



I'M IN THE ARMY NOW

By
Cpl. Whitt N. Schultz

Annie and Bill

Special to the Highland Park Press

CHANUTE FIELD, AAF TRAINING COMMAND, June 1—

"I passed, I'm in the Air Corps now. Isn't that wonderful?"
"Surely is, Bill. Nice going," I said. Tall, good-looking Bill Peters—now a captain in the AAF—told me that back in January, 1942, when we happened to meet at Copley's in Evanston. I was glad for him. He had found himself.

Well . . . I happened to be paging through the June issue of the Ladies Home Journal the other night and I came to page 31. And there was an article, bordered by red stars, titled "Ten Men Over Germany." It was Bill's modest story of his tour of duty flying missions over Nazi-held Europe. It's a keen article, written colorfully, interestingly, with much action. Perhaps Bill should turn to writing more in his few spare hours. He writes well.

Remember Bill, Annie?

Do you Highland Parkers remember Bill at Highland Park high?
He was quite outstanding there, you know. If I remember correctly, he captained the swimming team under Bob Kending. He played some right good football, too. And his grades were high.

He met a lovely young lady at Highland Park high. Pretty Annie Miller, daughter of the Herman Kleins of Harvard Court. She too, was outstanding at HPHS. She and Bill married, you know. And they have a fine little daughter now.

Annie and Bill were the No. 1 couple at HPHS during their senior year. I believe they won the coveted honor of being the best looking, most popular, and so on.

Lucky guy . . .

I remember Annie in high school. Yep. We dated. We had lots of fun. But then big Bill came along . . . and . . . well . . . your correspondent sat the next ones out.

It was Annie and Bill from then on. I used to drive them to college. I was kinda proud to have 'em along. They were—well—good friends . . . and—right popular, too.

Best to Bombers . . .

Bill used to tell me how he'd like to be a doctor. For two years he took a premedical course at Northwestern. He worked hard and his grades spoke highly of his work. Doubtless he could have continued his study and been deferred. But Bill wanted to get into the fight. And so he enlisted. And he was off into the wild, blue yonder.

As he finished different stages of flight training, he was assigned to bombers, where the best fliers usually go.

Read Bill's Story . . .

But let Bill tell you his story from there. Read what he has to say. It's typical, I think, of what Highland Park lads all over the world are doing.

Good luck, Annie and Bill, and I hope you come back to the North Shore, to Highland Park to live.

You're always welcome, you know!

Bird story . . .

Readers will remember a story written in this space about the mother meadowlark who proved her motherly love by protecting her young against overwhelming odds.

Friend and fellow worker Air Wac Cpl. Thelma Fitzgerald, who keeps our public relations clippings up to date, tells me that the bird story appeared all over the country.

Editors, too, like a relief from war news.

A Bit Startled . . .

This corporal had a detail of men helping him the other day. We were distributing the camp newspaper. When the job was done, detail members asked if we would drive them over to their mail room.

We did.

The driver said, "I guess I'll see if I got a letter, too," and he jumped out of the truck. Seconds later he returned.

"Hooray!" he exclaimed. "I got two letters. One from my wife. One from my girl."

I always thought they were the same person.

Odd . . .

This column's censor, Lt. Joseph H. Buckles, passes along this story . . . When he was at officer's candidate school there was a T. Sgt. Robert J. Hanson, a Spokane, Wash., lad who was the radio operator on the famous Flying Fortress, the Memphis Belle.

Sgt. Hanson flew 25 missions with Nazi fighter pilots firing at him and flak bursting all around him. But he was not even scratched in all that danger, thousands of feet in the air.

Then he went to OCS.

One day he was going over the obstacle course. He climbed an 18-foot obstacle and then jumped.

He sprained his ankle and was out of action for several days.

In The Nation's Service

This war is not without its lighter side. A soldier from a neighboring town writes that he received the surprise of his life recently when accompanying a force to a British-mandated island in the Pacific. They were met by a group of natives who greeted them with a burst of the familiar song: "You Are My Sunshine."

The Purple Heart, a medal and specimens of Japanese money are among the keepsakes which Mrs. Helen Wygal, 340 Bloom St., received from her son, Pfc. Tom Wygal, now stationed in the southwest Pacific area. Pfc. Wygal spent 3 months in the Hawaiian Islands, recently, convalescing from wounds received in combat. Lt. Lawrence Wygal, a brother, is stationed with the U.S. Air Force in Italy.

Enlisting the services of the Red Cross, Cpl. Mervin and Pvt. Warren Goldstead, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Goldstead, 108 Highwood Ave., Highwood, recently succeeded in getting together at an English base.

Pvt. Warren is a member of the Army Infantry, joining the service in November, '42, while Cpl. Mervin, of the Signal Corps, was inducted a month later.

Cpl. Grace L. Fearing, WAC, daughter of Mrs. G. C. Fearing, director of the local USO club, is now serving in the Woman's Reserve Battalion at Camp Elliott, San Diego, Calif., as company clerk.

A/C William "Bill" Pomper, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Pomper, 320 Maple Ave., who entered the service in September, 1942, has completed his basic training at Miami, his college work at University of Buffalo, N.Y., and is now receiving primary pilot training at Decatur, Ala.

Jack Perry, Seaman 2/c, USN, former member of the local fire department, recently visited his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Perry, and his wife, Dorothy, at 26 So. Green Bay road. He has completed his basic training at Farragut, Idaho.

Ens. Daniel B. Scully III, son of Mrs. Waldo D. Thorsen, 328 N. Sheridan Rd., spent a short leave in town last week. A qualified pilot, he is now training for special service.

Ens. Scully, graduate of the local high school, June, 1941, enlisted while a student at Lawrence College, Appleton, Wis., in December, 1942. His engagement to Miss Janet Wilson, daughter of Mrs. William Wilson, 275 Laurel Ave., was announced last year.

A letter recently received from Pvt. William "Willie" Carrier, informed his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Grant Carrier, 231 No. St. Johns Ave., that he had contacted Herbert Chambers, Pharmacist's Mate, USN, on the island base where he has been stationed for several months. Herbert is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Chambers, 229 McDaniels Ave. Both lads are graduates of the local high school, both are 21, and are friends of long standing.

Among other reunions of local boys in the South Seas was that of the three friends, Pfc. Eugene Ugolini, USMC, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emilio Ugolini, 316 Palmer Ave., Highwood, Cpl. Albert Mauriz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gust Mauriz, 837 Taylor Ave., and Sgt. Dick Balrini, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Balrini, 1107 No. Griffith Ave., Lake Forest. "We always send the names of friends in the

service," says Mrs. Ugolini, "hoping he will some day run across someone he knows."

Mrs. Mary Flinn, 136 No. First St., has three sons in the armed services. John "Ike" Freberg, Pharmacist's Mate, 1/c, USMC, who received a back injury some time ago while in the service, is still at the San Diego base, recovering from the accident and looking forward to a furlough in the near future.

Frank Freberg, USN, whose wife and two children, 9 and 13, live at 905 Taylor Ave., will complete his basic training at Great Lakes in two weeks.

Norman Freberg, the youngest, seaman 2/c, USN, who entered the service in September, 1942, is stationed at Glenview. His wife and baby live at 136 No. First St.

Word has been received by Mrs. Edward Wing, 327 Vine Ave., that her husband, Edward M., of the Seabees, has been promoted to the rank of Petty Officer, 2/c. Petty Officer Wing, who is an electrician's mate, has been away from home for nearly a year, and is stationed in the Aleutian Islands.

2nd Lt. John Joseph Butler, 22, of 1410 Western Ave., Highwood, who was commissioned on June 16, 1943, at the U. S. Naval Training School at Boulder, Colo., reported on March 2 at Quantico, Va., for the basic indoctrination course with the U. S. Marine Corps, and was graduated on May 24.

Lt. Butler was valedictorian of the class of 1940 at the local high school, and was a student at Harvard University at the time of his enlistment in the U. S. Navy, 1942.

His wife, the former Dorothy Mae Johnson, is living at 2033 Kane St., LaCrosse, Wis.

2nd Lt. Hugh Martin Seyfarth, son of Robert E. Seyfarth, 542 So. Sheridan Road, who received his commission on March 2, 1944, joined the U. S. Marine Corps at Quantico, on March 22, 1944, graduating on May 24. His present duties are with the Aviation Ground Officers' Service.

Lt. Seyfarth, a Princeton man, has been manager of Midwestern Sales, Dunbar Glass Corp., Chicago. His wife the former Mary Kelton Grubbs, lives at 542 So. Sheridan Rd.

A brother, Pfc. John M. Seyfarth, of the Army Signal Corps, is stationed at a base in the Pacific area.

F. O. Edward Carrell Home on Furlough

Flight Officer Edward T. Carrell, of the famed "Winged Commandos" who was called home by the illness of his father, and spent a five-day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Carrell, 123 Pleasant Ave., Highwood, has returned to his present base at Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Also present was his brother Milton, now living in Chicago.

Lt. Richard Thompson Prisoner in Germany

A telegram received Wednesday informed the parents of Lt. Richard "Plug" Thompson that he is a prisoner of war in Germany. A co-pilot on a Flying Fortress, Lt. Thompson was reported missing on his twenty-second mission during the first week of May.

Lt. Thompson is the son of Roy Thompson of Deerfield and Mrs. William Hughes of Chicago.

Tokio Tillie Sounds Off

"Tokio Tillie," Jap radio commentator, is Bob Hope's chief rival among Marine radio fans in the desolate Marshall Islands, according to the official combat correspondent. In a good middle-western American accent "Tillie" broadcasts fantastic accounts of dire disaster to American troops in the Marshalls, and makes terrible predictions as to America's ultimate downfall.

She speaks of "Japan's golden opportunity to deal America a crushing blow," and adds that all the Marines who attacked the Marshalls have been killed. Then, to the amusement of the listeners, she follows this statement in a clear, pleasant voice, with the threat: "If the Marines do not leave the Marshalls in four days, Japan will send the largest air fleet ever . . ."

Military Rites Held For Lt. Robt. Wilson

Military funeral rites were held in the chapel at Ft. Sheridan, Friday, May 26, for the late Lt. Robert Wilson of the 1622 SU Military Police unit at the Fort. Interment was made in the Ft. Sheridan cemetery.

Lt. Wilson met his death last Thursday at the Central Avenue crossing, being struck by a fast north-bound train. It is believed that, intent upon catching his train for the Fort, he ran directly in the path of the flier, and was unable to clear the track before being struck.

Formerly a resident of Portland, Oregon, the deceased is survived by his wife, the former Cecile Reinlein, of Mt. Vernon, Ill., to whom he was married about six months ago, and who is employed by the Ill. Bell Telephone Co., of this city.

Naval Ensign Dies In Plane Crash

Ens. Milton C. Pickens, who was stationed at Glenview Naval Air Station, died instantly last Friday, when the plane he was flying crashed in a Deerfield garden. Apparently unable to gain altitude, the plane catapulted to the ground, burying itself in a garden where shortly before Mr. Stanley Antes had been working.

Ens. Pickens, aged 20, was from Hopston, Texas.

The Frank Sheltons Enjoy Holiday Trip

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shelton, 3105 Prairie Ave., have returned from a four-day trip to Sturgeon Bay, Wis., over Decoration Day.

Campbell to Observe Patrons, Matrons Night

Campbell chapter, Order of Eastern Star, will observe worthy matron and worthy patron night on Wednesday evening, June 7, at the Masonic temple at 7:30 o'clock.

Alice Anderson of Milburn will be worthy matron and William Wirtz of Wauconda will act as worthy patron.

Following the meeting, there will be a "penny social." Members are asked to bring small articles which will be offered for sale.

Private First Class Walter C. Hart, 578 Homewood avenue, has recently been promoted to the rank of technician fifth grade, according to Col. John T. Rhett, Fort Sheridan, post commander. He is attached to the 1632nd Service unit, Recruit Reception center at Sheridan.

UP TO NOW

Within the next few weeks new graduates from the Highland Park high school as well as high schools all over the country will leave school to move on to new fields. For many of them those new fields will be battlefields. Twenty-five years ago, High school graduates were being assured that "never again" would American youth be called on to sally forth to foreign fields.

Something went wrong. Our pet theory that if we, as the richest and most envied nation on earth, maintained only a token army, and inadequate navy, and took no firm stand in foreign relations ("Let 'em settle their own troubles"), all would be well; it just never occurred to us that some nation might regard us as a plum just waiting to be picked. The fact that the nations that did so regard us are finding the picking a very distressing project indeed, in no way justifies the short-sightedness that prevailed in that era.

The mistake, however, was not fatal—that time. We are winning the war, through at a terrible toll in blood and treasure. But with American blood staining islands that a few years ago most of us had never heard of, it is disheartening to see evidence that the same type of demagogue who preached strict isolationism, then, is again, starting his braying. They never learn. Twenty-five years ago they preached the same doctrine that they are dusting off now, only now they call efforts at integrating international relations "globaloney."

No thinking person wants to see the United States take over the job of policing the world, or to "play Santa Claus to everyone except the American," but thinking people also know that taking a responsible position in the affairs of a world which, as was demonstrated at Pearl Harbor, does not recognize isolationism, involves neither of these principles.

A gold star mother, whose son, if this nation had been obviously able to put a strong, well-trained army and navy in the field on short notice, might now be home instead of lying in an alien grave, is the strongest refutation of these policies, as well as their strongest indictment.

After the last war, organizations such as the American Legion, which advocated universal military training and a strong army and navy, were denounced as jingoist.

Two such bloody lessons as the last war and this one should be enough.

Skog Assigned to Air School

Reider M. Skog, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Skog of 615 Crofton avenue, is a member of the newest class of cadets to be assigned to the bombardier school at Midland Army Air field, Midland, Tex., for 18 weeks schooling as a bombardier-navigator. Upon the completion of his training course, he will receive his silver wings and commission as either a second lieutenant or flight officer in the army air forces.

Two Local Men Now At Great Lakes

Two Highland Park men are receiving their initial naval indoctrination at the U.S. Naval Training center, Great Lakes.

Their recruit training completed, these men will spend a period of leave at home. They are: James B. Jones, 32, husband of Pearl M. Jones, 1701 Greenwood avenue, and Louis Santi Jr., 28, husband of Ida Santi, 520 Ravinia road.

Francis L. Sheahan Will Graduate From Annapolis on June 7

Francis L. Sheahan, 681 Central Ave., will be one of the class of 918 midshipmen to be graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, on June 7.

A fencing enthusiast, Midshipman Sheahan won the Naval Academy Regimental Saber Championship and the Navy "N" this year. During his course he has held various offices and has also been active in radio.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Sheahan, accompanied by their daughter, Joan, left town on Wednesday to attend their son's graduation activities.

Dennis M. Castelli Honored on Birthday

On Saturday, May 27, Mrs. Edward Wing, 327 E. Vine Avenue, gave a birthday party in honor of Dennis Michael Castelli, aged 2, son of Pvt. and Mrs. Joseph Castelli. Fifteen little guests were present at the party which was held on the lawn, and each guest received a gift. Ernest Joseph, younger brother of Dennis, was just six months old on the same day.

The father of the boys, Pvt. Joseph Castelli, reported three weeks ago to be gravely ill at his post in Ft. Knox, Ky., is known to be making a rapid recovery.

Plants for Your Garden

Whether you are ready now or wish to plant later on, we suggest placing your order as soon as possible either over our store phone or better still, pay a visit to our greenhouses, Ridge Road near the west end of Park Avenue.

There will be a shortage in every line of plants long before the end of the bedding season, but at present we offer a most complete assortment of bedding and

window box plants, also perennials and flats of annuals.

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