



With the Colors *Oct. 12, 1943*

Miss Lois Weck, seaman second class in the Waves at the Naval Air Technical Training Center, Norman, Oklahoma, writes the Press: "Virginia (Graham) and I are the only Waves from Jasper county. I hope there will be more soon, for the Navy needs women. The Waves is not an auxiliary corps as the WAAC was, but it's a true part of the Navy.

"As everyone knows the WAACS were incorporated into the Army, took the Army oath and drapped the "auxiliary" in their name. We Waves did not have to do that as we always have been part of the Navy. Our commanding officers are men and in the Navy we are treated like all the sailors.

"Waves means Women Accepted (for) Voluntary Emergency Service. We Waves are in the Naval Reserve as are all the men who have been drafted.

"We girls love the Navy. A very few are dissatisfied but most of us would not be civilians again for anything. We are proud of what the Navy has done and what the Waves are doing to help. Many positions are open to the Waves. Right now, I am going to aviation maintenance school here in Oklahoma to be an aviation machinist's mate. Any sailor can tell you what that is.

"We work hard and it is hard work for a girl. We are in the same classes with the sailors, so there is much competition between us. However, the Waves are holding their own. We learn to do all kinds of repairs on Naval aircraft. The work is fascinating to me, even if difficult.

"We go to school for twenty-one weeks. This week we are studying hydraulics and their use in airplanes so you can see the Waves here are not playing. Discipline is very severe for the Waves as we try to keep a high standard. Also we have some physical training and military rifle drill so we can do guard duty.

"I hope I have given you a glimpse of the life of one Wave in the United States Navy. Tell any girl or woman who can to join the Navy's Women's Reserve. I was very sorry not to have ben able to attend the recent Bond Rally, but at that time I was being moved from Memphis, Tennessee, to Norman, Oklahoma."

Her address is Lois Weck, Seaman Second Class, A. M. M., 1044-8, Barracks 163, N. A. T. T. C., Norman, Oklahoma.

Sergeant L. C. Ellsworth writes from England under date of October 5: "Perhaps you don't even know me, but I am receiving the Newton Press regularly and I enjoy reading it very much. Especially the column 'With the Colors.' It is interesting to read about the soldiers who represent Jasper county, but who are now scattered throughout all the war zones of the world.

"I am stationed in England. I have been here just shortly over a year now. I have been in all parts of this country since I have been here, which a good part I saw from the air.

"We are very fortunate here, we have good food and housing facilities. But we work hard and like it. That makes the time go much faster and we don't have much time to get homesick.

"In my spare time I spend with our Headquarters Glee Club. We have a very nice Glee Club, if I may say so. We have sung for many famous churches in London. Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's cathedral were the two nicest and largest places where we sung. We also had a memorial service at the famous American Military cemetery here in England, which the American soldiers are so well acquainted with.

"I am like every other soldier, I guess. I want to get this war over and get back home. I have learned to appreciate home more than ever before. We are hitting Jerry where it is felt worst now. I think we shall soon see what we have strived so long to accomplish.

"I will be looking forward each week for the good old 'Newton Press' and most of all to coming back to see all my people and friends in Newton."

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Sergeant Albert Wells Jr. writes the Press from Camp Barkley, Texas: "As I have never written to you since I have been in the Army, I feel I owe you one. I went to the show the other evening, and saw a picture entitled 'So Proudly We Hail.' It is a very good movie.

"With the world series going on, and the movie, I thought of a poem, 'Batter Up.'"

The airman climbs into his ship,

And speeds toward Axis land.
He dropped his load of calling cards,
With cool and practiced hand,
But as the bombs crashed far below,
On railroads, guns and tanks,
The airmen's thoughts are far away;
He's doping out the Yanks.

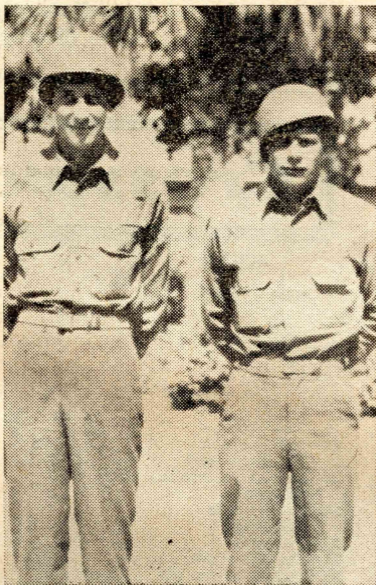
A sailor on an L.S. T.
Is blasted off the deck;
He flapped into the water,
From a twisted and flaming wreck.
This dough boy went under twice;
Yes, he was d----- near drowned.
He mumbled as he slid below:
"Will Chandler take the mound?"
The grimy doughboy crawls along
A hillside raked by shells;
Big Jerry guns have made
His world the hottest of all hells;
But as he races to the charge.
What does this doughboy do?
He hollers at a buddy, "Fifty lire on
St. Loo."

Now even in the German lines
Where Aryan blood runs purer,
The Wehrmacht talks of base ball,
And just ignores their fuehrer;
The Cards to them are strictly Greek,
But states if that be true;
Heil anyone who beat the Yanks,
That is more than we can do,"

"I don't know where this makes
much sense, but I kind of like it. I
like Texas fine, but will be going to
California October 21."

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"Corporal Ferdinand L. Hartrich,
left, writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs.
Ferd Hartrich of Sainte Marie, about
his brother, Eugene, right:



"We had been writing to each other trying to get together before we left the island of Sicily, but our letters were so censored we couldn't make out where the other one was. Then one day I went into town with the battery commander and the first thing I saw was the regimental ensign of Eugene's outfit. When our business was finished. I asked for a day's leave to find my brother, got it and found that lucky guy living in a house with an honest to God roof on it.

"Eugene said not to envy him as was the first roof he slept under since he left home. Eugene got leave too, and we took in the town, had dinner together, and had these pictures taken to prove we are all o. k. Eugene said not to think he is a runt. He is as big as the average Yank. He just happens to be beside a six foot three inch man."

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Corporal Gerald A. Geltz writes his mother, Mrs. Minnie Geltz of Sainte Marie, that he is in England and is liking it better every day.

"The country here is fine and in some places looks very much like America. They raise a lot of grain as well as cattle, sheep and horses. Our stock back home does not compare to the fine looking animals here. You don't see any fences here. Just a herdsman and his dog are all that's necessary.

"I was watching a herdsman and his dog round up his herd of cattle a few days ago, and I don't believe I ever saw such a smart dog.

"They have cars but the majority of the people ride bicycles. I saw a man 60 or 70 years old riding one and he was peddling right along. They have good roads, only very narrow and it's quite a squeeze with our pets (tanks) meeting a car.

"I see Fred Zuber and Tommy Ochs every day and Griffy and I are in the same barracks. I enjoy reading the Press," he writes.

Another son, Charles F. Geltz, a coxswain in the United States Navy, was in New York for a few days, but is now on the sea again.

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Postmaster and Mrs. Paul B. Laugel of Newton are in receipt of a copy of the citation issued recently by Colonel Carleton Coulter Jr. to Private James E. Laugel, their son, after the latter and another soldier had saved the life of a Navy flier forced down somewhere in the Hawaiian islands in mountainous terrain. The citation reads:

"I wish to commend you for your excellent work as a member of the patrol which located and brought out the U. S. Navy man lost on (censored).

"There can be no question that your efficiency and hard work saved the

life of this man."

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Private Charles Robert Dulgar has been transferred from Plattsburg, New York, to Elkins, West Virginia. Mrs. Dulgar returned home from New York and will join her husband in West Virginia this week. While in New York, they saw Lake Placid, the famous resort. Private Dulgar was in the company that took part in the Ice Revue held there.

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Dr. Kent L. Wattleworth, son of Dr. and Mrs. J. R. Wattleworth of Newton, has been promoted from first lieutenant to captain in the United States Army Medical Corps. He is with the Third Observation squadron, Keystone A. A. F. Mrs. Wattleworth and son Jimmie are with Captain Wattleworth at Keystone Heights, Florida.

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Ronald J. Chapman, machinist's mate second class, United States Coast Guard, has been spending a seven day sick leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Chapman of Hunt City and his wife at Terre Haute. He will return to his base at Delaware City, Delaware, Saturday.

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Private First Class Kenneth M. Wilson of Fort Lewis Washington and Mrs. Pearl Daus of Elgin, who have been visiting their parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Wilson in Southeast Newton, left Sunday, Kenneth for camp and Mrs. Daus for Elgin.

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Private Eldon Dewhirst of Newton is now overseas, some place in Europe, probably England with a United States Army regiment. George A. Cline of Newton and Theodore Renner of the Bend are in the same division.

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Kent Funkhouse, fireman, United States Coast Guard, is spending a couple of weeks' furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Funkhouser of Newton. He is stationed at Keokuk, Iowa, with a Coast Guard station.

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Staff Sergeant Donald L. Cramer of the 303rd Depot Repair squadron, McClellan field, California, has spent a week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Cramer of Yale.

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Private First Class Marcell Martens returned to Banning, California, Friday, after spending a fourteen day furlough with his mother, Mrs. John Whightsel and family of near Wheeler.

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Chief Petty Officer R. Earl Jones, United States Coast Guard, has been sent to sea, but his ship isn't known as yet by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. V. A. Jones of Newton.

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Corporal Sylvan Robards of Fort Knox, Kentucky, where he is in the Demonstration regiment, and Private Paul Robards, who has been in the Pacific area overseas, are spending a furlough with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Omer Robards of Newton.

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Roe "Abie" Songer of Newton has been discharged from the Army at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, and is now at home.

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Corporal Denver Leturno has been spending a furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Leturno of Wheeler.

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Donovan D. Bower of Newton, seaman second class, has been sent aboard one of the Navy's largest battleships.