



## With the Colors

6/19/44

Private First Class Marcell Martens sends this poem to his mother, Mrs. John Whightsel of Wheeler:

### The South Pacific

Somewhere in the South Pacific,  
Where the sun is like a curse,  
And each day is followed  
By another slightly worse;  
Where the almighty mud and jungle  
Are more than I can stand,  
And I'm always dreaming of  
That far and distant land.  
Somewhere in the South Pacific,  
Where a woman is never seen,  
Where the sky is always cloudy  
And the grass is always green;  
Where Tojo's mighty bombers  
Rob a man of nightly sleep,  
Where there aren't any cities  
And the mud is ankle deep.  
Somewhere in the South Pacific,  
Where the mail is always late,  
And a Christmas card in April  
Is considered up to date;  
Where we seldom see a pay day  
And seldom have a cent,  
But we never miss the money,  
Cause we never get it spent.  
Somewhere in the South Pacific  
Where the nights are made for love;  
Where the moon is a bright search-  
light,  
And the Southern Cross above  
Sparkles like a candle  
On a balmy, starlight night;  
What a shameful waste of beauty  
With no love in sight.  
Somewhere in the South Pacific  
Where the ants and lizards play,  
And a thousand fresh mosquitoes  
Replace the ones you slay;  
So take me back to Newton,  
To the one I love so well,  
For this God-forsaken outpost  
Is a substitute for hell.

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Burton Leroy Bevis of East Peoria, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy L. Bevis of Newton, is receiving his initial naval indoctrination at the United States Naval Training Center at Great Lakes.

His "boot" training consists of instruction in seamanship, military drill, and general naval procedure. During this period a series of aptitude tests will be taken by the recruit to determine whether he will be assigned to a Naval Service school or to immediate active duty at sea.

His recruit training completed, the seaman will spend a period of leave at home.

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Lieutenant Edward Resch from New Guinea, where he recently arrived: "I'm on the New Guinea shore but far from the fighting areas as they exist now. We have all the elements of tropical life, however, in our native friends, our coconuts, our jungle and our ever present down-pours. It has, in fact, rained constantly for five days and we truly have running water in our pyramidal tents. All in all it's rather pleasant and certainly doesn't suffer from lack of interest."

*June 9, 1944*

Berthal L. Adkins, fireman second class, has returned to Great Lakes after spending an eleven day leave with his wife and daughters at Willow Hill. He has been assigned to

the Basic Engineers school and will study all types of motors for eight weeks. Upon completion of this course he will be given tests to determine which type of engineer school he will be sent to for more extensive study.

*June 9 \* 1944 \**

Private First Class Thomas J. Yockey has been transferred from Fort Bliss, Texas, to Camp Swift, Texas. He has been in the post headquarters office for several months. His address is Headquarters battery, 141st Antiaircraft Artillery battalion (mobile), Camp Swifht, Texas.

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Private First Class Ray Harvey Jr., who is in an Artillery battalion of an Amphibious group in the South Pacific writes his aunt, Mrs. Cecil Chesnut of Newton vicinity, that he is well and to tell everyone hello for him.

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Ross J. Grove of West Liberty, Donald Wayne Woods of Newton vicinity and Oliver Lynn Corbin of Greenup have enlisted in the Navy. All are less than 18 years of age.

*June 9, 1944*

Specialist Technician First Class Dale Robinson is spending a leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Robinson of near Hunt City. He is stationed at Chicago with the Navy.

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Private First Class Bob Hubbard is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Hubbard of Newton.