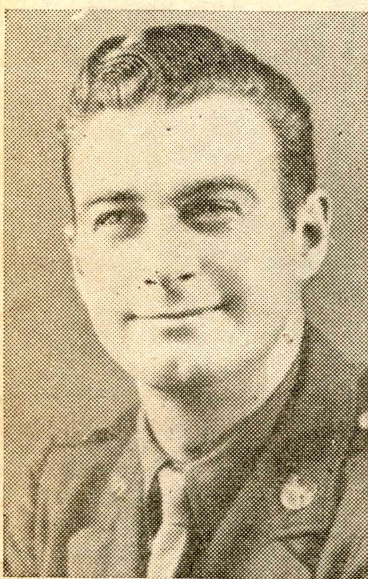




## With the Colors

*July 17, 1945*

Staff Sergeant Vincent F. Huber, son of Laurence Huber of Willow Hill vicinity, has been admitted to the AAF Regional and Convalescent hospital, Miami, Florida, for treatment and rest. He was a prisoner of war in Germany.



In addition to receiving regular treatment from a staff of Army physicians, nurses and specialists, Sergeant Huber will participate in physical training, recreation and classroom activities which are part of the hospital's program to help soldiers attain complete recovery.

Patients at the hospital also take part in the convalescent services program which gives them an opportunity to plan post war homes, sketch, paint, work in the machine and wood-working shops, and study music and languages.

\* \* \* \* \*

Private First Class John O. Bangert, a son of Mrs. Elizabeth Bangert of Ingraham, and a son-in-law of W. R. Cochran of Bogota, is a member of the 143rd Infantry regiment which marked its second anniversary overseas with a drive into German soil through the Siegfried line to the Rhine river. In a few days' time they captured 2,886 German prisoners.

The 143rd, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Charles J. Donjam of Poughkeepsie, New York, won a high reputation for combat efficiency in all types of battles. It stormed the beaches of Italy and Southern France and performed the tedious task of taking rugged mountain heights. Troops of the 143rd gobbled up as much as seventy miles a day as part of the Butler task force, a flying column which later, with the rest of the Thirty-sixth division, bottled up the entire German Nineteenth army in the Rhine valley.

Since its baptism of fire on D-day at Salerno, Italy, where it was among the first American infantry units on European soil, its men have amassed 365 combat days and captured over 23,000 Germans. It participated in the liberation of Naples and fought bloody battles below Cassino.

Breaking out of the Anzio beach-head in a Thirty-sixth division infiltration maneuver, described as one of the greatest strategic feats of the war. It sped through Rome to the hills overlooking Pisa. In France it was part of the "stopper" that trapped thousands of Nazis near Montelimar and later helped wipe out the German armies in the Saar.

Mrs. John O. Bangert is employed in Chicago by the Rheems Manufacturing Company.

\* \* \* \* \*

Manus island, fifty by fourteen miles in extent, largest of the Admiralty group, lies 6,000 miles southwest of San Francisco and 200 miles below the equator. It is an important naval base.

Los Negros, an adjacent isle forms the huge sheltered harbor of Seeadler. This harbor is large enough to hold at one time all the ships of all the navies of all the Allied nations. The Seabees, a branch of the Navy, took over this Jap held group in March of last year in a brief but bloody blitz. They took everything they needed with them, which included bulldozers, jeeps, peeps, and other mechanical devices for road building and other construction projects.

They built machine shops, a tire repair depot, mess hall and galley, radio station, post office, stores, reservoir for storing water and chlorination plant to purify it, a hospital, small dispensaries, administrative offices, a malaria control center, reception center and a communication system in which palm trees became telephone poles. Rows of huts are living quarters for the men.

Recreation grounds include a bas-



ket ball and hand ball court, base ball diamond and a fenced in bathing beach, two clubs for commissioned officers and one for petty officers. Seven separate movies show a new feature each night.

Major obstacles were not the Japs but the climate and disease. Heavy rains almost daily average 196 inches annually. The temperature ranges from 115 to 135 degrees.

Malaria is now so efficiently controlled that mosquitoes are seldom seen close to the beach. Everyone on shore and on ships within a mile of shore are ordered to take an atabrine tablet every day as a repressive measure; however, the only sure preventive is not to be bitten by a mosquito. Many other virulent diseases are in the interior of the island. Native villages and the jungles are restricted to all service men except regular patrols. This is due to diseases. Some Japs are still hiding out in bamboo thickets of the central mountain. The exact number is not known but occasionally a Jap will wander to the shore and surrender. No interference is expected from them as they have tried only once to bomb Manues.

Samuel A. Drake, machinist's mate second class, son of Mrs. Emma Drake, has been serving with the Seabees in that area since January of this year.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mrs. George W. Charter recently received word that her husband, now stationed in India, has been promoted to the rank of captain.

Captain Charter has been in the China-Burma-India theatre with the Thirty-third Fighter Group for eleven months, serving first in India and then in Burma, moving in fifty miles behind the retreating Japanese. The Thirty-third Group now wears two combat stars.

Mrs. Charter is the former Maxine Scott, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer J. Scott of Newton.

\* \* \* \* \*

Lieutenant Minnie Alcorn, an Army nurse, is visiting her husband's parents, Mr. and Mrs. James G. Alcorn of Newton. She is stationed at an Army hospital at Charleston, South Carolina, after having been on a hospital ship for several months. Her husband, Lieutenant Fred Alcorn, is in Europe with the Army postal service.

\* \* \* \* \*

Private Clayton Wright arrived home on a thirty day furlough, Monday night, after a year's service in France, Belgium, Germany and Czeckoslovakia. He was in the 347th Infantry and landed in New York on the West Point last Wednesday, and arrived in Chicago, Sunday. Later he will report to Fort Benning, Georgia, for service in the Pacific.

\* \* \* \* \*

Sergeant William Mendenhall is home on furlough after two years in England, France, Belgium and Germany, visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Mendenhall of Newton vicinity, and his sisters, Mrs. Raymond Sinclair and Mrs. Neil Woods and families of this city.

\* \* \* \* \*

Yeoman First Class Jim DeVaney was in Newton over the week end visiting his wife here and looking after his Ford business. His ship, a Coast Guard manned destroyer escort, is being fitted for service in the Pacific, and seeing much convoy duty in the Atlantic.

\* \* \* \* \*

Seaman Second Class and Mrs. Julian Coplon are the proud parents of a baby daughter, Patricia Jane, born July 10. Grand-parents are Dr. and Mrs. A. G. Coplon of Chicago and Mr. and Mrs. William Ping of Newton vicinity.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. Roland Clark of Newton are the parents of an eight pound daughter, born Sunday at the Effingham hospital. Mr. Clark is an athletic specialist in the Navy, stationed at Pensacola, Florida. Mr. and Mrs. Merritt A. Clark are grand-parents.

\* \* \* \* \*

Technical Sergeant John A. Schuch Jr. is spending a thirty day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Schuch of near Newton. He served as a radio operator and gunner with the Fifteenth Air Force in Italy.

\* \* \* \* \*

Corporal Neil "Max" Romack is spending a furlough with his wife and children, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Rolla B. Romack of Rose Hill. He was injured in Europe and has been hospitalized.

\* \* \* \* \*

Staff Sergeant Bernard D. Cornwell is home from Percy Jones hospital, Battle Creek, Michigan, on a thirty day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hal Cornwell, and other relatives in Newton.

\* \* \* \* \*

Yeoman Third Class Ruby Brackett is visiting her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Amos Dufrain of Newton. She is stationed at Chicago with the Waves.

\* \* \* \* \*