



## With the *May 18, 1945* Colors

Corporal John H. Maxwell writes Ray E. Everly of Newton from Okinawa under date of May 8: "I just received a few papers from home and about forty letters. Of course our mail hasn't been keeping up with us. I will admit we have been on quite a few islands since we left Leyte.

"Boy was that ever a nice place. All the people were real nice. About all the boys had tent-boys, just like big shots. They were practically all friendly and very good workers. At one time, or I should have said for at least a week, it looked like we had two armies to feed.

"They were very mannerly. Anything you gave them, they thanked you very much, for all of them call MacArthur their God. They never take anything, and in every village they have beauty parlors and barber-shops and also make very pretty rugs and table spreads.

"I got a few souvenirs but not many, as I knew we had a tough road ahead of us, and it sure has been. I was reading in one of my papers a piece that Ernie Pyle had written which was very good.

"He was on Iwo Jima when we were. He started up to the front with a lieutenant when a sniper shot him. The Japs' were sure dug in there; they had every kind of weapon with mines ever yard.

"This place is a little quieter now than it was a week ago. There are some long toms about 100 yards from me and every time they shoot I jump. We have air raids every day and night. The Japs sure lost lots of planes on these two islands. Their back door isn't far away now. We sure have come a long way in the last year.

"Jasper county is well represented over here but I can't say just who. The weather here is nice and cool of nights. I use two blankets and don't forget the mosquito net and lots of repellent just like Brown's sand bar. About my home: I have a cave with side walls and dirt roof about a foot thick, and believe it or not, a real cot. Of course I had to put the legs on it. I also have a tent.

"When there is an air raid we watch the ack ack and then the Japs catches fire and sometimes there are lots that go down. Of course you listen to the news, so you can tell by that about how many get by. We had a super-duper dinner — fresh steak, green peas, fresh cabbage, fresh carrots, biscuits. Of course last night I baked three sheet pans of cherry pie the kind grand-ma used to make and grand-pa threw out. Boy it was a splendid dinner, about \$5.00 a plate in the states.

“Some of the boys are out riding this evening as we have twelve horses in our company now, and an old sow with eight little pigs, which get all our spare moments. Last night two boys milked three cows they caught and the medical officers said it was good milk, so I guess we will have milk now. Of course no one knows what milk is, as it has been over fifteen months since we saw any. All we need to have for a farm is a dozen old hens; I mean chickens.”

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First Lieutenant Daniel Wayne King, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ona M. King of Falmouth, has been assigned to an Officers' Maintenance engineering course at Chanute field, Rantoul. He is a veteran of fifty missions with the Mediteranean Air Force, with which he served as a pilot.

Students in the engineering course are selected on the basis of their technical knowledge and experience. Instruction covers all phases of aircraft maintenance and lasts five months.

*May 18, \* \* \* 1945*

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Wilson of Newton are in receipt of a letter from their son, Corporal Kenneth Wilson, the first word they had received in several weeks. He said he was in the Bavarian Alps near Brenner pass, and that there was snow on the ground. He is with the Seventh army and was well, but very busy.

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Corporal Oscar C. Strutner, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. Strutner of West Liberty, has reported to Fort Sheridan, after spending a furlough with his parents and other relatives.

Corporal Strutner is a cook in a P-38 Lightning fighter group of the Fifteenth AAF that was in the European Theatre for twenty-four months.

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Orla Houser, gunner's mate second class, left Sunday night for Norfolk, Virginia, where he will join his

new ship, a destroyer. Bill has been recommended for promotion to gunner's mate first class, after completing the work at the Advanced Gunnery school at San Diego, California.

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Mancel C. Allen Jr., 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Allen of 805 South Van Buren street, Newton, is receiving his initial Naval indoctrination at the United States Naval Training Center, Great Lakes. When his recruit training is completed, he will receive a period of leave.

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Mrs. Wilford French of Newton has a letter from her husband, Private First Class French, stating that he was in the hospital in Europe. He didn't tell what was the matter with him and asked her not to worry; that he was all right.

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Charles Neil Woods, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Woods of Dundas vicinity, has applied for enlistment in the United States Navy at the local recruiting office. He will go to Springfield for his final examination next week.

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Private First Class Charles A. Frauli arrived home Wednesday on a sixty day furlough from a hospital in South Carolina, for a visit with his wife and baby. He served eighteen months in the Southwest Pacific. Mrs. Frauli as the former Ruby Utley.

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Mrs. Etta Price of Hunt City has received word on May 6, that her son, Private First Class Floyd E. Price, received severe burns on his face, hands and arms in an explosion. Any one wishing to write him or send cards, send in care Mrs. Price.

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Private Donald R. Wagner from Camp Hood, Texas, is spending a furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Wagner of near Newton. He is being transferred to Fort Ord, California.

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Private James Whitehurst is spending a furlough from Camp Hood, Texas, with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eber Whitehurst of near Newton.

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Private Glenn Haggard is home on a furlough from California.