program stressing physical conditioning, fundamentals of seamanship, military drill and indoctrination into Naval customs and procedure. Upon graduation they will be given a nine day leave after which they may be assigned to a service school for specialized training, or be sent directly to active duty at sea or ashore.

The recruits are: Henry Albert Fehrenbacher, 18; William Frank Turner, 18; and Gordon Fay Ward, 29, all of Newton; and Dale Ellsworth Bryan, 18 of Wheeler.

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Roy M. Dooley, chief specialist in the United States Navy recruiting service at Effingham for the past year, who was recently recommended for a promotion to lieutenant (jg) in naval aeronautics, has received word from the Navy Department in Washington, that his commission has been approved.

Chief Dooley's commission will bring him a transfer in duties in the Navy, and he is now awaiting orders on his change. He came to Illinois a year ago after completing a special course in the Naval Training Station at San Diego, California.

He was formerly in the newspaper business in Vandalia, where he was an active civic worker. He was a graduate of the University of Illinois School of Journalism in 1928, and his home town is Watseka.

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A quarter of a century after he was gassed in the fierce fighting of the Meuse Argonne offensive in France in the first World war, Private John Breedlove, formerly of Smallwood township, now a 52 year old private in the Fourth Communications squadron at Smyrna Air field in west Tennessee, was recently awarded the Order of the Purple Heart at a colorful ceremony at daily retreat there. Although he had been eligible since the medal was authorized, he hadn't made application for it until a few weeks ago.

In addition to the Purple Heart medal, he wears the Victory medal, and the Army of Occupation medal in Germany and wound stripes.

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Sergeant Lowell B. Story writes the Press: "Although I've been in Northern Africa for several weeks, I've neglected to have you change my address on your books. I'm feeling fine and am getting my mail quite regularly now, especially letters. Some of them had gone to England, I guess.

"When I read the Press I'm surprised how many people from Jasper county are in the Army that I don't know. There are many I do know, however. Regards to you and

my Newton friends."

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Great Lakes, May 31—Three Jasper county men are starting their first "hitch" in the Navy as apprentice seamen at the United States Naval Training Station at Great Lakes, where they will undergo eight weeks of recruit training.

At Great Lakes they will receive basic training in seamanship, Naval customs and procedure, and participate in a vigorous physical hardening program. They also will be given a series of aptitude tests to determine the type of work for which they are best qualified in the Navy. Depending upon their scores in these tests, they will either be assigned to Navy service schools for further training or be sent directly to active duty at sea. Each bluejacket will be given a nine day leave upon completing

"boot training."

The new recruits are Clarence C. Chapman, 18 of Route Two, Yale; Robert F. Perisho, 17, of Yale; and Boyce B. McCormack, 24, of Newton.

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Frank Worthey, machinist's mate third class, is leaving today for Bremerton, Washington, after nearly a month's furlough at Newton with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Worthey. He will join the crew of a new ship when he reaches there. Frank has participated in six major engagements in the Pacific since December 7, 1941, and could tell many stories of actions were he permitted to do so.

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Sergeant Arthur Schottman, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Schottman of Montrose, who has been attending the Army Air Force Basic Flying school at Pecos, Texas, has been transferred to the Air Force Administration Officers Candidate school at Miami Beach, Florida to which place he reported for duty last week, after having been home on a furlough.

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Private Merle L. Eveland writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Eveland of near Newton, that he is well, but has been moved back in the jungle. He is on an unnamed Southwest Pacific island. He added that if the people who grumble about rationing could spend a few days in the jungle they'd feel differently.

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Corporal John H. Maxwell is spending a short furlough with his mother, Mrs. Joseph Maxwell and his sister, Mrs. Charles Holt and family of Newton. He is a cook in the Sixth Armored division at Camp Cooke, California, and expects to be sent to a Mess Sergeant's school as soon as he returns. He likes soldiering fine.

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Private Bertrand Richards spent the week end at Newton with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Richards of Newton. He was transferred from Camp McCoy, Madison, Wisconsin, to Champaign for a few days, but expects to be sent to another school for training in a few days, perhaps today.

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Edward Utley, boatswain's mate second class, has returned to his ship after a furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mont Utley of Newton. He is serving his second enlistment and has participated in three major engagements with the Japs.

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Private First Class Lester F. Wolf has returned to Staten Island, N. Y., after spending a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John H. Wolf of near Wheeler.

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Second Lieutenant Edward M. Resch of Newton has been assigned to Company I, 409th Infantry at Camp Claiborne, Louisiana.

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Delbert Bickers is spending a furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bickers of near Newton. He is in the Navy.