



With the Colors

April 24,
1945

Headquarters, AAF Service Command, Italy.—Private Paul E. Clark, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elza Clark of Route Four, Newton, was recently graduated from the first Cooks and Bakers school ever conducted here. Clark, who is now assigned to an Air Service Command service squadron somewhere in Italy, has been overseas since December, 1942. Prior to entering the armed forces in September, 1942, he was employed in farming with his father.

More than forty enlisted men from Service Command units all over Italy journeyed to this headquarters to enroll in the school, which has proven so successful that regular classes will be held in the future. The training schedule included films, lectures, demonstrations, and even homework, as well as an opportunity for each student to "test his skill in the kitchen."

Organizer and chief instructor of the course was first Lieutenant Edgar E. Leonard of Bristol, Virginia. A member of the Army Quartermaster Corps since 1930, Lieutenant Leonard established a similar school in 1942 at Grand Central palace, a huge induction center in the heart of New York City.

Lectures and classes ranged from "Fillings and Icings" to "Nutrition and Digestion," while the final two and one-half hour, written examination included such questions as "What is roughage and in what group of foods is it found?" and "Is it necessary to incorporate air in a cake batter?"

Each enrollee was assigned to cook three meals every four days—and these same meals were later served to the students themselves. "We had a few burnt pastries along the way," commented Lieutenant Leonard, "and a few instances of rather highly seasoned foods, but, after all, that happens in the best of families."

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Lois Weck Lockwood, a Wave, who is stationed at Norfolk, Virginia, writes her sister, Mrs. Harold Smallwood of Newton:

"What did you all do Easter? That week end two girl friends and I went to the house of an uncle of one of them in Richmond, Virginia. We had a nice dinner and a fine time. There are very few Waves there, so every soldier and sailor was looking at us with our uniforms in perfect condition.

"That night we visited the Army hospital there. You ought to see those poor boys. One little fellow (they said he was 19, but he looked 16), who lost a leg in Germany last month, just got back to the United States. We talked to him for a long time. He seemed so brave; joked about learning to walk again.

"We talked to all the boys. Some had no arms, some had frozen feet, all black and swollen.

"We didn't know whether to laugh or cry and the way they howled and whistled at us. We go out there every time we go to Richmond. The boys get very few visitors, some none at all, and of course being in the service we get a lot of kidding and they really do enjoy a visit from us girls.

"I must quit now and go to work. I'm still on night shift, but I like it."

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Robert Davidson, electrician's mate third class, surprised his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Forrest G. Davidson and sisters of near Newton, Friday evening. He had returned to the states from a year's service in the Pacific area. The aircraft carrier he was on was damaged while in action off the coast of Japan.

He wears four bronze stars and one silver star on his campaign ribbons, for different engagements with the enemy. Robert has seen action around the Marianas, Carolines, Bonins, Philippines, Formosa, South China sea, Okinawa, Japan proper, and many other islands; also the Battle of the Philippine sea and the Battle of Leyte gulf. He will return the first of next month to the west coast for overseas duty.

Miss Betty Davidson of Bloomington, came with her brother, Robert, to visit for a week.

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Private First Class Coy Kirts Ellison of Sainte Marie, has sent the Good Conduct medal for efficiency, honor and fidelity to his mother, Mrs. Ina Ellison of Olney.

He is known as "Red" and has been in the South Pacific for sixteen months.

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Private Homer J. Whitehurst of Wheeler has been awarded an Expert Rifleman badge for marksmanship at the Infantry Replacement Training Center at Camp Fannin, Texas.

Private Whitehurst is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Eber Whitehurst of northwest of Newton. He is learning the art of soldering in Company "D", 58th battalion, Twelfth Training regiment.

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Staff Sergeant Charles Wooden Jr. is home after more than sixty missions over Germany and German occupied territory with the United States Army Air Force. He and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wooden of Dixon, formerly of Bogota vicinity, were here over the week end. Sergeant Wooden is a tail gunner on a bomber.

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Private Lewis E. Woods of Willow Hill, has been awarded an Expert Rifleman badge for marksmanship at the Infantry Replacement Training Center at Camp Fannin, Texas.

Private Woods is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Scott Woods of Willow Hill. He is learning the art of soldiering in Company D, 83rd battalion, Fifteenth Training regiment.

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Mr. and Mrs. William Benskin of near Newton have received word that their son, Technical Sergeant Oran E. Benskin will be home on a furlough in a few days. He has been overseas for two years in the Pacific and it has been four years since he was home.

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Warrant Officer Joseph Schuch has been placed on the retired list. He served twenty-six years in the Navy, participating in the Normandy landings in France on the U. S. S. Texas and the subsequent shelling of Nazi forts by the Texas and other battleships and cruisers.

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Private First Class Woodrow Jourdan is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Jourdan of South Newton. He was wounded in France and has been in a hospital in California, recently.

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Mr. and Mrs. Walter McCoy of Yale have received word that their son, Corporal Otis McCoy, is on his way home and hope to see them all soon after serving three years overseas.

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Corporal Raymond Shryock has been given a discharge from the Army. He was wounded in the head and leg by shrapnel in France last fall and has been hospitalized since then.

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Lois Dale Robins, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Robins of West Liberty, has been transferred from Great Lakes Naval Training Station to the Seabee base at Davisville, Rhode Island.

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Signalman Third Class Clifford Warfel was a week end visitor with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Warfel of Newton. He had to return to his ship Saturday.

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Sergeant Paul McCormick, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl G. McCormick of Newton, has landed overseas with the Marines.