

James H. Dunnigan, seaman first class, writes the Press from Washington, D. C.: "I decided I would drop you a line to let you know how I am getting along. As you already know I am at the Solomons branch, Maryland. I am now on a ship which is a LCT, a landing craft tank ship. We pick up tanks, jeeps and men and take them to bases where they are fighting.

"Right now we are in training in which we go out on the Chesapeake bay and practice landing on the beaches, picking up tanks and going around on the Chesapeake and then come in on a landing, seeing how fast we can make a landing and get the

tanks and men off.

"We went on target practice Monday, at which we shoot at an air target and then a water target. I did pretty good at it. We used a twenty millimeter gun. We also had target practice with a .45 caliber tommy gun.

*June 14, 1944*

"Our crew consists of twelve men and the skipper. We will be here for about three to six weeks, then we get sent out to pick up a new ship which will be ours until she gets blown out of the water. We have a nice crew and one of them whose name is Kenneth French, whose home is in Dietrich. He is our cook, and his brother Calvin French, married Clella Short of Newton. We were together for about seven days before I knew we were so close together back home.

"He also has brother, Wilford "Peewee" French, who used to work for Kralis Poultry Company, but is in the Army. It is pretty nice to meet someone that knows the same people you do and you talk about old times.

"Today our ship is in dock, getting repairs and then we will be ready to go out on a cruise. I believe I would rather be on a LCT than I would on a cruiser or a destroyer. Well, this is just to let you know how things are going and to tell my friends hello. I better sign off until the next time."

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Corporal William H. Dulgar writes the Press under date of June 21, while at sea: "I haven't written you for quite some time so tonight will be a good time. I've been overseas for six months now and I've sure seen my share of the country. When I first came over I was at Brisbane, which is also in Australia.

"Then I was sent out on detached service on this hospital ship. The name of the ship is Maetsuycker. It is a Dutch ship with a Dutch crew. The hospital staff are all from the United States Army. This ship and the Tasman, another Dutch ship, are the only two Army hospital ships in the Southwest Pacific.

"When I first came on the ship we ran back and forth from New Guinea islands to Australia, but now we run back and forth from the islands, carrying patients back to the General hospital in New Guinea. We've been up to the Admiralty islands and also to New Britain. We're on our way north now. It's quite different over here in the way of weather than at home. It's hot everywhere, but the farther north you go the hotter it gets.

"The last time I was in Australia I ran into Wayne Cowger from Green-up. He's the first fellow I've run into that I know since I've been over here. Of all the patients we have I've never seen anyone I knew. No more news so I'll sign off and retire for the night."

"I hope my Presses start coming through. I've only received about seven since I've been over here."

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Lois M. Weck, aviation machinist's mate, second class, who is stationed at the Naval Air Station at Norfolk, Virginia, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred H. Weck and sister, Mrs. Harold Smallwood, and attending the Jasper county fair. She recently received a promotion from aviation machinist mate third class for work in connection with overhaul and repair of airplane engines.

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