



With the Colors

8/22/44

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Roberts of Montrose have received a letter from their son, Staff Sergeant Will Roberts, who has been stationed in England thirteen months. A month had passed since he last wrote his parents, but he now writes he is in France. "I have had a few changes since I last wrote you so I suppose you have guessed by now I am in France over where the hunting is good. We are living in the field.

"I prefer it to the little town back in England. The country here is very much like it is back home but each field is about five or ten acres with a hedgerow on every side of it. I am living in one at this time, a few feet under ground in one of the holes that the boys ran the Jerries out of. Whenever we talk we have to yell, for there are so many of our planes in the air at all times, and believe me, everything is going swell up there.

"Most of the pastures have large apple trees in them that are bent to the ground from so many fine apples on them. We also see nice looking cows and horses in most of the pastures. We have our field kitchens going now. The meals are very good. My tentmate and I are lying in our pup tent writing on top of our mess kits. We had our hair cut short this week. The flies sure bite our heads now.

"We played foot ball last night, I could hardly get up this morning from the after effects. The climate

over here is much better than it was in England. I haven't met many French women yet. I guess the best of them were taken to Germany. We were told today we will start receiving incoming mail the first of next week. We get all of our rations free over here so you see we have no place to spend our money."

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In nine months overseas service with the Thirteenth AAF in the Southwest Pacific, Private First Class Paul B. Utley of Newton has prepared Liberators for seventy-five missions. Private Utley, mechanic in a Thirteenth AAF squadron of B-24s, has piled up his "missions" working under handicaps caused by tropical climate, extended supply lines and air force front line living conditions.

Day or night, Utley is on hand at the jungle air strip with other members of his crew to meet the returning bombers. Damage of the day's raid is repaired immediately and the planes are made ready for an instant emergency take-off. Liberators under Utley's charge are credited with the destruction of twelve enemy Zeros.

A son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Utley of Newton, the young technician entered the AAF in August, 1942, attended the Boeing School of Aeronautics on the west coast, and arrived overseas in November, 1943. Utley is authorized to wear the Asiatic-Pacific service ribbon with two battle stars for major Thirteenth AAF campaigns in the South, Southwest Pacific, and Central Pacific. He formerly was employed by the Lane Gas & Oil Company and the Newton Ice & Cold Storage Company.

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At An Advanced Base in the South Pacific:—Private First Class Lloyd E. Jourdan, son of Mrs. Ed Jourdan of Newton, is on duty here with a Quartermaster Refrigeration company at an advanced base in the South Pa-

cific. This organization operates and maintains refrigeration facilities for the armed forces in this area, and Private Jourdan is engaged in technical refrigeration work.

He is the father of Marilyn Kay Jourdan, of whom he is very proud. Entering the Army in October, 1942, he received his training at Fort McClellan, Alabama. He attended refrigeration school for the Army at Bloomington, and came overseas with this unit in December, 1943.

Private Jourdan has two brothers in the services, Corporal Leonard Jourdan, AAF, stationed in Australia, and Fireman Second Class John Calvin Jourdan, somewhere in the South Pacific.

He attended school in Newton, and graduated from the Newton Community high school.

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San Antonio Aviation Cadet Center, Texas. At the San Antonio Aviation Cadet Center, potential pilots, bombardiers and navigators are receiving preflight training to prepare them for aerial instruction and duties as aircrew members in the Army Air Forces.

The future fliers are subjected to a rigorous ten week program of instruction covering physical, academic and military training. At the Cadet Center, a unit of the AAF Training Command, they study maps and charts, aircraft identification, small arms and other subjects while being conditioned physically for the long training period ahead. Bombardiers, navigators and pilots receive the first five weeks of preflight instruction as a group, then are separated for specialized training.

The present class includes 535 from Illinois, one of them from Newton, John Harlan Seesengood of 115 Martin street.

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Private First Class Carl I. Flynn, United States Army, and Corporal C. D. Brinson, United States Marine Corps, were recently together for a day at a Naval hospital in the Pacific, they write Mrs. Flynn of Newton, a sister of Corporal Brinson. Clem, who was wounded at Tarawa, has been under treatment. Clem and Carl met Walter Chaney of Yale vicinity recently. Walter is in the Navy.

Private Flynn says that he has received another "shot" and should be immune from everything except old age when he returns from the service. He added that they had been having plenty of red headed visitors—six legged ones — recently, and said that they now have a bowling alley and other recreational facilities. He added that Clem was getting along fine and enjoyed their meeting.

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James A. Eaton is in receipt of a

letter from his son, Lieutenant Commander J. Mack Eaton, stating that he was with the first Marine assault on Guam and had seen plenty of fighting at first hand. Mack, who served in the first World war, has been a security officer for the Navy but has been transferred to the Marines.

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Corporal Gaillard Workman from Camp Buttner, North Carolina, is spending a fourteen day furlough with his family and mother, Mrs. L. P. Clagg of near Wheeler. His sisters, Mrs. Ernest L. Edwards Jr. of Lincoln and Mrs. Vern Foster of Kankakee, also spent the week end here.

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Seaman Second Class John E. Wooden, who has completed his "boot" training at Great Lakes, is spending a leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Wooden of Peoria, formerly of Newton.

Mr. and Mrs. Wooden also have a son, Corporal Floyd C. Wooden, stationed in the Hawaiian islands.

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Sergeant Melvin Weaver is convalescing following an operation for appendicitis at Camp Bowie, Texas, a week ago. He became ill in town and was operated on a short time later at the camp hospital.

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Private James Bebee of Newton writes from Corsica that he is getting along o. k. and is still in an anti-aircraft battery. He enjoys letters from Newton people. Write in care of his wife at Newton.