



With the Colors

May 25, 1943

Second Lieutenant W. Wheeler Sears has been visiting his wife at Newton since his completion of the intensive thirteen week course for officer candidates at the Quartermaster school at Camp Lee, Virginia.

Under rigorous conditions, he underwent the Quartermaster school course of instruction in all Quartermaster activities, which emphasizes military training, physical hardening and mastery of weapons varying from a .30 caliber rifle to the 37 millimeter gun. Candidates at the school are chosen by boards throughout the Army, and selection is based upon initiative, military aptitude, intelligence, civilian experience and Army record.

Under the command of Brigadier General George A. Horkan, the Quartermaster school instructs and trains thousands of enlisted men, officer candidates and officers. Upon receiving his commission as a fighting Quartermaster, Lieutenant Sears will join with other new officers to assume duties wherever the Army fights.

* * * * *

Private Loren S. Harvey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mose Harvey of near Newton, was promoted to the grade of private first class last week and enrolled in the huge B-24 Liberator Mechanics school at Keesler field at Biloxi, Mississippi.

Private Harvey's promotion and his selection for technical training, were results of the high scores he received in his Army mechanical aptitude tests. His course, directed by the Technical Training Command of the Army Air Forces, will last seventeen weeks and will include training in B-24 maintenance, hydraulics, fuel and electrical systems, propellers, instruments, engines and inspection.

The last eight days of the course will place him in the open under simulated battle conditions where he will have an opportunity to apply in the field what he has learned in hangars and workshops.

* * * * *

Private Raymond Chaney, who is in the Infantry in the Southwest Pacific, writes his brother, Walter E. Chaney of near Yale: "This is a good morning for me to get caught up with my letter writing, while it is raining. It's been raining all morning, and there's water everywhere. I believe it's the hardest rain I've ever seen.

"You ask if I get plenty of cigarettes. Yes, we are always able to get plenty of them. I sent a permit for the knife and watch some time ago. I think I wrote the folks."

Homer Kasserman was agreeably surprised when he arrived back at the Quartermaster depot Oakland, California, after a fifteen days' leave at Newton, to learn that he had been promoted to major in the Quartermaster Corps, United States Army. He is now the highest ranking officer entering the Army, Navy or Marine Corps from Jasper county since the war started. Three former residents of Jasper county are colonels, R. C. and J. R. Hamilton and Sidney R. Hinds.

* * * * *

Private Wayne Jones has been spending a few days furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. V. A. Jones of Newton. He is being transferred from Camp Stewart, Georgia, to Camp Davis, North Carolina, where he will spend the next six months in Anti-Aircraft Officers' Candidate school, Searchlight division. The oldest member of the group going from Camp Stewart to Camp Davis to attend Officers' school is 22 and Wayne is 19 years old.

* * * * *

Air Cadet Florent J. Schuch, who is in training at Peru, Indiana, for the Navy Air Force, spent a short furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Schuch of near Newton, Thursday and Friday.

* * * * *

Paul E. Faltemier, private first class, is here on a furlough from Fort Logan, Colorado, visiting his mother, Mrs. Ed Faltemier of Sainte Marie. He is attending a Technical school there.

* * * * *

Air Cadet Thomas J. Fithian, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil D. Fithian of Newton, is now in training at Decatur, Alabama. He was a staff sergeant in the Army Air Force before entering cadet training.

* * * * *

Donald J. Weber, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Weber of Newton, has been commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Cavalry upon successful completion of a three month course of training in the Cavalry Officer Candidate school at Fort Riley, Kansas. He received his commission from the hands of Brigadier General Rufus S. Ramey, commandant of the school.

* * * * *

Private First Class Eldon Dewhirst is spending a few days furlough with his wife and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. T. Dewhirst of Newton. He is stationed at Camp Gordon Johnson, Florida.

* * * * *

Brigadier General John M. Willis, camp commander, has announced that Second Lieutenant M. Lucille Chaney, Army Nurse Corps, of Yale has been assigned to the station hospital at Camp Grant.

* * * * *

Raymond Gregory was expected home on a furlough from Fort Sill, Oklahoma, Monday, to visit his mother, Mrs. Ella Gregory of Newton.