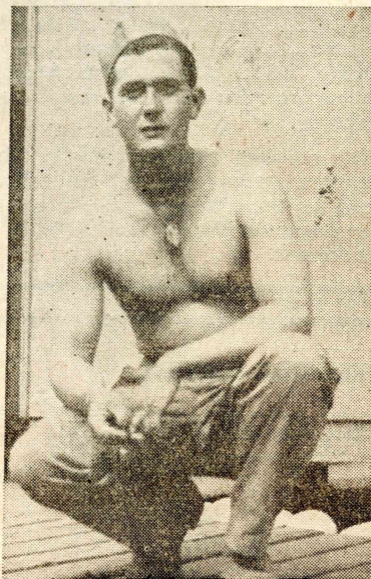




With the *5/5/44* Colors



Private First Class Dewey Grove Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Grove of West Liberty, who is with the Marines in New Britain, was well when last heard from.

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Corporal Roy Tracy writes Harold A. McNeas of Rose Hill from Nome, Alaska: "I have arrived back here, but I wish that I was back there in place of here. I enjoyed my furlough very much. Only one thing was wrong with it. It was not long enough, but I can't kick for I guess I am lucky to be where I can get a furlough.

"My trip back was very nice. I had to come back up the Alcan highway. It is much prettier in the winter than it is in the summer for all the mountains were covered with snow. How is the weather down that way? It is much warmer here now than it was when I left to come home but there sure is a lot more snow now. The days are getting longer, too.

"I am still doing the same old work, baking, but I like it just the same. I work one night and am off one night. I have been working tonight and had pie to bake. There is nothing else to do here but to work and go to a show once in a while."

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Seaman Second Class Francis A. Huber writes from Purdue university, Lafayette, Indiana: "Since I've been reading in the Press about all of those boys in the service, I guess I had better write a few lines to let all my friends in Jasper county know I'm in the Navy at Purdue university.

"This is a very nice place to be sent. I guess its mostly because I have somebody from Jasper county here with me. Jimmy Dunnigan and I are here together. He graduates May 11 and I graduate June 8. When we leave here we get a rating of firemen first class and a diploma for electrician. Must close now. Hoping to hear from some of my friends, I remain, Francis A. Huber s/2c, Naval Training school, Company 8, Section C, Purdue university, West Lafayette, Indiana."

Two Newton men have won early promotions in the United States Navy as result of their civilian technical training. Because they have had sufficient experience in trades essential in the Navy, and have been able to qualify with standards set for those ratings, they were given advancements upon completing their recruit training at the United States Naval Training Station at Great Lakes.

Recently home on leave, they have returned to Great Lakes for re-assignment to active duty aboard a warship in the United States fleet, or to some naval shore station.

The bluejackets and their new ratings are: Floyd F. Portlock, 36, specialist (mail) third class; and Edwin D. Lee, 31, ship's cook, third class.

*May 5, 1944 * **

Private Howard L. Hamilton of Martinsville, son of Mrs. Cecil Hamilton, publisher of the Martinsville Planet, and grand-son of Edgar Hamilton of Newton, has been awarded the Purple Heart medal for wounds received on Bougainville island in the Northern Solomons March 11. He received shrapnel wounds in his left arm but rejoined his unit after ten days of hospitalization.

He entered the Army in October, 1942, and was assigned to the Field Artillery, being sent overseas last July. Before entering the service, he was employed by the Illinois Pipe Line Company at Marshall. His wife, Mrs. Alma Lee Hamilton, is commercial teacher at the Martinsville high school.

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Mrs. Medfred S. Riley and son

Bobby have gone to Wichita Falls, Texas, where they will look after their furniture which they left there when Major Riley was transferred from Sheppard field to Lawson General hospital, Atlanta, Georgia. Recently, they had made their home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John H. Wolf of near Wheeler.

Major Riley wrote his wife this week that he had landed safely overseas. It is believed that he is in England, although this isn't certain.

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Sergeant Carl Ragon, who has been serving in the Infantry of the United States Army for the past eighteen months, has received a medical discharge from the service, and has returned to reside with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Ragon in Hazel Dell. Sergeant Ragon, who is a diabetic, was treated at the Moore General hospital in North Carolina before his discharge.

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Fred Chaney, who is in boot training at Great Lakes Naval Training Station, is now in a Navy Choir company. He sings for church services and at times over the radio on a national hookup. He is finding that life in the Navy never has a dull moment, but likes it fine.

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Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Cunefare of near Gila has received a letter from their son, Lieutenant Noel Cunefare, stating that he had arrived in England safely. He wrote that it was a beautiful country.

Lieutenant Cunefare is a pilot on a Flying Fortress bomber.

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Mark, little son of Corporal and Mrs. Thomas Spencer of Newton, was taken to St. Anthony's hospital, Effingham, Tuesday, for treatment for an infected throat and lungs. Corporal Spencer is overseas.

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Alfred Paul Rohr, 17 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Rohr of Boos, enlisted in the Navy last week through the Effingham recruiting station.

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Private Chester Semple of Camp Wolters, Texas, is spending a furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Evan Semple of West Liberty.