

# TWO YOUTHS HOME FROM WAR FRONTS

*Aug. 17, 1944*

## One Back From Saipan — Another From Alaska

Two Jasper county youths returned Monday night for a furlough with their parents after long service at the fighting front. One of these was Sgt. Gordon "Steve" Stanley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lon Stanley of the Maple Grove community and the other was Seaman First Class Billy Wilson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Wilson of the Cummins school community.

Sgt. Stanley had been away from home for 23 months, during which time he had been engaged in helping exterminate the Japs from the Aleutian Islands and to defend those Islands against further Japanese intrusions.

He had a part in the battle on Attu island and in other fighting in that area. Some few months ago he suffered a sever injury when an army truck on which he and other soldiers were resting, was sideswiped by another large truck. Besides painful chest injuries he suffered a badly broken arm and has since been on the hospital list.

Some two weeks ago he was transferred from a theatre in the northwest to the veterans hospital in Galesburg, Ill. After a visit of some two weeks here he will return to Galesburg for further treatment.

Seaman Wilson, not yet nineteen, has been in the navy almost two years and had been away from home for fourteen months. He has been a member of a crew on a supply tanker in the Pacific, and although it was not the purpose of the ship he was on to do any fighting, he was near enough to some of the major engagements in the Pacific to know what a sea battle is like.

His most recent experience was at Saipan and his ship helped to furnish the fuel for the fighting at Guadalcanal, the Gilbert Islands and at other places where the Navy has played an important role in blasting the Japs out of the water.

He will spend two weeks with his parents while his ship is being refitted with new armaments for further service in the Pacific warfare.