



## With the *2/11/44* Colors

Mrs. George W. Etzell of Newton has received word that her sister, Mrs. W. S. Erhardt of Villa Grove, had received a message transcribed from a record played over the Japanese radio recently, alleged to have been made by Lieutenant Charles Erhardt. It was transcribed by a man in Minnesota who makes a hobby of transcribing such messages and sent the Erhardts by him.

The message read: "Hello friends and Americans!" Lieutenant Erhardt said in the record supposedly recorded in Zentsuji prison on the island of Skikou. "To anyone hearing my voice, my earnest desire is for you to get in touch with my wife, Mrs. Jule E. Erhardt, in Texas, and with my parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Erhardt of Villa Grove, Illinois."

He added that a cable sent him last March had reached him in October and said it was the first word he had received from his wife or family since 1941, and it made him "most excited."

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Private First Class James L. Wallace, Company C., First battalion, 26th Marines, Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, California, writes his father: "I hope you will forgive me for not writing sooner. So much has been happening to me lately I haven't had time to write to anyone. About a month ago they broke up the paratroops, just as we were getting ready to ship out. When they did it they said they couldn't jump paramarines out of the island, so I guess that is why they moved us from the tent camp into Camp Pendleton.

"We are living in barracks now. I'm writnig this from a hospital bed. I have been operated on for a strain, or something like that. I lost a lot of blood and am still pretty weak. My nurse said I have been sitting up too long now, so I had better close."

He is a son of L. A. Wallace and nephew of Mrs. Ira Goldsby. He joined the Marines at St. Louis in 1942 and was expecting to go overseas anytime; was to have gone in March but broke his foot and signed up for a later bunch.

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Radioman Second Class Gerald Field is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Irl Field of Newton, after many months in the Pacific area. Recently he has been a communications man at Naval headquarters at Pearl Harbor. He has been given an opportunity to qualify for officer's training and will attend some college or university and hopes to be sent to the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana.

Gerald is serving his second enlistment in the Navy, having been in the service before Pearl Harbor. He recently saw Stanley and Will Robards and other Jasper county boys serving in the Navy in the Pacific.

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Charles E. Geltz, coxswain in the United States Navy, returned to New York, Friday night, after spending a twelve day leave with his mother, Mrs. Minnie Geltz and his brother and sisters at Sainte Marie. He also celebrated his birthday and that of his pal, John Ochs, which occurred

on the same day, January 30. His brother, Gerald Geltz, in the United States Army, is in England, and says that the big moment is coming soon.

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Ensign Florent Schuch is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Schuch of near Newton. He is en-route from Banana River, Florida, where he has been in training as a Naval aviator, to the Pacific coast. On his way here, he visited his brother, Staff Sergeant John Schuch Jr. at Chatham field, Savannah, Georgia.

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In a letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dolph Maxwell of Willow Hill, Lieutenant Otis Maxwell asked that they take this way of thanking all the friends who so kindly remembered him at Christmas and on his birthday. The letters and cards were greatly appreciated. Lieutenant Maxwell is now in Italy.

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Sergeant Orville Collings of Fort Knox, Kentucky, is spending a furlough here with friends and relatives. He is driver of a ten ton wrecker truck, which is used to go out after wrecked tanks and trucks; and to pull them out when they are stuck in the mud.

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Mrs. Nora Riddle has received word that her son Sergeant Floyd M. Riddle is now with the American armed forces in England. He is well and is enjoying life. If anyone wishes to write to him, please address the letter in care of Mrs. Nora Riddle, Rose Hill.

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Corporal Eugene Salyers is spending a furlough here. He is an armored car driver in the Second Cavalry, which is now mechanized, and will attend radio school at Fort Riley, Kansas.

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William Ray Bunton, Claude Ronald Byrd, Jerry Wayne Chapman, Loren Cox and Babe Ruth Reed are home on a furlough from Great Lakes Naval Training Station on completion of their boot training.

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Mrs. Florent C. "Bub" Faller of Newton has received word from her husband that he is in England. He is working in an Army post office there.