



I'M IN THE ARMY NOW

By
Cpl. Whitt N. Schultz

From Highland Park to Leyte

Special of the Highland-Park Press

(Editor's note: Sailor Bill Roush, son of Lt. Commander and Mrs. Hoyt L. Roush of 958 Ridgewood Dr., wrote this column a letter in August. He described the action he had seen and how he missed his family and Highland Park. He also stated he had seen the grave of Robert Riddle, Highland Park's first World War II casualty. Another letter has arrived from Bill who is now in the heaviest fighting out in the Pacific. His letter follows.)

LEYTE, PHILIPPINES, NOV. 26

Dear Whitt:
I received your expected letter of August 22nd on Nov. 7. I was surprised to see you had put my letter into your column. I was proud, too. Thanks so much. Yes, I've seen a little of what's going on out here. I've observed just what the boys have to throw up against the Japs to beat them down.

Since writing you last, I've moved into another combat zone. This time to the Philippines. As far as action goes... well it's getting to be second nature with me. But even at that I seem to be going into the worst battle now, in Leyte.

FAR FROM HIGHLAND PARK...

You see, Whitt, the going gets tougher as we advance towards Japan. But we'll get there!

Home and Highland Park now appear like a mirage 'cause they're so far, far away. Not in miles either. It's just that I'm so lost in this war.

Outside of the family, I miss the gal (?) most of all. I've even got her name printed on my gun. The charm, you know!

It's kinda tough. A guy can't make plans out here. Life has so many detours... but somehow I plan to get back to Highland Park sometime.

IN AUSTRALIA...

Last September I was fortunate to be able to visit Australia on a 10-day leave. I had a chance to see how people down there live, using the five and one pound

notes, shillings and pence. I found it quite confusing for a while.

While there I stepped on a scale to find I weighed 11 stones — 1 stone equals 14 pounds. What a lash up!

VISITS A FAMILY...

I was invited to an Australian home for a "spot of tea," as they say. It was terrible tasting stuff. But I bravely sat it out.

Now Australia is far behind and I'm up over the equator line. This makes my 8th complete crossing. From here no one knows where we'll go — but I'm certain the direction will be West!

STILL WAITING...

So you're still waiting for officer's candidate school after 14 months? (Yes, Bill, but it's over 20 months now.) Have you made that stripe yet? (Nope.) As you no doubt have noticed, I got a raise myself and may get another around the first of the year. (Good, Bill. You fellows in the front lines deserve all the breaks and ratings you can get.)

TRUE, BILL...

Your work sounds interesting and quite responsible. Right in your line, too.

Say, Whitt, how about one of your first edition books? No doubt I'm too late for that. But just a copy would be swell. I know it'll be a success. (Thanks, Bill. But the book ain't published yet. Whenever it is, you'll get a copy.)

ENCLOSES JAP MONEY...

I've got to stop now — an alert is on. Enclosed is a Jap bill for you. It is invasion money used by the Japs as exchange with the Philippine natives. Keep it and when I'm back again I'll tell you the real story behind it.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Your good friend,

—BILL

W. B. Roush, S 1/c, USN
USS SC-748
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, Calif.

Ed's note: We are glad to learn that Cpl. Schultz has been recognized by Coronet Magazine. Congratulations, Whitt! We'll watch for your story.

On sea duty since last March, Lt. O'Connor has served as fighter pilot, chief censor and communications officer aboard the Princeton. Until censorship has been lifted, the account of his adventures may not be told.

—V—

The American doughboy stands high in the estimation of the people of Lichfield, England, a town of 9,000 population, and this is to the credit of the Yanks and their commander, for since they began arriving in England, over 200,000 American soldiers have passed through the 10th U. S. replacement depot, under the command of Col. James A. Kilian, located at Lichfield. Col. Killian's home is 682 Yale Ave., Highland Park. The Yanks recently rated a toast from the citizens of Lichfield, and the ancient privilege of full parade on ceremonial occasions will be restored to them on Dec. 16.

—V—

Ens. David C. Stukey, NAF, having completed his carrier landing tests at Glenview, will report to San Diego, Calif., for reassignment after spending a leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. David C. Stukey, Sr., 702 S. St. Johns. Ens. Stukey's operational flight training was received at Deland, Fla. He is 20 years of age.

—V—

Recovering from severe wounds in Belgium on Oct. 28, Pvt. Elmer C. Hensley has now returned to the line of duty. He is the son of Mrs. Elmer C. Hensley, 237 Llewellyn, Highwood.

—V—

T/5 Roger W. Rubin has returned to his base at Camp Van Dorn, Miss., after spending a furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Rubin, 138 S. First. In service since Sept., 1943, he is a member of a signal corps unit. He is 20 years of age.

Pvt. Clifford Jarchow, son of Mr. Ben Jarchow and nephew of Mrs. Alice Fischer, 587 W. Park, is spending a 30-day furlough with friends and relatives after serving for 30 months in India. Pvt. Jarchow served with a ground crew of the AAF. He is 23 years of age.

—V—

Cpl. Herman C. Lenzini, stationed with a tank destroyer unit of the 5th U. S. Army in Italy, has been promoted to the rank of sergeant. He is the son of Mrs. Lucy Corrado, 320 Grove, Highwood.

—V—

Mrs. Hanna Anderson, 233 Burchell, Highwood, has been officially notified that one of her twin sons, Verne, of the army infantry, was slightly wounded on Nov. 16 in France. Pfc. Anderson has been stationed in the European area since September, 1944.

Cpl. Arne, his twin brother, has been stationed in the Pacific area since Sept., 1942. He is believed to be located on Bougainville.

—V—

S/Sgt. Donald Ugolini, son of Mr. and Mrs. Angelo Ugolini, 214 Everts, Highwood, has been given a medical discharge from the army on account of knee injuries sustained in Cassino, Italy, during a German air raid.

In service since October, 1941, Sgt. Ugolini served with the field artillery in England, and took part in the North African campaign. While in Italy, Sgt. Ugolini received the Soldier's medal for saving the life of a soldier whose clothes, saturated with gasoline, caught fire. At great risk to himself, Ugolini smothered the flames. During a leave last summer, he rescued a 13-year-old boy from drowning in Lake Michigan.

A graduate of the local high school, class of '38, Ugolini was an outstanding athlete.

T/Sgt. Earl Patterson returned Sunday morning to Memphis, Tenn., for further hospitalization for wounds received during the invasion of France. He spent a furlough of 21 days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George E. Patterson, of Saunders Rd., Deerfield. Earl was formerly a pressman at the Highland Park Press, and up to the time of his enlistment in the army was employed by a large publishing firm in East Stroudsburg, Pa. He expects a medical discharge as soon as he recovers.

—V—

Lt. Harold Bloch, veteran of 40 missions over European enemy territory as pilot of a B-29 bomber, has been spending a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Bloch, 610 Bob O'Link. He has been stationed at Shreveport, La., since February. Before returning to his post he will visit in New Orleans. He is 26 years of age.

His brother, Sgt. Arthur, 23, now overseas for two years, is serving with the army medical corps in France, having previously seen action in Africa and Sicily. The two brothers met in Italy about a year ago.

—V—

Previously awarded the Bronze Star for outstanding achievement on Tarawa and the Gilberts a year ago, Lt. Richard W. Hawkins, USNR, has recently been presented with a Gold Star, representing an equally meritorious performance of duty during July of this year. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hawkins, Sr., 325 Laurel, he is a member of an amphibious unit. The award was made in recognition of service, under enemy fire, in delivering much needed fuel and ammunition to troops on shore. His conduct throughout the engagement "distinguished him among those performing duties of the same character."

SGT. ROBERT F. WILL HONORED IN ITALY

Sgt. Robert F. Will, 15th AAF in Italy, of 234 S. Linden Avenue, Highland Park, who is an aerial gunner in a heavy bombardment group in Italy, is now entitled to wear the distinguished unit badge.

At an impressive ceremony at its base somewhere in Italy, Maj. Gen. Nathan F. Twining, commanding general of the 15th Army Air force, pinned the streamers of a Distinguished unit on the standard of his bombardment group for its "outstanding performance of duty in armed conflict with the enemy."

The citation which accompanied the presentation of the streamers, read in part, "On July 25, this bombardment group was assigned the task of attacking and destroying the Zwolfaxing airdrome installations at Vienna, Austria, which were being used for the assembly of ME-109's... Throughout the day and night prior to the attack, the ground crews worked untiringly and enthusiastically to have their aircraft at the peak of mechanical perfection to insure the success of this vital operation."

On July 26, this group of B-24 Liberator bombers took off as lead group of a wing formation and set course for the target. Attacked by 30 enemy fighters, the gunners threw up such a curtain of lead that the attack was broken off. Adverse weather conditions forced the bombers to bomb at a lower altitude than usual, subjecting them to intense and heavy anti-aircraft fire. Although three bombers were lost, two so badly crippled they had to leave the formation and others badly damaged, the gallant crews pressed the attack and inflicted grave damage to the objective, depriving the enemy of one of his most important fighter assembly and repair bases.

IN THE NATION'S SERVICE

John F. Steib, Jr., ship's cook first class, U. S. Coast Guard, a veteran of the landings at Sicily, Africa, Italy and Normandy while attached to a Coast Guard-manned LCI (landing craft, infantry), has been spending leave with his wife, Nellie, of 598 Glenview, Highland Park.

Steib enlisted in the Coast Guard on June 2, 1942. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. John F. Steib, Sr., live at 2177 Sunnyside Ave., Chicago.

Donald M. Nosek, 18, son of Lt. Comdr. A. F. Nosek, Wilmot Rd., Bannockburn, is receiving initial naval indoctrination at the U. S. naval training center at Great Lakes.

His recruit training consists of instruction in seamanship, military drill, and general naval procedure. During this period a series of aptitude tests will be taken by the recruit to determine whether he will be assigned to a naval service school or to a shore station or to immediate duty at sea.

Sgt. Robert Stahl, former teller in the Deerfield State bank, who lost his life when bailing out of a damaged plane returning to Italy from a target over Roumania, was given a simple but honorable burial by the natives of a small village in Yugoslavia, according to the report of a returned buddy. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Stahl of Prairie View.

After Sgt. Stahl left the plane, his parachute opened but immediately collapsed. Found by natives, his body was taken to the village, where, amid a profusion of flowers, funeral services were held.

Sgt. Stahl was the only one of the crew of 10 to lose his life on this, their 10th mission. He was graduated from the local high school in 1934.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Sesso, 717 Deerfield, have received word that their son, Cpl. R. Robert, USMC, who has served for the past 15 months in the Pacific area, has arrived in the States and will be able to spend Christmas at home.

day following his graduation from the local high school in June, 1943. During his service overseas he has been stationed in the Gilberts, the Marshalls, and the Marianas.

Although Cpl. Sesso censors his own letters carefully, Sgt. John Salyards and Cpl. Jack Orris, of the Marine corps, both local boys and now in the States, have reported meeting him overseas. During boot camp he trained with Cpl. John Hefferman of Wilmette, and had been stationed at the same bases in the Pacific.

T/Sgt. Leonard Rectenwald, home after 15 months of aerial combat over the Philippines, We-wak, Hollandia, Celebes and other enemy bases in the Pacific area, is spending a 23-day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Stem, 618 Crescent Ct. For his 64 completed missions, including 307 combat hours, Sgt. Rectenwald wears the Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters.

A Christmas party is being arranged for the sergeant before he leaves Dec. 20 for the rehabilitation center at Santa Ana, Calif.

Rectenwald, a senior, left the local high school in June, 1942, to enlist in the air force. He was awarded his wings in March, 1943, and left for overseas the following August.

Pvt. Robert E. Austin, son of Mrs. Clive E. Austin, 1352 Broadway, has been awarded the Good Conduct medal for "exemplary behavior, efficiency and fidelity," according to an announcement by Col. J. M. Hutchinson, commanding officer at San Marcos Army Air Field, Texas, a unit of the AAF training command.

Prior to coming to this navigation school, Pvt. Austin was stationed at Buckley Field, Denver, Colo.

Saved after abandoning ship — the carrier USS Princeton, lost recently in the Philippine area, Lt. (s.g.) John O'Connor arrived in town last week to spend a 30-day furlough with the homefolks, not the least important of whom is his 9-months-old son, John Thomas, who lives with his mother and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John O'Connor, Sr., at 590 Glenview.

MORE WARWORKERS OR MORE WAR?

"We can save thousands of lives if we get more big guns."

"We could advance more rapidly if we only had more heavy duty trucks."

"These are the men who were flown here straight from the front lines to tell you what they need... Help 'em out!"

"Please rush more radar equipment to locate enemy planes and troops."

"Give us more pontoon bridges and tanks now to cross the Rhine."

"We've got to have more shells right away."

MEN! WOMEN! Provide firepower for Eisenhower GET A WAR JOB! KEEP IT!

This is an emergency. Need for warworkers in certain key industries has suddenly increased. Our armed forces have advanced with such amazing speed—and fighting is now so intensely violent—that we have actually used up ammunition and supplies intended for use next MARCH... Shells are being rationed on some fronts... General Eisenhower states that Aschen could have been taken several days sooner, and many American lives could have been saved, if we had had more shells. Other materials and equipment—such as tanks, jeeps, big guns, small arms ammunition, aircraft engines—are also needed desperately.

The warworkers of this area have already done a magnificent production job. But now, more production than ever is needed. Unfortunately, our military successes have led many people to believe our need for war production is nearly at an end. THIS IS NOT TRUE. W. P. B. has just announced that war production will probably not be cut back much more than 15% when Germany is defeated—because we will need so much firepower and equipment to defeat Japan. Help shorten the war—get a war job and keep it. Call your nearest U. S. Employment Service office.

- These are "MUST" jobs...
- Laborers • Aircraft Assemblers • Welders
 - Mechanics • Turret Lathe Operators
 - Radar Equipment Assemblers • Mechanics
 - Pattern Makers • Core Makers
 - Tool and Die Makers • Inspectors
 - Engine Lathe Operators • Designers
 - Engineers • Grinders
- APPLY TODAY AT YOUR NEAREST U. S. EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OFFICE

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