



With the Colors

Oct. 5, 1945

Fire Controlman Third Class Ronald Byrd writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Byrd of Willow Hill, under date of September 22, from Sasebo, Kyushu, Japan:

"Well, we didn't stay long at Okinawa, less than thirty-six hours in fact. We left there the evening of the 19th and got here this evening. Yes, I'm in Japan. We are tied up in the harbor at Sasebo, which is located on the southwest side of Kyushu island. It is just about forty-five miles north of Nagasaki, where the second atomic bomb was dropped. Sasebo was a Jap naval base and we saw some of their carriers, destroyers and submarines.

"The occupation forces landed here yesterday, so I don't know how long it will be before our mail will go out or we will receive any. The last letter I had from you was the one of September 1. There are sure a lot of troop ships and others, too, in here already so I guess it won't be too long until they have a post office set up. The talk is that we won't be here long, but of course I don't know.

"This is really a pretty country; very mountainous and they seem to cultivate the soil all the way to the top of every hill. They are all terraced and so green. I was on the range finder coming in and saw people up on the mountainsides working in their small patches.

"This seems to be a rainy climate or at least it's been raining ever since we got in sight of the place and it is a lot cooler here."

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Technical Sergeant Cornelius Volk has been discharged from the Army. He served two years and a half in the Southwest Pacific with the First Cavalry division and wears the Purple Heart and Philippine Liberation medals with two bronze battle stars, and the American defense and Asiatic-Pacific theatre ribbons with four bronze battle stars.

The First Cavalry division was the first American division to enter Tokyo but Sergeant Volk left it before the outfit sailed for Japan.

His brother, Private First Class Urban Volk of Newton, was killed in action in the Ardennes battle in Belgium.

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Sergeant Estle I. Short received an honorable discharge and is at his home west of town. He entered the service in January, 1942, and was overseas twenty-three months. He was in the Normandy invasion on D-day, saw service in England, France, Germany and Czechoslovakia. He belonged to the 71st Tank battalion and holds the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, European theatre and good conduct ribbons.

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Mrs. Flora Shedlebower of Sainte Marie, who is ill at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Alice Alexander of 2904 Richmond avenue, Mattoon, has received the Good Conduct medal and

ribbon awarded to her son, Technician Fifth Grade Ferdinand L. Shedlebower of Sainte Marie, who is now stationed in the southern part of England.

Technician Shedlebower has been in service since November 11, 1942, and has been in England for the past fifteen months. Previous to that time he was stationed at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin.

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Major William E. Pictor of Sainte Marie has been discharged from the Army after fifty-nine months in the Air Force. He has the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air medal with two Oak Leaf clusters and the Asiatic-Pacific, American Defense and American theatre ribbons and the Philippine Liberation medal.

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Staff Sergeant Pearl Edward Parr has been discharged from the Army. He has the EAME theatre ribbon with one silver and two bronze battle stars for the Sicilian, Naples-Foggia, Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes, Central Europe and Rhineland campaigns, the Distinguished Unit badge and four overseas bars.

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Technical Sergeant Paul E. Stanley has been discharged. He has the Distinguished Unit badge, the EAME theatre ribbon with one silver and one bronze battle star for the Tunisian, Sicilian, Naples-Foggia, Rome-Arno, Northern Appennines and Po Valley campaigns, and five overseas bars.

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Private First Class Rezen H. Shamhart of Dieterich has been discharged after three and one-half years overseas. He has the American Defense, American theatre and EAME theatre ribbons with three bronze battle stars for the Normandy, Northern France and Rhineland campaigns.

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Sergeant Andrew G. Kerner has received a discharge from the Army after service in France, Belgium and Germany. He was awarded the Silver and Bronze Star medals for bravery while with the Sixty-sixth Cavalry reconnaissance squadron of the Sixth Armored division.

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Sergeant William E. Law of Newton has been discharged from the Army. He has the European, African, Middle Eastern theatre ribbon with four bronze battle stars for the Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland and Central European campaigns.

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Staff Sergeant Arlie F. Aten of Hidalgo has been discharged. He has the EAME theatre ribbon with one silver battle star for the Algeria-French Morocco, Tunisian, Sicilian, Naples-Foggia and Rome-Arno campaigns and the Air Medal with one silver Oak Leaf cluster.

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Private First Class Owen L. Sowers has been discharged after three years overseas. He has the EAME and American Defense theatre ribbons and participated in the Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes, Rhineland and Central European campaigns.

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Sergeant Gordon D. Romack has been discharged. He has the Purple Heart medal and the American Defense and EAME theatre ribbons with

three bronze battle stars for the Normandy, Northern France and Rhineland campaigns.

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Corporal Doit B. Thomas of Rose Hill has been discharged. He has the EAME theatre ribbon with four bronze battle stars for the Rome-Arno, Northern Appennines, Po Valley and Tunisian campaigns.

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Corporal Noah Bunton has been discharged after two years overseas with the Third Armored division. They participated in the Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes, Rhineland and Central European campaigns.

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Technical Sergeant Donald B. Williams has received a discharge. He received the Purple Heart and Bronze Star medal with Oak Leaf cluster. He was in the service three years and overseas nineteen months.

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Sergeant Florent Jerome Schmidt has been discharged. He has the EAME theatre ribbon with three bronze battle stars for the Egyptian-Libyan, Ploesti, Rumania, and Tunisian campaigns.

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Sergeant Homer L. Clark was in Newton over the week end on furlough after service in the Southwest Pacific as a tail gunner in a plane. He received the Air medal with Oak Leaf clusters.

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Seaman First Class Walter B. Chaney has received a discharge from the Navy and is now at home. He saw service in the West and Southwest Pacific on the USS Independence.

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Yeoman First Class Jim DeVaney has been transferred to the Coast Guard demobilization center at St. Louis, where he is helping to make out discharge papers.

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Staff Sergeant Roy Woods is spending a furlough with his wife at Newton after two years in the Southwest Pacific. He expects to be discharged in a short time.

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Lieutenant Paul O. Baker spent the week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Baker of Yale vicinity. He was enroute to Chanute field, Rantoul.

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Private First Class Floyd D. Rus-

sell has been discharged. He has the EAME theatre ribbon with three bronze battle stars for the Normandy, Northern France and Rhineland campaigns, the Purple Heart and Silver Star medals.

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Private First Class James McCoy was in Willow Hill, Friday. He is on furlough, visiting his parents near Yale. He is looking very well.

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Basil French, who is in the Navy is spending a leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer French of near Kedron.

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Corporal Thomas Spencer is on his way back to the United States after service in Europe with the Army.

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Chief Yeoman Thomas Marshall has been discharged from the Navy after long service, seeing service in the Pacific and Mediterranean.

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Lee Russell Birch, who is in the Navy, is spending a nine day leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Birch of near Bogota.

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Wendell Jones of the Navy is home on thirty days leave. His base is at San Diego, California.

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Private First Class Jean Ferguson is in the hospital with jaundice. He is in Luzon.