

In The Nations Service

Pvt. Niles Pruitt, 646 Cloverdale Ave., Highland Park, who was inducted into service on September 9, has left to begin his army training at Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Indianapolis.

Thomas G. Parker, chief petty officer in the Seabees, who has been visiting his wife at 366 Central Ave. and his mother, Mrs. Sarah Parker, 440 Lincoln Place, Highland Park, has returned to Gulfport, Miss. His brother Harry, who has been in the Seabees since Sept. 1 as second class petty officer, is now taking his boot training at Williamsport, Va.

Ensign Harry Skidmore, on a two week's leave from duty in the Southwest Pacific, is visiting his wife, the former Helen Wickersheim, 320 Central Ave., and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Skidmore, 322 N. St. John Ave. Ensign Skidmore, who was active in boy scout work prior to entering service, received his commission Oct. 30 last year.

The three sons of Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Schneider, 439 Oakwood Ave., Highland Park, are serving in the armed forces as follows: Cpl. Robt. Schneider, who entered the army on

Dec. 3, 1942, is now company clerk in the cannon company of the infantry, stationed in Alaska. Chief Warrant Officer Hugo Schneider, who has been in the army since January, 1941, and who was recently home on furlough, is in the headquarters postal section. Richard, who was inducted on September 10, and stationed for a time at Camp Grant, was moved recently to an undisclosed training base. His wife, the former Alice Quigley lives in Evanston.

Robert E. Morley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward F. Morley of 502 Central Avenue, Highland Park, who was graduated last June from Highland Park High School, and was inducted into the navy on September 3, is now taking his boot training at the naval base in Farragut, Idaho. Robert qualified for radio operator's school, and was given a first class rating in swimming tests.

Leroy Haas, U.S.M.C., son of Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Haas, of 2116 Grove Road, Highland Park, has completed his course in advanced training at the Marine Corps Officers' School at

Quantico, Va., and has received the rating of Second Lieutenant. Lt. Haas underwent rigid basic training at the Marine base, San Diego, Calif., before taking officer's training.

Willard August Veitch, son of Mrs. Lottie Veitch, 625 So. Ridge Road, is undergoing a limited period training for conditioning for Navy service at the U.S. Naval Training Station at Farragut, Idaho. This course will give him the fundamentals of drill, lectures on seamanship, and instruction in naval procedure. He will be given the opportunity to qualify for one of a limited number of Navy Service Schools.

At the conclusion of his training period he will be given a 15-day leave before being assigned to duty at one of the shore stations in the United States or to a base on foreign shores.

Pfc Richard Huhns, 218 Vine Avenue, Highland Park, has been assigned to Lehigh University, where, as a member of the Army Specialized Training unit, he will begin his study of Engineering on October 11. The basic training is given in three 12-week terms. With the beginning of the new term in October, over 1300 soldiers will be stationed at Lehigh under this AST program.

Second Lt. Madeline Busiman, of 2430 North Tripp Avenue, Chicago, and former member of the physical education department of the Highland Park High School, was among the 106 veterans of campaigns in North Africa and Sicily who were brought to the army's Percy Jones General Hospital at Battle Creek, Mich., for treatment. A special seven car train transferred these patients here from the Halloran general hospital, Staten Island. Twenty-nine of them were natives of Michigan.

Chief Warrant Officer Edward K. West, of Camp Lee, Virginia, is on furlough at the home of his parents,

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest West, of 381 Elm Place, Highland Park. He is a graduate of the Highland Park high school, where he was a member of the school band. He has been in service since October, 1941, and has been conductor of the Camp Band since July, 1942.

Pvt. Harry B. West, also of 381 Elm Place, and brother of Edward West, spent a short furlough at home. He returned to his post at University of Alabama, where he is studying chemical engineering under the army specialist training program.

Second Lt. Robert W. Nichols, son of Dr. and Mrs. C. V. Nichols, 1000 Wade street, Highland Park, is attending supply school at Camp Lee. Prior to entering the army, a year ago, he was employed at Abbott Laboratories as production planning clerk. On August 13 of this year he received his commission at quartermaster officers' candidate school at Camp Lee.

Neil James Nichols, also a son of Dr. and Mrs. Nichols, has enlisted in the army reserves, and after his 18th birthday will begin his basic training at the University of Michigan.

Pvt. John Sorsen, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Sorsen, 547 Gray avenue, has had a change of address, and his friends may reach him by mail in care of 673rd Engineers Topo Co., APO 402, Nashville, Tenn. He was transferred here from Camp Atterbury, Ind.

Technical Sergeant Tommy Chavis, brother of Mrs. James P. Golden, 660 Deerfield avenue, will leave San Antonio Aviation Cadet Center soon, to begin training as bombardier, at Ellington Field, Houston, Tex. Sgt. Chavis transferred to the air forces last May after completing two years as infantryman at Camp Wolters, Tex. Mrs. Chavis and baby daughter, Melodie Kay, will accompany Sgt. Chavis to Houston.



I'M IN THE ARMY NOW

By Whitt N. Schultz

TWENTY-YEAR-OLD VETERAN

No... He's not a soldier. He's a Marine Corps sergeant. James L. Rippon. And he's here at Chanute Field.

Why? Well Sgt. Rippon became ill while home on furlough after losing 30 pounds fighting for nine months in the Southwest Pacific area and on three famous—now sunk—aircraft carriers: the Wasp, Hornet, and Lexington.

Because of sickness and because Chanute Field's hospital was nearer to his home in Westville, Sgt. Rippon was sent here. Enlisting in January, 1941, the now 20-year-old sergeant was sent overseas, his first stop being the Samoa Islands where he did guard duty dodged bullets for physical exercise, and ate one meal a day consisting of Spam, Vienna sausages, hard tack.

Later he did signal communications work. When he's discharged from the hospital, he'll go to a specialist school in Chicago and learn more about military communications. "Mighty Cold Water"

"After duty on the islands, I went aboard the carrier Lexington," the sergeant said. "I was on the grand old ship when she went down. If the plane I had been assigned to had been able to take off the tilting deck, it would have been far away from the wreckage. But as it was, I jumped over the side and was in some mighty cold water for a very long time."

What did you think about, Sergeant? "I re-lived my whole life, while I was in the water. I thought about home mostly. Then about my girl. Then how I hoped I'd get home. And when I did, how I'd have a big party."

Sgt. Rippon arrived at Guadalcanal right after the first landing there. "Shoots About 20"

How many Japs have your bullets in them? "AIC Albert Matthiesen, who is studying with the army aviation corps at Michigan State College, was recently visited by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Matthiesen, of 1720 Broadview avenue. AIC Albert, aged 18, has been in service since July 5."

Lt. Comdr. J. Lloyd Tucker, Washington, D.C., visited his sister, Miss Lillian Tucker, last week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Borg, 2168 Lakeside place, now have three sons in service. Lt. (j.g.) Robert Sorg is stationed at San Francisco, where he is awaiting a new assignment. His twin brother, Pfc. Frank Sorg, is stationed at the air field in Lessburg, Fla., serving in the financial department. Corp. James Sorg, a younger brother, is stationed with the army in North Africa.

Reidar M. Skog is stationed at Syracuse university, as an aviation student in the army air corps.

The following Highland Park and Highwood recruits reported at Farragut, Idaho, second largest U.S. Naval Training station, for training to become members of the fighting fleet: Wilson E. Richardson, son of Chief Petty Officer and Mrs. Wilson Richardson, 644 Michigan avenue; James Eugene Sheahan; Raymond Harold Inman, 823 Sandwick street; Robert Edward Morley, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Morley, 502 Central avenue; Thomas William Brown, 353 Bloom street; and Kenneth Frederick Wilson, 740 Ridgewood drive, all of Highland Park. Those from Highwood are William Edward Hayward, 225 Sheridan avenue, and Jack Allen Sheridan, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Sheridan, 247 North avenue.

"I don't know exactly," said the well-built sergeant. "There were too many guys shooting at the Japs. We beat them about 200 to 1. I guess I shot about 20."

"Japs like to fight best when it's raining. One thing I learned, though, Japs are poor marksmen. If you're walking with your buddy and you see a Jap aiming at you, you won't have to worry, but your buddy does."

The sergeant—who hasn't had a chance to buy his new stripes yet—tells his tale: "One night during a battle I was in a fox hole. Thirteen hand grenades were thrown into that hole. I threw out 12 of them and couldn't find the thirteenth. I got out then."

Asked what men do in their spare time, and about inspections, Sgt. Rippon replied: "We read, slept, wrote letters, played cards, cleaned our rifles and quarters. Every once in a while, when we were fighting, the commanding officer would post guards, order fighting halted, and inspect our rifles."

Hot, humid air and temperatures reaching 140 kept soldiers in swamp water most of the time. "In fact," Sgt. Rippon says, "that's the only way we could keep cool and clean. I wore one uniform for six months without a change."

And then there's this story the sergeant tells: "Once when some Jap soldiers were captured, we were standing around kidding them about their odd language. One Jap stepped forward and said, 'Listen, Mac, I can speak just as good English as you do.' He was wearing a ring from a college in the eastern part of this country."

Wearing stars representing nine major battles, Sgt. Rippon traveled 11,000 miles to get home. "Home sure looks wonderful," he mused. "Yes, my girl Emma was waiting for me."

Army AIC William Quinn, formerly Cpl. Quinn, and son of Mrs. George Quinn, 33 North avenue, Highwood, left Sunday for Fairfax Airport, Kansas City, where he will receive his initial flight training orders. Inducted into the service Feb. 2, 1942, he was graduated from ground training schools of the army air corps at Delgado Trade School in New Orleans, and Fairfax Airport.

Pfc. George Quinn, also son of Mrs. George Quinn, 33 North avenue, Highwood, was inducted into service on Feb. 12, and is stationed at present at Camp Stoneman, Calif.

Preston C. Root, second class seaman, has returned to Farragut, Idaho, after an 11-day visit with his wife at 1333 Greenwood avenue. In civil life he was employed in Waukegan by the Public Service company. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Root, Sr., 938 Osterman avenue, Deerfield, and is married to the former Glenn Schroeder of Waukegan.

Pvt. Allen Gerken, son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Gerken Sr., 696 Central avenue, Highland Park, is now specializing in engineering. He has been transferred from the ASTP school at Camp Crowder, Mo., to Grinnell college, Grinnell, Ia.

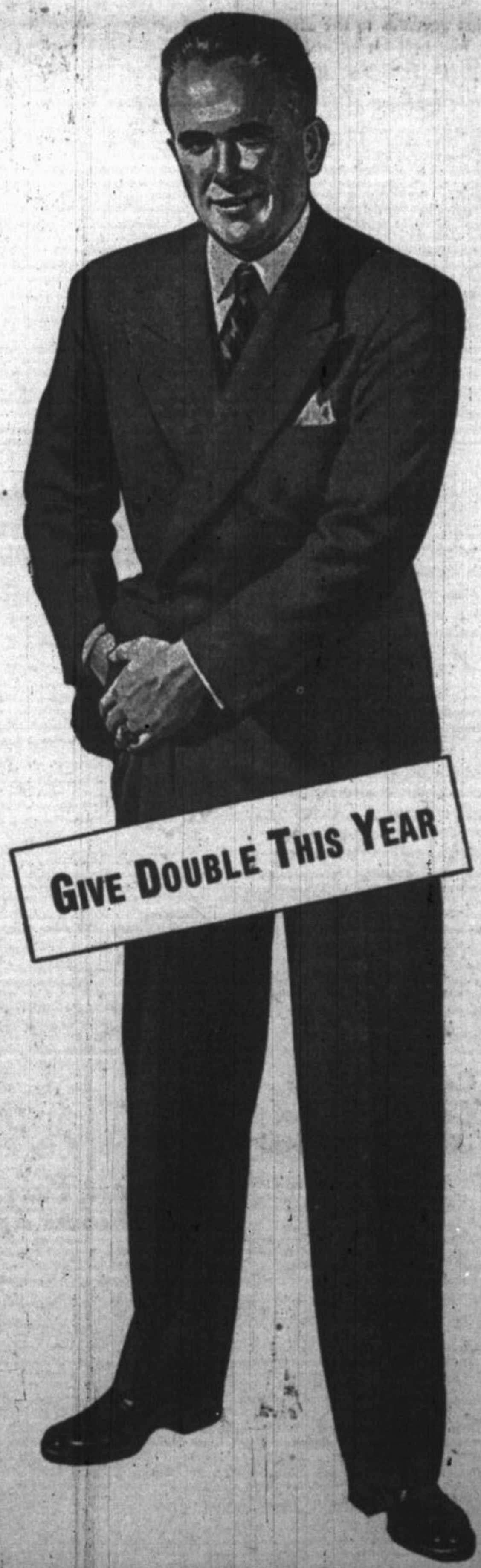
A recent graduate from a special non-commissioned officers' school at Chanute Field, Ill., was Cpl. Antonio Giallanza, son of Mrs. Giuseppina Giallanza, of 37 N. Green Bay road. The course completed includes instruction in latest developments in military administration and tactics.

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