



With the Colors *June 26, 1945*

Mr. and Mrs. Millard Miller of Yale has received the following letter from Lieutenant Robert Barth, pilot on a B-24 Liberator bomber in which their son, Staff Sergeant Earl D. Miller, is a turret nose gunner:

"I would like to take this opportunity to write a few lines about your son Earl as the pilot, and fellow members of this crew. You can feel sure that I speak for the other eight members, as well as myself, when I tell you it has been a pleasure as well as an honor to have served together as a crew, with him, through our successfully safe tours. I'm sure it has been an adventure none of us shall soon forget, with many pleasant memories, as well as those less pleasant.

"We have also acquired a priceless companionship from living and working together as closely as we have, in combat, from which I'm certain all of us have learned and benefitted.

"Though he may never be fully rewarded for the part he has contributed toward bringing all of us safely through, I want you to know how deeply we all appreciate his unlimited co-operation and the splendid way he always carried out his job for all of our good. It takes ten men to make a crew and we like to feel we had the best. I sincerely believe that we did. You have every reason to be extremely proud of him and his achievements as we are.

"He always conducted himself as you would have wanted, and reflected the highest credit upon you. Believe me, I have never regretted for a moment serving together as part of this crew, and as we are near returning home, 'to who knows what.' I say without reservation, I would not hesitate to serve together again, if circumstances demand that either of us need serve another tour of combat. Needless to say, we all hope that isn't necessary.

"I only regret I cannot meet you personally to thank you and express my gratitude to you for what you have given us, in Earl. Perhaps I may be able to someday. In that I hope."

Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.—Funneling supplies to the vast Pacific fleet is the important task of the Naval Supply Depot here. One of the Navy men engaged in this vital supply program is Seaman Second Class Russell L. Howard of Rose Hill. Howard attended Rose Hill high school and was engaged in farming prior to his enlistment in the Navy, October 4, 1944. His parents, are Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Howard.

The importance of the Supply Depot's work was emphasized by Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander in chief of Pacific ocean areas, when he said that this war is a conflict of "beans, bullets, and oil," all problems of logistics handled by the Naval Supply Depot. The depot is the most important Pacific link in the chain of supply for the mighty fleet now battering at the doors to Tokyo.

* * * * *

Mr. and Mrs. James Picquet of Sainte Marie received letters last week from their sons, Jim, aviation machinist's mate first class, and Gene, aviation ordnanceman first class, U. S. Navy. Both letters were in one envelope. The brothers met recently in Hawaii. It was their first meeting in four and a half years, and was such a happy event they decided to sit down together and write home about it.

Jim enlisted in November, 1940, and Gene enlisted in July, 1941. Both have seen extensive action in the Pacific.

* * * * *

Vincent C. Kocher, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kocher of Willow Hill vicinity, has been discharged from the Army Air Corps, after having served in the Southwest Pacific for thirty-eight months. He had 120 points and wears the Distinguished Unit badge, Asiatic-Pacific and Philippine Liberation ribbons with seven battle stars for participation in the North Solomons, Mandated islands, South Philippines, East Indies, Papuan, New Guinea and Bismarck archipelago campaigns, besides the American defense and Good Conduct ribbons and six overseas bars.

* * * * *

Garland Albert Diel, 22, of Gila vicinity has been advanced to motor machinist's mate, first class, while serving aboard a destroyer escort in the Atlantic fleet.

He enlisted in the Navy in October, 1942, and has been serving aboard his present vessel for twenty-two months. He wears the American Theatre and

European - African Theatre ribbons with one star for fighting in enemy air attacks in the Mediterranean.

* * * * *

Corporal Millard Otis McCoy, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter McCoy of Yale vicinity, has received a discharge from the Army after having served thirty-seven months overseas in addition to eight months in the United States. He wears the Asiatic-Pacific ribbon with one battle star, the American Defense and Good Conduct ribbons and six overseas stripes.

* * * * *

Staff Sergeant Frank V. Fehrenbacher, stationed at Wiesbaden, Germany, visited his brother, Private First Class Gilbert Fehrenbacher, stationed at Heilbrann, Germany, on June 10. It was a happy meeting, while the brothers were together. "We toured a number of Germany's ruined cities in Sergeant Fehrenbacher's jeep," they wrote home.

* * * * *

Gerald Field, an officer candidate at Notre Dame university at South Bend, Indiana, is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Irl Field of Newton. He was in the Navy before Pearl Harbor and saw much of the early action in the Pacific.

* * * * *

Sergeant John R. Diel is spending a furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Diel of northwest of Newton, and his brother, Willis D. Diel, who was recently discharged from the Army Air Forces. John served twenty-six months overseas.

* * * * *

Earl L. Elder has received a discharge from the service after having been hospitalized at San Antonio, Texas, for yellow fever. He was in the service thirty-nine months as a radio operator, but was never overseas.

* * * * *

Private First Class Joseph Bartheleme, who is a patient at the convalescent hospital at Camp Custer, Michigan, spent the week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Bartheleme of Sainte Marie.

* * * * *

Private Marion Jones and Miss Marie Zuber returned to Chicago after a few days visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Zuber of near Newton. Private Jones will return to Fort Riley, Kansas.

* * * * *

William Cantwell Jr. is here from Rice Institute, Houston, Texas, where he is attending a Naval officer's school, visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Cantwell of Newton.

* * * * *

James Doerr is here from Alma, Michigan, where he is attending the Naval R. O. T. C. at Alma college, visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Doerr of Newton.

* * * * *

Corporal and Mrs. Harold Law Jr. have gone to Kerns field, Utah, after a visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Law of Newton.

* * * * *

Dale Wakefield is here on leave, visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Wakefield of Newton. He is in the Navy.