



With the 2/1/44 Colors

Lieutenant William L. Mineo of Newton writes Rev. and Mrs. R. R. Finlayson of Newton from England, where he is stationed with the United States Army Air Force: "I remembered tonight that I had promised you folks a letter when I was home on leave last fall. No doubt you have learned by now that I am in England. Some of the concepts I had before I came here were a bit jostled and changed after I had seen a bit of the country.

"All in all I believe the Englishman has been painted too stern and withdrawn and their lack of wit and sense of humor has been overemphasized. From what contact I've had with them, they are easier to become acquainted with and friendlier than I had been led to believe, and some of them have a much better sense of humor than many Americans.

"Before I run out of space I do want to comment on Scotland and I'm sure that will interest you. I was there for just a short while recently but I saw enough to understand why the Scots love it so. Personally, I think it is beautiful and it has a grand climate. In the middle of winter the trees, grass and shrubbery up there are about as green as if it were midsummer. I hope I'll have the opportunity to visit it more thoroughly soon."

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Lieutenant Raymond W. Wagner Jr. writes his mother, Mrs. Raymond Wagner of near Newton, from overseas under date of January 11:

"Well how is everybody over there. I'm just fine myself. I got another letter from you today, November 16 was the date. My mail is improving some now. I get a few more and I'm sure glad of it.

"I sure hope I get my Christmas package soon, so I can see baby's picture. That Gerald must be quite a guy. Tell him I said 'Hello.' Tell him I will be home by and by.

"I had a little fun yesterday out on the trail. We were coming along the trail and a heard a noise in the trees overhead. I looked up and saw a big monkey going like the house afire. He finally stopped and I took careful aim with my carbine and fired. He just let all holds loose and down he came. One of the natives who was with me went over and got him. He had a big long tail and weighed sixty-five pounds.

"I shot him right through the top of the head, I had my picture taken with him. I was holding him up by the tail. I hope to get some of the pictures, too. I have seen a lot of sights over here so far. I walk most of the time. Think nothing of walking twenty miles a day."

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The following poem was written by Staff Sergeant William A. Glass for his wife now in Duck Hill, Mississippi.

Lovely Thoughts

Now we have a vacant
Lot with lots of apple trees,
But soon, there will be a
Porch, two lovers in the breeze.
For we are planning a little home
For two and maybe three.
You know, a little tot to call our own,
And hold upon our knee.
I know we hath with all our hearts,
Are planning and all this;
As we hug and snuggle closer,
And seal it with a kiss.
If some unexpected happening,
Should all our dreams destroy,
And we couldn't have
A sweet little girl or boy,
Or a home for just us two
With each others love to share.
Then we can say, 'twas for the best,
As we left things in His care.

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Intent upon mastering the mysteries of operating a radio set from rumbling, rolling tanks and half-tracks, a new class of enlisted men have now reported to the Armored School Communication Department at Fort Knox, Kentucky, upon orders of Major General Charles L. Scott, chief of the Armored Command.

Among these soldier students was Private First Class Robert F. Fear, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Fear of Willow Hill

The school trains annually the thousands of officers and enlisted technicians for the divisions and separate tank battalions that make up the mobile, powerful Armored Command. Commandant of the school is Brigadier General Joseph A. Holly.

The Communication Department is one of the eight in the school.

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At the preflight school of the San Antonio, Texas, Aviation Cadet center 238 cadets from Illinois, including Ralph C. Schackmann from Newton, are receiving training designed to

mold them into Army Air Forces pilots.

The nine-week course at the cadet center prepares the cadets for actual flight training. Curriculum includes physics, mathematics, code, naval and aircraft identification as well as rigorous physical training schedules. Completion of preflight school will bring promotion to the aerial classrooms of primary schools.

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Sergeant Ray Griffith has written his parents, Mr. and Mrs Alva Griffith of Yale, that he has been on a War Bond drive since rejoining his battery at Point Richmond, California. He said that his captain stated that he had been ordered to pick out twelve of his best men to take their guns and go to San Francisco to demonstrate their artillery. He was quite pleased with the work they did.

Finally, on Saturday night, Ray talked on the radio about ninety millimeter guns.

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Appointment of Miss Mildred Catherine Krone of Dieterich to the Army Nurse Corps, with the rank of second lieutenant, has been announced by Major General H. S. Aurand, commanding the Sixth Service Command, with headquarters in Chicago.

Miss Krone was graduated from Effingham high school and has practiced nursing for the Veterans' Administration at Alexandria, Louisiana and Hines. She has been assigned to Camp McCoy, Wisconsin.

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Mrs. Anna Fear of Newton has received word that her grand-son, William E Erwin, is in the station hospital at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, convalescing following an operation for appendicitis. He is in a mechanized Cavalry regiment.

His address is Private William E. Erwin, ward, 28, Station hospital 1, Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

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Staff Sergeant Lowell B. Story is spending a two weeks' furlough with his parents, Rev. and Mrs. James T. Story of Wheeler vicinity. He has been in Europe for two years, participating in the North African and Italian campaigns with a Medical battalion. He will report to Camp Logan, Colorado, from here. He is in fine health.

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Private Don Emery, who is somewhere in England, writes his father, Frank Emery of Newton, that he is well and has visited many important places there. He would like to hear from his friends. Write in care of Frank Emery, Newton.

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Private Homer L. Clark is now at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, where he is receiving his basic training. He will then be sent to a preflight school for special study before taking up his flying training.

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Don Bower has been promoted to seaman first class and will soon come up for examination as yeoman third class in the Navy, his wife has learned. He is in the Hawaiian islands.