



With the Colors *Oct. 19, 1943*

Miss Virginia Ann Graham of Newton, writes the Press from Arlington, Virginia, where she is in the Waves: "I like the Navy life fine, we are very proud of our uniforms, and know we are helping to win this war.

"We live at the Arlington Farms, Virginia. Our barracks are newly built and each girl has her own private room, which are like doll houses.

"We have every night off until 2:00 and week ends off. I work at the Navy Department, Bureau of Ships. At present they are overloaded and we are helping at the Naval Observation. We can't write much about our work, but we sure do know a lot.

"I have been to Washington and seen the capitol, white house, Lincoln memorial, and where Lincoln was shot, Arlington cemetery with its tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and many other very interesting buildings.

"How is everything back home? Good old Newton would look pretty good to me at the present. I am going to try and come home some time the last of December. I would like to hear from you all. Mail from home really helps to pass our lonesomeness away.

"Good by to all in Newton. Write. I guess I will sign my name, Ann or "Shorty," my nickname."

Her address is Seaman Second Class Virginia Ann Graham, Waves Quarters G, Room H209, Florida Hall, Arlington, Virginia.

* * * * *

Corporal Clarence W. Wade, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Wade of Sainte Marie is one of a picked group of technicians from armored units all over the country now enrolled in the Armored school at Fort Knox, Kentucky, for a course in tank mechanics. Assigned on orders from Major General Alva C. Gillen Jr., chief of the Armored command, these men will be trained for the important task of keeping the Army's tanks in fighting trim.

The Armored school, command by Brigadier General Joseph A. Holly, is one of the world's largest technical institutions. Operating on a two-shift system, it turns out thousands of specialists for service with the fast moving armored divisions.

The tank department gives students a detailed knowledge of engine, power trains, suspension systems and other elements of the complex tank mechanism. In addition to trouble shooting and repair, much emphasis is placed upon preventive maintenance.

The men have an opportunity to study engines in action in a half million dollar live engine test building where they work on both diesels and gasoline engines actually operating under load.

* * * * *

Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Alexander of Newton vicinity have received an air mail letter from their son, Donald Alexander, stating he has been transferred from Camp Blanding, Florida, to Camp Rucker, Alabama. His address is Private First Class Donald R. Alexander, 184th Ordnance Depot Company, Camp Rucker, Alabama.

They have another son, Kenneth Alexander, who is an instructor in an airplane mechanics school. His address is Private First Class Kenneth L. Alexander, Ninth Academic group, Box 35, Army Air Force Technical Training Command, Gulfport field, Mississippi.

* * * * *

Mrs. Robert Rugh, the former Elizabeth Batman, is expected here on a visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Batman of Newton. Mr. Rugh was sworn in Monday as a lieutenant junior grade in the United States Navy at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as an engineer officer. He has been manager of the Owens-Illinois Glass Company plant at Clarion, Pennsylvania.

* * * * *

First Lieutenant and Mrs. J. Byron Sheets spent a few days in Oblong last week, returning Thursday to Edgewood arsenal, Maryland, accompanied by his mother, Mrs. J. M. Sheets. Byron is in the Chemical Warfare Service. He is a former editor of the Oblong Oracle.

*Oct. 19 * * * * * 1943*

Private Roy "Cracker" Green is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Green of West Liberty. He was recently burned when mustard gas leaked from a container he was handling and he was given a furlough from the hospital.

* * * * *

Dale Boxley, aviation machinist's mate third class, United States Navy, is here on a furlough from Rhode Island, where he has been stationed for some time, visiting his wife.

* * * * *

Seaman Marion Kinder is spending

a furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Kinder of Newton. He has been at Great Lakes Naval Training Station.

* * * * *

Captain Francis A. Richards is spending a few days' leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Richards of Newton. He is in the Chemical Warfare Service at Edgewood arsenal, Maryland. He will return Wednesday.

* * * * *

Seaman Delbert Bickers, has been discharged from the United States Navy at Pensacola, Florida, after several months' service.

* * * * *

Corporal Leo LaFief has been visiting his wife and little daughter at Newton on a furlough from the United States Army.