



# I'M IN THE ARMY NOW

By  
Cpl. Whit N. Schultz

## Covering a USO Show

### CHANUTE FIELD, AAF TRAINING COMMAND!

I was picked to cover a USO show for our camp newspaper the other night.

Now, I didn't mind that assignment. But when I was told to take a photographer and get some "leg art"—well, I kind of rebelled a bit. The sergeants in our office were all "busy" that evening... so I covered the show.

(Privates were busy, too.) The Wac photographer and I got there early. It was dark when I told her the kind of pictures we were supposed to take so she didn't see my blushes.

We arrived and went backstage, hunting for "leg art."

(For months I've been sounding off, opposing pin-up girls and what they stand for. And now I was out to find some pin-ups—and to take their pictures, too! It's an odd world!)

### We Find 'em...

We found 'em. There they were in their abbreviated costumes... and I was red-faced.

I asked one of the girls in an apologetic manner if she and the others would mind posing for a picture. I held my head in shame when I asked her.

But she was all smiles.

"Of course," she gushed, "we'd love to have our pictures taken. How would you like us to pose?"

"Oh, the usual way," I said, wishing I were home in Highland Park reading a good book or watching our local high school football team romp over its opponents.

"Okeh," she said. "Come on, girls, let's pose for the soldier."

And they did.

And it was quite a shot;

And I'm still being kidded about the whole affair by fellow soldiers.

### Ballot Arrives...

Like most servicemen, this corporal received his absentee ballot the other day.

But I've not marked it yet.

And I won't 'til I hear what all the candidates have to say—two in particular.

That's the only fair and honest way to pick a President of the United States, I think.

### Ahhhhhh...

This column wants to go on record (in line with the policy of keeping records straight, you know) saying that "Since You Went Away" is an excellent picture—equally as fine as "Going My Way," only about twice as long.

A twenty-one gun salute to pretty Jennifer Jones, a young actress whose screen portrayals typify the kind of chum servicemen want to come home to.

### Original, What?...

And it was Sgt. Rex Horton, of this office, who asked: "What does a pilot of a helicopter do when the odd-shaped plane turns up-side down in flight?" Do you know?

### Miles of Letters...

Gathering material for a story on soldier's mail I bumped into these new facts: Weekly men at this field receive over 9,100 packages, 30,000 magazines and newspapers, and 91,000 letters. Place these missives end to end and they'd reach from Highland Park to Winnetka...

I asked a dozen different mail orderlies what letters soldiers want most: "Letters from their parents!" they answered in a unanimous manner... One incident during this fact-gathering sticks in my mind. I overheard a soldier who hadn't received a letter in quite some time say: "My wife claims she writes me everyday. How come I only get a letter once a month?"

### Hooray! Three More Years of College...

My captain was telling me that if I'm in the Army a few more months I'll be eligible for three additional years of college training—with Uncle Sam flipping the bill. Not bad.

'Guess I'll be able to work for my master's degree after all. I imagine most of my Highland Park chums, now in uniform, will have the same opportunity. Hope so.

Seems to me a return to college is an excellent way to once again build into the mind creative thinking and planning.

last heard from personally on July 28. His home is at Parsons, Kans.

Pvt. Michael Wampler, 19, of the Army field artillery, recently spent a furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wampler, 230 Cary. He is stationed at Camp Livingston, La. A/C Hulburd, a brother, is training as pilot at Maxwell field, Ala.

A personal message was received last week by Mr. and Mrs. George Walz, 220 Sheridan, Highwood, from their son, 20-year-old S/Sgt. Harry Walz, tail gunner on a Liberator bomber, who was taken prisoner June 21 on an air mission over Germany.

He reports himself to be well and uninjured, and well-treated. Sgt. Walz entered the service in March, 1943, and was transferred a year later to England. Cpl. Raymond Walz, his brother, is stationed in the Pacific area.

An official telegram has informed Mr. and Mrs. John Santi, 665 Bob O'Link, that their 19-year-old son, Pfc. Louis, of the army infantry, was slightly wounded on Aug. 29 in France, reported for duty the same day. Entering the service in August, 1943, he left for England last May, and was later stationed in Belgium before seeing action in France.

Mrs. Tom Rogan, 616 Midlothian, has a husband in the army and a brother in the marine corps. Cpl. Tom Rogan is now stationed in France, where he has been since shortly after D-day. He handles supplies with a truck company. Sgt. Walter Melaski, USMC, who lived with his sister prior to Dec. 9, 1941, when he joined the Leathernecks, is now stationed in Saipan. Coins, pictures, and a Jap officer's sword are among the souvenirs that have found their way from the Pacific-Asiatic area to the States. The sergeant, who wears the Silver Star for distinguished service at Tarawa, being personally decorated by Admiral Nimitz, was also with the first

wave of marines to land on Guadalcanal in August, 1942.

Through the services of the Red Cross, two Shapiro brothers, T/Sgt. Jack, AUS, and Ena. Beryl, USNR, were reunited at Oahu, Hawaiian Islands, recently. It was their first meeting in nine months, both leaving the States about two months ago. They are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Shapiro, 152 Highwood, Highwood.

The first direct communication from Lt. Edward H. Frost, aerial pilot, since his having been reported missing, came last week to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl R. Frost, 759 Osterman, Deerfield. His letter said that he would be home soon.

On June 2 Lt. Frost was reported missing after a mission over Belgium. Co-pilot on the Fortress "Bomb 'n' Belle," he was one of six who made their way back to the lines after the fortress crashed.

Lt. Frost, overseas since March, was awarded the air medal last May. He has two brothers serving in the navy.

### Cpl. R. E. Welch Reported Missing

Official sources report that Cpl. R. E. Welch, 25, husband of Mrs. Maren Welch, 327 Waukegan, Highwood, has been missing in action in France since Sept. 2.

Cpl. Welch wrote to his wife that he owed his life to the metal covered Bible which he carried in his breast pocket last July, when struck by fragments of shell. He sent her the shattered remnants of the volume.

Welch, who was born in Olmsted, Ill., served once before in the U. S. Army, receiving an honorable discharge in January, 1941, at Ft. Sheridan. In March, 1942, he reenlisted. He served several months in England and took part in the D-day campaign.

He has two small sons, Robert Jr., aged two, and Richard, aged 17 months.

### Johanna Lodge Sets Fine Service Record

Three years of continuous service to the Highland Park USO is the fine record set by the members of the Johanna lodge. This group of women under the direction of Mrs. Marc Newman, has furnished and served hearty, appealing suppers one Sunday out of each month, 12 months a year from the time the USO was established in 1941.

To the Johanna lodge goes the sincere gratitude and appreciation of the Highland Park USO for the long period of work, time, and material contributed. It is this kind of spirit, this faithful effort, that makes the USO the "second home" of our servicemen and women.

The program for this week starts with a Wives club luncheon on Friday, Oct. 6, at 12:30. A brief show will go on in the intermission of a dance at 8:00 for which the 344th Army band will play. Refreshments at 9:30.

The weekly meeting of the Java club is at 10 Sunday morning at the USO. Riding and golf passes may be obtained. At 7:00 a movie, "The Uninvited," is to be shown. Mrs. C. W. Allen is in charge of the supper from 6 to 8 by the Bannockburn Garden club. The 344th Army band is to play for a dance at 9.

The same band, which provides this club with such excellent music for our dances, will play for an 8 o'clock party on Tuesday, October

10. There will be a show in the intermission, followed by refreshments at 9:30.

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## In The Nation's Service

James Vaughan Clark, aged 17, one of the four speakers of last June's graduating class at the local high school, recently received orders to report for the U. S. Maritime service, and left Oct. 3, destination unrevealed. He is the son of Mrs. Robert Elliott Clark, 735 S. St. Johns.

An official report from the Naval Air technical training center at Memphis, Tenn., states that Thomas Rollman Reber, 18, seaman 1/s, and son of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Reber, 391 North Ave., has completed his course of training as aviation radioman. Young Reber enlisted at Seattle, Wash., on Dec. 10, 1943, and received his basic training at Farragut, Ida.

Herbert Johnson, Kansas City, Mo., has reported for further naval aviation training at the Chapel Hill, N. C., pre-flight school after having completed his work in Colgate university's naval flight preparatory school. Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert E. Johnson, 20 W. 53rd St., Kansas City, was graduated from Highland Park high school in 1943.

Sgt. Claude VanderBloomen, one of the three soldier sons of Mr. and Mrs. John VanderBloomen, 213 North, Highwood, aged 26, 24 and 23, respectively, is home on a furlough visit to his parents. S/Sgt. Jack is now stationed with an ordnance company in India and Pfc. Howard, with a pigeon signal company in Hawaii, is attending motor school.

Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Weber, 619 McDaniels, entertained at a family dinner last week for their daughter, Katherine, WAVE, aged 22, who reports Oct. 5 at Hunter college, New York, for basic training.

The former Betty Varner and her husband, Lt. Wyatt Peschman, instructor in the army air corps at Kirkland Field, N. Mex., have returned to his base after visiting their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Varner, 115 S. Second, and Mrs. Henrietta Peschman, 1110 N. Green Bay Rd.

Pfc. Louis Crovetti, 19, control tower operator with army airway communications, is spending a furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs.

Tony Crovetti, 329 Highwood Ave., Highwood, after which he will leave for a new post at Salt Lake City, U.

Pvt. Joseph Colo, 18, of the U.S. Infantry, who recently completed his basic training at Camp Blanding, Fla., has left for Camp Rucker, Ala., after visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Angelo Colo, 134 Highwood Ave., Highwood.

A/C "Bill" Pomper, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman R. Pomper, 320 Maple, is now stationed at Camp Stuttgart, Ark., where he is completing the final phase of his aerial training.

In taking up flying, Bill is pursuing an old passion, for even in his grade school days his hobby was planes, and later, in high school, his model planes boasted miniature motors. The twin-engine jobs he is now handling are "the berries," and he states that he loves flying more than ever.

Miss Jane Robbins, former member of the WASPs, has resigned from the service in order to assist in caring for the three children of her brother, James, now connected with the mining industry in Alaska. Lt. Peter Robbins is stationed with the army engineers in Burma. The mother is Mrs. P. A. Robbins, 100 Prospect.

After a two-week leave with his family on 958 Ridgewood, Lt. Com. H. S. Roush has left for San Francisco, where he will report for duty in the Pacific area. For 16 months stationed as weather observer in Brazil, he secured many beautiful pictures of Rio de Janeiro, which he describes as a magnificent place. The pictures, in technicolor, were exhibited at the Engineers' club in Chicago.

"Bill" Roush, seaman 2/c, a son, now stationed in the Asiatic-Pacific area, on duty on a sub-chaser, recently spent a 5-day leave, presumably in Australia, for he described the place as a "tea-drinking" locality.

Pvt. Richard Grinsley, 21, husband of Mrs. Ellering Grinsley, employed at the Open House Tea Room, has been reported missing in action in France. A member of an anti-aircraft unit, Pvt. Grinsley was at one time stationed at Ft. Sheridan, and left for England last May. He was



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