

Newton Soldier Has Thrilling Experience *2/4/44*

Corporal Leonard B. "Bill" Jourdan Was a Crewman on Bomber When the Landing Gear Stuck

Mrs. Ed Jourdan, who is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Robert Michl, and her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Lloyd Jourdan here, has received word that her son, Corporal Leonard M. "Bill" Jourdan, was a participant in a thrilling sky drama in Australia on January 2. Mrs. Jourdan has resided at Evansville since her husband's death.

Dispatches from "down under" relate that Corporal Jourdan and fellow crewmen on a Mitchell bomber were on a test hop somewhere in Australia when the landing gear on the plane stuck. After the takeoff, it was discovered that the landing gear would not slide into position. The pilot, Lieutenant Lansing H. Myers of Isabel, Oklahoma, circled the field for two hours while the crew labored with the gear.

Veteran aviators who witnessed it, said the crash landing which the pilot made was the "prettiest" they had ever seen.

Corporal Jourdan has been in Australia for nearly two years with the Army Air Force, and has operated in the Australia-New Guinea area.