



With the Colors

8/4/44

Apprentice Seaman Jesse N. Jourdan of Company 1340 at Great Lakes Naval Training Station sends the following from the Great Lakes Bulletin:

"While the Navy is training thousands of sailors, who have never seen the sea, Company 1340, in Camp Maury, Green Bay, can boast of at least five "old salts," two of whom have seen battle action, and one ex-army man. Clarence J. Gubser of Fort Thomas, Kentucky, and Jack Monroe of Indianapolis already are veterans of this war, with vivid memories of their long stretch of duty in the Pacific. Both Gubser and Monroe took part in the invasion of the Marshall islands as members of the merchant marine. Gubser spent forty-eight days without sight of land.

George Wilkening of Whiting, Indiana, and Edward Lennon of Washington, D. C., have earned their sea-legs, too, Wilkening having shipped for eight years on the Great Lakes, and Lennon having spent a year with the merchant marine along the Atlantic coast.

From Ontario, Canada, come two other bluejackets in the same company, Ernest Tracy of Windsor, and Dan Harrington, Peterboro. Tracy was in the Canadian merchant marine before the war, and Harrington once served a hitch in the Canadian army. Both are Canadian citizens and are applying for United States citizenship.

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Machinist's Mate Second Class Joe Cummins, who is now at a San Bernardino, California, Naval hospital, after service in the Southwest Pacific, writes: "I just received the Press. It had been forwarded all over the Southwest Pacific. I sure enjoy the column 'With the Colors.'

"I am now in my sixth hospital and we were just given the right to wear seventeen invasion stars. We were plenty lucky, for we took a direct hit and had to be towed back for repairs."

He is now being given sulphur baths heated to 120 degrees for his injured knee. The hospital is a former resort hotel at Arrowhead Springs located in the mountains out of San Bernardino.

Joe adds that he would like to hear from Newton friends, especially Cy Warren and Bill Cantwell. His address is United States Naval Convalescent hospital, Room 404, Arrowhead Springs, San Bernardino, California.

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