



With the *July 31,* Colors *1945-*

Aboard the USS Birmingham in the Pacific.—Pearl E. Klier, electrician's mate first class of Newton vicinity, serves aboard this ship which can look back on 121,500 miles of fighting the Axis from the invasion of Sicily to the battle of Okinawa..

The Birmingham struck at Okinawa targets six months prior to the landings and gave fire support to mine-sweepers clearing the approaches to the island. During the campaign, she sank thousands of tons of shipping.

Operating with the famed Third and Fifth fleets and Task Forces 38 and 58, she bombarded Wake island, participated in air strikes on Tarawa, took three hits at Bougainville, shelled Shortland island and hurled her might into the assaults on Saipan, Tinian and Guam.

At Mindanao, she sank 3,000 tons of shipping and assisted in the destruction of another 3,000. At Bougainville, she blasted four Jap planes out of the sky and scored hits on eleven others.

Following the battle for Leyte gulf, the Birmingham was damaged for the second time. She had gone alongside the USS Princeton to battle fires resulting from a direct hit. The ships lay in a trough of the rough waters separated by about fifty feet when a terrific blast from exploding bombs and torpedoes in the Princeton rained death on the decks of the Birmingham.

After three months for repair, the Birmingham steamed out again to take part in the Iwo Jima operation and the battle for Okinawa.

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Aboard a Carrier in the Pacific.—Donovan Dean Scott, seaman first class, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Scott of Newton, serves on this aircraft carrier which has battled the Japs in nearly forty engagements in the Pacific, ranging from the early campaign at Guadalcanal to recent strikes against Kyushu.

This carrier took part in operations in the Gilberts, at Kwajalein, raids on Truk, and the Palaus. She participated in the invasion of Hollandia, in New Guinea, and neutralization of Jap bases in the Marianas.

She played an active part in the capture and occupation of Saipan, the Battle of the Philippine Sea and raids on the Bonins. The carrier fought in the Battle of Leyte Gulf, and the occupation and defense of Luzon.

Early this year she participated in raids on Formosa, Hongkong, French Indo-China and the Tokyo area and took part in the battle for Iwo Jima.

Scott, who helps operate a forty millimeter antiaircraft gun aboard ship, attended Newton Community high school and has been in the Navy twenty-one months.

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Sergeant Karl S. Hamilton has returned to the Glennan General hospital at Okmulgee, Oklahoma, after spending thirty days with his wife at Newton and his parents Mr. and Mrs. John P. Hamilton of Gas City, Indiana.

He landed in the United States, June 8, after serving twenty-two months overseas and being wounded the second time.

He spent the first two weeks in Jasper county with his wife and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Kinder of Newton. Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton and daughter Aileen spent their vacation in Illinois with him and he and his wife later accompanied them back to their home in Gas City.

He looks fine and says "It's grand to be home again, only thirty days doesn't last long enough. He hopes to get a discharge in the near future.

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Gunner's Mate Bertie E. Sparks recently spent a few days leave in Newton and vicinity, after his third trip on a supply ship across the Atlantic ocean. A great part of his leave was spent at Olney with his mother, Mrs. Millie Sparks, who was an operative patient at a hospital there.

He returned to New Orleans, Louisiana, to board his ship and in a letter sent to his brother, Lowell Sparks, said he hoped a letter from them would be waiting when he stopped the next time, somewhere in the South Pacific.

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Corporal Kenneth Wilson is spending a thirty day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Wilson of Newton. He was a truck driver for the Seventy-first Infantry and saw service in France and Germany, helping take Metz fortress. He wears the Combat Infantryman's badge and the European, African, Middle Eastern Theatre ribbon with three battle stars.

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Seaman Second Class Victor Dorn

has returned to Williamsburg, Virginia, after having spent a ten day leave with his wife and family of Newton. He just finished his boot training at Camp Peary, Virginia.

Sergeant Lorrain J. Dorn, who was wounded over in Germany, has arrived in the United States and has been sent to an Army hospital.

They are sons of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dorn of Bogota vicinity.

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Captain Nila P. Rutherman, Army Nurse Corps, who has been stationed at Camp Stoneman, California, for the past three years, returned to California, Saturday, after a brief visit with her family and friends in Illinois. She had accompanied a patient to a hospital in North Carolina and was granted a short leave enroute. Her sister, Miss Lydia Rutherman of Newton, will join her later in her new home at Concord, California.

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Sergeant Troy W. Oakes of Wheeler has received an honorable discharge from the Army, after service in the Cavalry. He wears the Purple Heart ribbon for wounds received in the Italian campaign and the European, African, Middle Eastern Theatre ribbon with four stars for campaigns in French Morocco, Tunisia, Sicily and Italy.

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Sergeant and Mrs. Charles M. Babbitt of Warner Robins, Georgia, are the parents of a son, William Gail Babbitt, born July 17. Mrs. Babbitt is the former Carolyn Hays of Newton, a daughter of Mrs. Ruby Hays. Sergeant Babbitt is stationed with the Army Air Force at Robins field.

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Boatswain's Mate Second Class Duane M. Sims is leaving today after a four day visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred M. Sims of Newton. He was enroute from the Atlantic coast, where he has been on a Naval tug, to the Pacific coast. He is expecting a new assignment.

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Technician Fifth Grade Herbert D. Stevenson of Wheeler, who is assigned to the Reception station of the War Department Personnel center of the 1850th Service Command unit at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, has been promoted to the rank of technician fourth grade.

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William C. Hays has been promoted from seaman first class to yeoman third class. He is on a landing ship, tank, in the Pacific. So far he has been at sea eight months and has participated in three invasions.

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Private Lon Cleaver Jr. is spending a thirty day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lon Cleaver of near Newton. He was with the Sixty-first General hospital near Oxford, England.

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Sergeant Melvin Weaver is spending a thirty day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Weaver of Newton. He was a radio operator with the Thirteenth Armored division.

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Corporal Clyde Resch is spending a thirty day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Resch of Newton. He was with a Railway Operating battalion in France and Germany.

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Staff Sergeant Gerald A. Fear is spending a thirty day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Fear of near Newton. He saw service with the Fifth army in Italy.

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Corporal Kenneth Mielke of Wheeler is home on furlough after having spent a couple of years in England with the Army Air Force.

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Lieutenant Paul W. Vanatta is now stationed at Roswell, New Mexico, with the Army Air Force.