



With the Colors Oct. 15, 1943

Private First Class Byrl Griffy, who is in a Tank battalion in England, writes Mrs. A. W. Snyder of Willow Hill: "Since I last wrote you I have traveled over several miles of land and water to reach my present position, which is somewhere in England, a country very much like our own. A few of the things the English people have or do different from those we have or do are:

"They own vehicles which are driven from the right side of the vehicle upon the left side of the road, instead of the right, as we do. In America, when a person steps on the scales, he reads his weight as so many pounds. Here you read it as so many stone, which are the equivalent of approximately fourteen pounds.

"The thing which the English have that troubles most of us is their money, which is entirely different from ours. Because you have probably noticed the English money system on the back of a school notebook, I will not discuss it. These are just a few of the many differences between English and Americans.

"Our church services aren't held in chapels as they were back home, but are held in our gymnasium. We live almost as we did in the United States. Our leisure time is spent in exactly the same way. We have the same facilities for amusement as we have been used to."

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James DeVore of Newton has recently been promoted to private first class in the United States Army. He is now stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas, in the anti-aircraft artillery of the Airborne division. He writes that the airborne trains rough, and that he will have completed his basic training in a short time, after which he expects to come home on furlough.

His division has been on desert maneuvers in the vicinity of El Paso. He relates about how a rattlesnake crawled into bed with him one night when he was on maneuvers in the desert. He killed it and sent the rattles home. They are now on display in the Press window.

The snake had twelve rattles, which is a large number for rattlesnakes.

Private Devore has gone into Mexico, several times as his camp is but a few miles from the border. He has seen a number of historical places in Mexico and has sent home many souvenirs from there.

He sends greetings to all his friends and would like many letters from the hometown folks. His address is Private First Class James N. DeVore, 653rd A. A. A. M. G. battery, Fort Bliss, Texas.

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Aviation Cadet Ralph E. Woodard has returned to Hondo, Texas, after spending a fifteen day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Woodard of Montrose vicinity and with friends in Chicago.

Charles E. Dow, son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Woodard, has been promoted to first class seaman, United States Navy, and is on duty on one of the new liberty ships. His wife and baby are with her parents.

Private First Class Charles C. Woodard, writes his parents, that he has been promoted to first gunner.

He is somewhere in Northern Africa and was on active duty in Tunisia, but came through o. k. He was in the victory parade, after Tunisia had been taken by the Allies.

He says they are having nice weather. The people there haul grapes by the wagon load from the vineyards to make wine. As most of the water there isn't fit to drink, they drink wine, even at their meals.

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Leon Price writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Zenas Price of near Newton: "I received all my letters and Presses today at one time. I sure was glad to hear from everyone. My mail has a hard time catching up with me. I hope you get the letters I write more often.

"I hope I get back to the States soon. That old Statue of Liberty will sure look good to me. I saw in the Press where lots of the boys from home are over here. If I thought I could find them I would look around for them but I have so little time off.

"The horses here are beautiful, about the only beautiful thing I have seen. The girls are pretty but I can't talk to them."

He is in the Navy.

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Howard B. Riley, son of Dr. and Mrs. Daniel H. Riley of Newton, is now enrolled as an aviation cadet in the Army Air Forces Pre-Flight school for pilots at Maxwell field, located on the outskirts of Montgomery, the capital of Alabama.

Here the new class of cadets is receiving nine weeks of intensive military, physical and academic training preparatory to beginning their actual flight instruction at one of the many primary flying schools in the Army Air Forces Southeastern Flying Training Command.

Cadet Riley attended Bullis Prep school at Silver Springs, Maryland, in 1941-1942, and Eastern Illinois State Teachers' college, Charleston, in 1942.

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Private First Class Lowell "Shorty" Adkins has been transferred to England, after a year and a half in Iceland. Shorty says the English people really realize there is a war on, and a soldier's wish is a command. He says the Red Cross is doing an excellent job of providing entertainment and recreation for the boys.

Kenneth S. Adkins is completing his "boot" training at the San Diego Naval Base in California.

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Lieutenant Commander J. Mack Eaton is spending a short leave with his brothers, State's Attorney James A. Eaton Jr. and Lawrence Eaton of Newton. He is in the Navy Intelligence. They went to Springfield on Thursday to visit their father, James A. Eaton, assistant director of the Department of Registration and Education.

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Private John Flanagan writes his parents, City Officer and Mrs. Tom Flanagan of Newton, that he has received the Press in Iran. He and Private Bobby L. Bower are in a Military Police battalion and were recently transferred from India to Iran (Persia).

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Mr. and Mrs. Sylvan Beverlin of Newton have received a letter from their son, Private First Class Samuel Beverlin, United States Marine Corps, stating he was well. He has been stationed on an island in the Southwest Pacific.

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Lieutenant and Mrs. Homer H. Winter of Columbus, Mississippi, have been here, called to Newton by the death of her mother, Mrs. Merle D.

Yost. He is a meteorologist in the Army Air Force.

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Mrs. Anna Bruner has received a letter from her son, Corporal Robert Allen, has landed safely in India with the United States Army. She recently moved from Newton to Mattoon, where she is employed.

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Corporal Harold D. Griffith is now on maneuvers at Los Angeles. His address is Company B, 41st Tank battalion, APO 261, Los Angeles, California.

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Major and Mrs. Chester L. Seibert of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, are visiting Mrs. Seibert's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles K. Ross of Newton.

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Private First Class James F. Manning is now with a Medical Detachment at the Station hospital, Camp Blanding, Florida.

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Private Melvin Utley has been spending a short furlough from Camp McCoy with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Utley of Newton.

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Corporal Glenn A. Allen is now with the Headquarters troop, Fifteenth Cavalry, APO 182, AU, Los Angeles, California.

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Private Lester F. Eck of Camp Maxey, Texas, is in Newton visiting his mother, Mrs. Effie Eck, on a furlough.

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Corporal Delmar L. Salyers is now stationed with the 766th Technical School squadron, Buckley field, Colorado.

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Private Paul R. Ping is now with a Military Police battalion in the Pacific area overseas.

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Corporal Estle I. Short, who is with a Tank battalion, has a new address in Europe.

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Sergeant Gordon D. Crouse has been sent overseas to the European area.