



# I'M IN THE ARMY NOW

By  
Cpl. Whitt N. Schultz

## Perpetual Corporal!

### CHANUTE FIELD, AAF TRAINING COMMAND:

Once in a while I count my fingers again and again in an effort to determine the length of time I've been a corporal.

It's been so long now, I've forgotten the exact date I was promoted. All I remember about the glorious day is that it was around the time Ravinia concerts opened back in 1943.

Let's see: that was 16 months ago or about 480 days back.

Now that's a long time to be "the lowest non-commissioned officer," as Webster says.

But there's one happy thought: A corporal is the highest ranking non-com, they say, who still has friends. And I have 'em too, thank goodness.

But then I get to thinking about those lads overseas who have been in on the heaviest fighting; established beachheads; captured hundreds of the enemy. And to top it all, have been wounded.

And they're still privates! Fortunate? Yes...

So I haven't got it so bad, I guess.

But then someone comes along and jakes me kind of sad by saying:

"What, you're not an officer yet?"

"No," I say. Then I add: "But I passed the board for officer candidate school about 19 months ago."

"Well, how come you haven't gone to school yet?" They say.

"I don't really know. I'm just waiting," I say.

And that's all there is to that, 'cause I don't know.

### Look Alikes...

I think jolly Jim Neild looks and acts a bit like Barry Fitzgerald of "Going My Way" fame. And I think the former Rosemary Burghardt looks a good deal like movie actress Marsha Hunt too.

### Highland Parkers...

Is former Highland Park police chief Ed Moroney driving a Bannockburn police car now? ... One

day I'd like to meet Capt. Jim Aubrey's bride-to-be, Phyllis Thaxter of "Claudia" renown... How's Paul Olson doing now? Is he a colonel yet?... Saw Lt. Roy Delehaye in his and Vernon T. McMahon's pharmacy the other day. Roy is looking better than ever before. He likes the Army — particularly the life of an officer — he was a corporal once... Hope Highland Park's scrappy football club wins some more games... Lt. Wally Carr (now on the inactive list) has returned to our town after a Mayo checkup. He's feeling better, I'm told...

### Neat Quip...

I like the humor in this clever remark by young Dave Suttle, patiently waiting to get into the Army. (Maybe he'll be in the Army by the time this is printed.)

Dave said:

"I'm anxious to get into the Army so I can get enough points to get out!"

### Book Making Rounds...

Mrs. Emily Bears of Highland Park bookshop fame asked me about my book the other day.

You know, the one I wrote titled "A Soldier With a Pen."

Others have asked about it, too, so I'll tell you all.

After writing it in my spare Army hours, I sent it to Washington — through channels.

It came back about six weeks later.

Then I sent it to a publisher.

He sent it back.

Then I sent it to another publisher.

He sent it back.

And now I've sent it on to another publisher.

He has not sent it back — YET. He might, though.

In the meantime, I think I'll dash off another book.

### Last thought...

Today I've lived 8,760 days — and I'm just beginning to realize that life is real and life is earnest.

Rugged, too.

But, saying Yes TO LIFE sure has helped a lot.

Pacific area. Entering the service in September, 1942, he received his training at Glen View, and was later stationed at Quonset, R.I. then at Shoemaker, Calif. He is a graduate of the local high school.

Mr. and Mrs. V. C. Musser of 529 Oakwood, have two sons and one son-in-law in the service. Ens. Fred L. Musser, 23, is now at sea with the Navy amphibious forces, in a beach-jumping unit. Frank, seaman 2/c, USN, a 1944 high school alumnus, is stationed at Great Lakes, where he is attending a torpedo school. Lt. Ernest A. Hannah, husband of the former Marian Musser, is stationed in England with the Army medical administrative corps.

Pfc. Robert Patterson, of the tank forces, states that he is now in Belgium. He says the people are fine and they furnish them with onions, potatoes and as many as they can of fresh eggs. These help out the "K" rations to a large degree. Robert is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. E. Patterson of Saunders Rd., Deerfield.

Ens. Leslie Rankin spent Sunday and Sunday night with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Rankin, Sr., 627 Vine, having flown in at Glenview on a cross-country hop. He left Monday morning for his home base at Pensacola. Ensign Rankin is the husband of the former Elaine Kaufmann, and the father of young Sandra Lee, who are living with him at Pensacola.

Jack S. Witten, ACMM, husband of the former Vera McCreadie, who has been stationed at Asheville, N. C., writes of walking into the P.X. there and seeing a tall Marine corporal wearing an Asiatic-Pacific patch, who looked strangely familiar. Suddenly he exclaimed: "Bus Olson!" The two boys enjoyed a long chat about home and home folks. Cpl. Olson is now stationed at Norfolk, Va.

After a week's visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. August Doretta, 430 Railway, Highwood, Ted Talano, Seaman 1/c, left last week for his post at Norfolk, Va. For a year Seaman Talano was on duty on a destroyer in the Atlantic, and took part in the invasion of North Africa in November, 1942.

James Bock, 18 a junior student at the local high school, and recently employed at the Exmoor Country club, has become a member of the U.S. Marine corps, and is awaiting further orders. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Bock, 417 McGovern.

Three of the four Navy sons of Mrs. Albert Carr, 213 Lincoln, Lt. Comdr. Stanley, Donald, fire control man 2/c, and C.P.O. Robert, are now on duty with the U. S. fleet in the Pacific area. The fourth son, machinist's mate, 2/c, is stationed in Seattle, Wash.

Jack Kelly seaman 1/c, of the Seabees, with 22 months of service in the Pacific area to his credit, arrived in town last week to spend a 30-day leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Kelly, 626 Home-

Enlisting in the Seabees in September, 1942, Kelly left for overseas the following December. He has been stationed on an island in the New Hebrides group.

Major Lawrence Buskett is soon to enjoy a long-anticipated furlough, according to a letter recently received by his wife, the former Harriett Craig, 599 Central Ave. A veteran of Bougainville and Guadalcanal, the major has been stationed in the Pacific area for over two and one-half years.

Mrs. John Carter, the former Catherine Craig, joined her husband in Los Angeles recently, when he made port after a voyage. Mr. Carter is a quartermaster in the navy.

The evening of Sept. 24 was Highland Park night on a certain island in the South Pacific for six native sons in various branches of the service. William Davis, William Carrier, Herbert Chambers, Jesse Craig, Henry Witten and Frank Farro celebrated their meeting with a game of baseball and cards and finished up the evening with a show.

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Mr. and Mrs. B. West, 381 Elm Place, have received word that their son, Harry B., with an engineers part supply unit, has arrived in France. Before leaving the States, young West was promoted to the rank of corporal. Cpl. West entered the service in May, 1943.

A brother, CWO Edward K. West, with his wife, recently spent a 10-day leave with his parents. An army band leader, he is stationed at Camp Lee, Va.

### Lt. "Stan" Gilbert To Return Home

Definite information concerning Lt. Richard Jack Gilbert, "Stan" to the home folks and "Richie" to his

flyng comrades, has been received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Gilbert, 909 Taylor. A bombardier, Gilbert crashed and was taken prisoner in a mission over Germany some time ago. Although his injuries include body bruises, a broken nose and a broken back, he is reported "coming along fine," and is expected to recover the use of his limbs sufficiently to be sent home soon. He plays bridge and chess, and is in good spirits, although body support is necessary at all times.

### Versatile Private At Fort Sheridan

Dunkirk in the war news strikes close to home for one of Fort Sheridan's soldiers, Pfc. Howard S. Strouth, a mail censor at the prisoner of war camp. Pvt. Strouth served in the French army from 1939 until September, 1940, and was disabled at Dunkirk in June, 1940. He was taken to Free France, and escaped after a series of adventures.

He came to the United States in 1942, and was employed by Time and Fortune magazines to cover the political situation in Spain, Portugal and French Morocco. He was inducted into the United States army in May, 1943, and was assigned to Fort Sheridan in May, 1944. He speaks eight different languages, and has attended schools and universities in England, France and Italy.

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## In The Nation's Service

Lt. Lester Polakov, AAF, bombardier brother of Mrs. Jack Behn, 500 Bob O'Link Rd., is a member of a B-26 Marauder group in the European area that has been cited by General DeGaulle for its direct support of the French forces.

Lt. Polakov, formerly of Waukegan and a commercial artist who before the war was engaged in stage designing in New York City, has over 48 missions to his credit.

Mrs. Gordon Lorrimer, 1261 Pleasant, Ravinia, heard the voice of her son, Cpl. Neil, USMC, for the first time in three years last week, when he telephoned from the west coast to announce his arrival in the States, and said he would be home soon. He is now in Highland Park.

Young Lorrimer, who has taken part in many campaigns in the Pacific area (Guadalcanal, Saipan, Tinian) is the twin brother of Pfc. William, who recently returned to the Pacific area after a year spent in the States during which he recuperated from an attack of malaria, contracted in Guadalcanal. The brothers recently met in Hawaii.

Ens. John Stodder, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Stodder, 304 Central, has returned to his base in New York City after spending a leave in town. A member of a mine warfare unit, he has served aboard a minesweeper for about 8 months.

Mrs. Alma Johnson, 597 Vine, has two sons home on leave. Pfc. Harold, 21, arrived recently from Hobbs, New Mexico, to join his brother, Gordon, 23, Aviation Ordnance 3/c, USNR, who has already spent several days of his leave at home, after serving for 12 months in the Pacific area.

Pvt. Allan Gerken, of the Army signal corps, has received his first stripe and is now stationed in England. Pfc. Allan is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Allan J. Gerken, 96 Central.

Cpl. Jack Orris, formerly of Cherry Point, N.C., has been promoted to the rank of sergeant, and is now stationed at Newport, Ark. Sgt. Orris, with the intelligence department of the Marine corps, and with 22 months' service in the Pacific-Asiatic area to his credit, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Orris, 152 Highwood Ave., Highwood.

Maurice D. Pearson, former Bob O'Link club employee is now receiving his basic Navy training at Great

Lakes. 17 years of age, he is the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Pearson, 857 Berkeley.

Back from four months' service in the Atlantic, James Sommerville, former local postman, now 3rd radio officer in the Merchant Marine, is visiting his family at 1016 Ft. Sheridan Ave.

E. O. Edward Carrell, Army glider pilot, is now stationed somewhere in England. An enthusiastic member of this rugged branch of the service, he received his wings at South Plains, Tex., in December, 1943. He is the son of Mrs. S. M. Carroll, 123 Pleasant, Highwood.

Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Smith, 133 Central Highwood, recently learned indirectly that their son, Loren, USMC, aged 20, took part in the initial engagement at Peleliu. Direct word from the young Marine has not yet been received. Their 17-year-old son, Ronald, AAF, is at Knox college, Galesburg, preparing for a future air career.

Pfc. Robert Schwall, USMC, who entered the service last March, is now serving as ship's gunner in the South Pacific area. Pfc. Schwall, 19, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Schwall, 89 Clifton.

Major Paul Olson, formerly of Art Olson & Company, is now stationed in France. Overseas for some time, he has been at posts in England and Scotland.

Major Harry Eaton, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Eaton, 1060 North Green Bay, serving with an anti-aircraft unit in France, has been promoted to the rank of Major.

Previous to December, 1943, Major Eaton served for 20 months in Iceland, where he became engaged to Miss Thordardottir, of Reykjavik, Iceland, who is now staying with his parents until his return from overseas. From Iceland he was transferred to England.

Cpl. Harry Lindstrom, who received serious injuries in France last July, has been returned to the States and is now being treated at the Percy Jones hospital at Battle Creek, Mich. A tank corps gunner, Cpl. Lindstrom took part in the invasions of Africa and Italy.

James Francis Kilkenny, 24, AAM 3/c, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Kilkenny, 600 Skokie, has been transferred to an overseas base in the

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