



With the Colors

Nov. 16,
1943

Private John T. Newlin writes the Press from a Southwest Pacific base:

"I have been receiving the press for some time and I certainly enjoy it. I haven't much to do in my spare time, so I read it from beginning to end. I like to read about the Jasper county boys in 'With the Colors.' I guess they like to hear from me too.

"I am taking life pretty easy now. I have a lot of south sea island scenery to look at, but I would rather look at the United States. I would sure enjoy seeing a white Christmas this time. This will be my second one that I've spent overseas.

"I received a letter from one of my neighbors east of Falmouth the other day, that gave me the idea to write the following poem:

Wondering!

There's something I've been wondering,

When the world's again at peace,

Who will have the say-so,

After all the firing's ceased?

Will they have a warlord,

To sit upon the throne?

Will the boys who fought the war,

Return to a happy home?

Some things are quite clear to me,

But some are not so plain,

I can see our children's children,

Coming over here again.

Some folks say this is the last time,

We will be at war,

But the Bible contradicts them,

And I'm sure there'll be some more.

I still can't seem to picture,

What life at home will be,

When we boys, who bore the burden,

Come home from overseas,

What will be the verdict,

When all the firing's ceased?

Will our congress ask us soldiers,

How we wish to write the peace?

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Private Paul R. Ping, writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Ping of Willow Hill, from an unnamed town in Australia, where he is detailed on M. P. duty, that spring has come to Australia and with it the friendly little mosquitoes that make life interesting.

He says that it is a beautiful country, but that it seems to the eyes of a Yank about twenty-five years behind times, although it is full of possibilities for the future.

"The country is very thinly settled. Some of the ranches are from 5,000 to 10,000 acres but most of the population lives in large towns. The people are friendly. Food is plentiful and very good."

He deplores the fact that he will have to spend his second Christmas away from home, having been in California last year, but promises to make up for it in 1944.

Private James C. Ping, another son, who has been at home with his parents and sister Helen for a few days, has returned to Camp Mackall, North Carolina, where he is in a Parachute Field Artillery battalion in the airborne troops.

He is No. 1 man on his gun, and has made eleven jumps, with only one or two more to make before maneuvers.

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The following poem was written by Walter Eugene Winterrowd of Faragut, Idaho:

Tonight I'm a tired, worried sailor,
I've been on the grinder all day;
I'm a worker for dear Uncle Sammy;
Fifty dollars a month is my pay.
At twenty hundred we all get
mustered,
And we hit the bunk like a wreck;
We hardly no more than get settled,
When somebody yells "Hit the deck."
Then they march us all down to the
mess hall,
And we wait in line at the door,
And when we get to the counter,
The food is the same as before.
Then they march us right out on the
grinder,
And it's hip-pi-a-hip three and four;
Then someone gets out of order,
Anr it's around the grinder once more.
Now listen to me all you fellows,
From the north, east, south and west;
We cannot be perfect sailors,
But believe me we're doing our best.

His address is Walter Eugene Winterrowd, Apprentice Seaman, Company 785-43, Camp Bennion, United States Naval Training Station, Faragut, Idaho.

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Private First Class Virgil W. Calvert writes his mother, Mrs. A. W. Parcel of Yale, from a Southwest Pacific island:

"I sure have some good news to tell you. The other day I ran across Lieutenant Price Downey. I guess you know he is a first lieutenant in the Air Corps.

"When I found him I asked 'Are you Lieutenant Downey?' He said

'Yes.' I told him I was Calvert and he said, 'You are Weldon?' and I replied 'Yes, that's right.' Then he came up with me and we spent most of the afternoon together. He is still the same old Price Downey he always was; sure a swell fellow.

"I showed him some of the clippings you sent me, especially the one with the letter Chilton sent to his folks.

"He was back again tonight and we went to the show. He wants me to come down and eat chow with him, Sunday night. I'll say again he sure is a fine fellow."

Private Calvert is from Yale and Lieutenant Downey from Bellair vicinity.

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Wayne D. Jones of Newton received his commission as a second lieutenant in the Coast Artillery Corps upon successfully completing the officer candidate course at the Antiaircraft Artillery school, Camp Davis, North Carolina, Thursday, November 11. The newly commissioned local officer will take up his new duties in the Antiaircraft Artillery after a short furlough.

The course at the Antiaircraft Artillery school is one of the most difficult of the officer candidate tests in the army. Not only do candidates have to meet the high standards of leadership necessary to all officers, but they must be able to master and put into practice the complicated technical art of Antiaircraft Artillery.

Their studies and practical work involve mainly the means and actions by which swiftly flying enemy aircraft can be shot down or kept from successfully performing bombing missions. In addition, A. A. officers must be able to put their guns to use in other artillery purposes, such as anti-tank.

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Mrs. Daisy Mulvaney of Terre Haute, formerly of Newton, writes that her son, Fireman First Class Joseph Cummins, was recently transferred from a Navy base in New Caledonia to an advanced base somewhere in the Southwest Pacific. He writes that it is very hot there now and they only wear shoes, shorts and hats. The rainfall is 400 inches a year and it rains almost every days.

While asleep one night a coconut fell on his tent and woke him up. There are lots of wild parrots there, with monkeys farther inland where the bananas grow. He is in the shops where they remove defective motors and repair them.

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Sergeant Donald Dufrain is spending a fourteen day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Amos Dufrain of Newton. He is in an Anti-Aircraft Artillery battalion and has been in training in the desert along the Arizona-New Mexico border. Savern Fehrenbacher, Gerald French, Will Loy and Norman Nicholas of Jasper county are all in his battalion. All were well when he left. Don made the trip by plane and expects to return the same way.

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Corporal Warren E. Hunt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Hunt of Rose Hill, attached to the Seventh Ferrying group, Ferrying division, Air Transport Command, Great Falls, Montana, was recently promoted to grade of sergeant, the headquarters of his group has announced.

Sergeant Hunt has been with the Seventh Ferrying group since June 28, 1943.

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Sergeant and Mrs. Dorris Scott are the proud parents of a six pound daughter, Pamela Jean, born to them on Friday, November 12, in Madison Wisconsin. Mrs. Scott is the former Mariana Westendorf. Mr. and Mrs. Elmer J. Scott and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Westendorf of Newton are grand-parents.

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Sergeant Russell Harrison, who was recently transferred from Fort Ord, California, where he has been in an ordnance battalion, to an ordnance plant at Jackson, Mississippi, for training, is spending a furlough at Newton. He has been doing tank maintenance work.

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Marion Kinder, seaman second class, stationed at Farragut, Idaho, is in the Naval hospital there recovering from an operation for appendicitis. He writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Kinder of Newton, that he is doing nicely and will soon be well again.

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Neil Gorrell, who has been in training at Louisiana State university, Baton Rouge, with an Army Special Training unit, is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Gorrell of Bogota vicinity. Mr. Gorrell Sr. is still suffering from injuries received last summer in an accident.

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Harold Webb has been here from Boston, visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lester E. Webb of near Newton. Mrs. Webb has been critically ill from pneumonia, but is better. Harold is in the Army in the Boston area.

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Mr. and Mrs. Guy Kibler have returned to Farragut, Idaho, where he is in training at the Naval Training Station, after a visit with relatives near Rose Hill, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Kibler of Newton.

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Sergeant Delbert W. Simpson has returned to Tennessee, where his company is on maneuvers, after a visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Simpson of Newton vicinity. He is in the Quartermaster Corps.

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Harold Wayne Hickox, apprentice seaman, is now in training at the United States Naval Training Station at Farragut, Idaho. He is in Company 920-43, Camp Bennion, USNTS, Farragut, Idaho.

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Lamar Kinder has returned to Davisville, Rhode Island, after a ten day furlough with his wife and parents of Newton. He is serving with the Seabees or Naval Construction battallions.

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Mrs. Lester E. Webb of near Newton, who has been critically ill with pneumonia, is somewhat better. Her son, Harold Webb, is here on a furlough from Boston, where he is in the Army.

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Private James Dewhirst is spending a furlough with his parents, and Mrs. O. T. Dewhirst of Newton. He is stationed at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, near Indianapolis.

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Delmar Salyers is in training at a Naval Air Station at Logan, Utah. His address is class 43-C13, 318 CTD (Air Crew), Logan, Utah.

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Private Glenn Stanley of Newton is now at Camp Roberts near San Luis Obispo, California. He writes that he is well.