



With the Colors *May 11, 1943*

Private Roy F. Woods writes the Press from New Guinea, where he is stationed with the United States Army. The letter, written Easter Sunday and sent by air mail, arrived Saturday.

"I have thought for quite some time that I would drop you a few lines, but it seemed like I never got around to it. I have received quite a few issues of the Press and only a soldier stationed in New Guinea or some other God forsaken place like this can tell how much a newspaper from his home can mean, even though they are quite old when we get them.

"I get quite a kick out of reading the articles that Mr. Bulliet writes, especially the one in the January 19 issue entitled, 'Keep our Music at Home.' There was also a poem in that issue sent to the Press by Private Jesse Wells from Camp Cooke, California. I guess the title of it would be 'We've Done Our Stretch in Hell.'

"I don't want to be a critic and I don't intend to make light of the poem, because it is very well written, but it surely couldn't of been written about any camp in the states, although I never was at Camp Cooke, I am ready to come back to the states and serve a while at any camp they have anywhere from the west to the east coast.

"I will not try to give a description of this island because it has been described many times better than I could do it in Life magazine, and the Press also carried some good pictures.

"I enjoy reading the 'With the Colors,' section. The boys from old blue Jasper are surely scattered to the four winds. I see where John 'Tiny' Acklin is in North Africa, I suppose he has been having some experiences. I got to see a group of flying officers decorated a few days ago. It was a really nice affair. Part of my company took part in the presentation program. I was working at the time and didn't have the honor.

"Seems like I have written about ~~all I can think of so in closing~~, if you know anyone back there who would like a V-mail letter from New Guinea with a buck private's autograph on it tell them the only request they have to make is to drop me a few lines."

Aviation Cadet Homer H. Winter, 21, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Winter of Rose Hill, is attending New York university's college of engineering where he is studying a course in meteorology under the direction of the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command. On completion of his course this summer, he will be commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army Air Forces.

Requirements for the military weather forecasting course are extremely high, calling for at least two years of college work including mathematics and physics. A graduate of Newton Community high school, he attended Eastern Illinois State Teachers college for two years.

Graduates of the advanced meteorology course, which is also taught at other selected universities throughout the country, will give vital weather information to pilots of the Army Air Forces. On the accuracy of that information may depend the success of a combat mission and the safe return of airplanes and their crews.

Before entering the Army in June, Homer was a school teacher. He has three brothers in the service. Roy Winter is also in the AAF Technical Training Command. Rex and Calvin are in the Army, stationed in Louisiana.

Frank Worthey, who has been seeing action in the Pacific for months on a cruiser in the United States Navy, is spending a furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Worthey of Newton. It is his first time home since Pearl Harbor. He has been in six major engagements, including Pearl Harbor, and is rather jittery, although in good health.

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Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Smithenry of near Newton received a letter under the date of April 17 from their son Glen B. Smithenry, stating he had arrived safe and sound and was somewhere in North Africa. He is in a Military Police battalion and has been in the United States Army the past six months.

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Mrs. Gordon Blade has gone to Norfolk, Virginia, to visit her husband, who is in the United States Navy and has been in port after a trip across the Atlantic ocean in convoy. Mrs. Blade, the former Ruth Clark, is deputy circuit clerk. Mrs. Frank T. McCullough is taking her place while she is gone.

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Mr. and Mrs. George Acklin of near Newton are in receipt of a letter from their son, John Acklin, who is in North Africa with the United States Army, stating that he was to have dinner with a French family the next Sunday.

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Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Jones of Lis received a letter from their son, Paul William Jones, who is in Alaska, Friday. He is a chemist with a United States Army hospital unit and said he was well and liked his work fine. He said the food was good.

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John A. Connor, who is receiving training at Great Lakes Naval Training Station, Chicago, was an over Sunday guests of his wife and parents, Mr. and Mrs. V. O. Connor of Newton.

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Stanley R. Hynes has been promoted to corporal in the Twenty-seventh Evacuation hospital unit, which is now stationed at Nashville, Tennessee.

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Private Raymond Swisher is home on a furlough from Fort Custer, Michigan, where he is in a Military Police battalion.

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Corporal Rupert Matson, Army Air Force, Waycross, Georgia, is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Matson of near Falmouth.