

I'M IN THE ARMY NOW

By
Cpl. Whitt N. Schultz

Soldier Goes Home

Special to the Highland Park Press

TOO FAR AWAY FROM HIGHLAND PARK—

He jumped in the big bus, threw his suitcases on the shelf, and looked around with a broad smile.

He saw this corporal sitting in the back thinking about his happy furlough in Highland Park.

"Hi!" the young soldier yelled. "Hi," said I, "where are you headed?"

"HOME!"

"Furlough?"

"Nope. I'm going home for good. I just got my honorable discharge from Fort Sheridan!"

"Great. Tell me your story."

"Okeh."

SHOWS PAPERS . . .

He eased himself into the seat next to mine. He struggled with his cumbersome overcoat. From it he pulled a black leather folder.

"Here, take a look," he said, handing the folder to me.

I did. In it were his discharge papers. His hands shook as he carefully took the papers from me and placed them back in his pocket.

His eyes danced. He was a happy man.

TELLS HIS STORY . . .

"How old are you, Bill?" I asked, not wishing to jump right into the delicate question of WHY he had been released from military service.

"I'm just 21 and I feel wonderful," he replied.

"Boy, they sure do a fast job at Sheridan. Why, I arrived there less than 48 hours ago and here I am — out of the Army!"

"Bill," if you don't mind my asking, how come you got a discharge?"

"I was alerted and all ready to leave for overseas," he began. "I'd been in the States 22 months and during that time at 10 different Army camps. Well, one Tuesday I was given a final overseas physical. I told the medics I had a cold and wasn't feeling too good."

WAITED . . .

"They seemed to ignore what I said," he continued, "so I went back to my barracks and sweated

out my shipping orders. That night a lieutenant came and read off all the names — except mine. My buddies left. I didn't know what was up.

"I was called to the dispensary. 'Soldier, you've got a couple of punctured ear drums,' the medical officer said, asking me if I knew my ears were in that condition."

"I told him I did. I told him I had explained my condition to Selective Service doctors before I came in the Army. But I was drafted anyway."

"HOORAY! I'M A CIVILIAN . . ."

"After talking to the officer, orders came out transferring me to Fort Sheridan's separation center. And I went there. And here I am a civilian again! Just like that! But I'm not kicking. I'm going home, get me a defense job, and really work. I know I can do more to help win the war this way."

He sighed, looked out of the window, then remarked:

"Only thing I don't like about going home is that I'll have to do so much explaining about why I'm not in uniform. I look healthy — and I am. There's nothing wrong with me — except my ears. And they never really bothered me. But the Army doesn't want me. So home I go."

With that he shrugged his shoulders, slid down in his seat, smiled, closed his eyes, and soon was snoring . . .

The bus roared on into the bleak, rainy night.

LOVELY LADY . . .

To see Van Johnson and Phyllis Thaxter in "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" the other evening. And a good movie it is.

A 21-gun salute to lovely Phyllis Thaxter who recently married Highland Parker, Capt. Jim Aubrey.

Let it be known that this corporal is looking forward to meeting Miss Thaxter when she visits our town.

Congratulations to the bride and bridegroom!

Lt. Homer Smith Is Reported Missing

Word has been received that Lt. Homer Smith, AAF, known in Highland Park where he resided until four years ago as "Pee-Wee," has been reported missing in action. For three years he attended the local high school.

Lt. Smith entered the service in January, 1942. Pilot of a Thunderbolt fighter bomber, he has been overseas since last March, and was reported missing over France Nov. 8.

A sister, Mrs. Gerald Clampitt, the former Naomi Smith, lives in Deerfield, and another sister, Mrs. Harold Connolly, lives at 120 N. Green Bay.

Five Invasion Vet Winner of Citation Admits He Is But 17

ABOARD A COAST GUARD ASSAULT TRANSPORT (Special). — Charles J. Robison, Jr., 15 Aberdeen Rd., Hingham Mass., drew what he considered his first free breath in a year and a half of service life today. He had just turned an official 17 years of age.

Since January he has participated in five Pacific invasions, the latest of which was in the Philippines. He nearly lost his life in the Marshall Islands operations due to a Jap booby trap, and after Saipan, Admiral Nimitz, commander in chief of the Pacific fleet, awarded him a citation for bravery under fire while serving aboard a small invasion craft.

Robison also participated in operations in the Bismarck Sea and at Palau.

He enlisted in Boston when he was 15½. That wasn't too difficult because he's 5 feet 10 inches tall and weighs 165 pounds. Asked what his father thought of his under-age enlistment, "Junior" re-

plied: "Well, he said if I wanted to see action that badly, he supposed it would be all right."

The veteran executive officer of this ship who weighs a man on his ability and spirit must have agreed with Charles, Sr. For when Robison bashfully approached him and confessed his minority enlistment, he waved him off with the gruff-spoken remark:

"You didn't think you were fooling me, did you son? If we had been anywhere near civilization, I would have put you off long ago."

But there was a twinkle in the exec's eyes.

"Over The Hump" Flyer Home for Christmas

Capt. and Mrs. Dean Tjaden, with their daughter, Sharon, were guests of their respective parents, the L. R. Tjadens, 607 W. Park, and the Robert Malfalds, 622 Glenview, for Christmas. This is the first Christmas in three years he has spent at home. A veteran of 118 missions "over the hump," with the India-China wing of the air transport command, he has been awarded, among other decorations, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal and the Presidential Citation.

Now stationed with his little family at Rosecrans Field, St. Joseph, Mo., he is instructing in the flying of transport planes.

SGT. DE VERE RHINEHART IN EUROPEAN AREA

A U.S. Troop Carrier Base, European Theater of Operations. — Staff Sgt. De Vere V. Rhinehart, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Rhinehart, 583 Homewood Ave., is serving as an aircraft machinist with a depot repair squadron of a troop carrier service wing in the European theater of operations.

Service wing, commanded by Col. Franklin S. Henley, repairs and services the planes and gliders of U.S. troop carrier forces, headed by Maj. Gen. Paul L. Williams. Its efficiency in maintenance work was an important role in the successful five day airborne invasion of Holland by the Airst Allied Airborne army.

Sgt. Rhinehart, who has been serving this theater of operations for 19 months, was graduated from Highland Park high school, class of 1937.

OUR ENEMIES

Victory will not be easy nor will it come soon. We are fighting an enemy without mercy or honor, as we understand those terms. We are fighting men trained to hate us with fanatical zeal. They are barbarians out of the past, armed with weapons of the present. They know that for Japan this is a war to the death. It is make or break for the empire of the rising sun. We must see that it is "break." — Vice Adm. Randall Jacobs, U.S.N.

NOT SO SAVAGE

A chaplain in the South Seas was invited, with some of his boys, to visit a village inhabited by headhunters. An exchange of entertainment was proposed. The Americans were just a bit nervous, but an impromptu glee club tendered the "Star Spangled Banner" and a few other selections. The natives listened without change of expression. Then, upon signal from their chief, proceeded to take over. The Americans relaxed, awaiting weird, eerie music from the natives who sat cross-legged before their tom-toms. But they sat upright when these men, in shrill high voices began singing, "She'll be comin' round the mountain when she comes."

Dr. Roy R. Yeoman
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OPTOMETRIST

GLENGOE

THEATRE 630 Vernon Ave. Highland Park 605

THUR., FRI., SAT. Jan. 4-5-6
Don Ameche, Carmen Miranda
in
"Greenwich Village"

SUN., MON. Jan. 7-8
Joel McCrea and Betty Field in
"GREAT MOMENT"

TUES., WED. Jan. 9-10
Sonja Henie, Ray Milland in
"Everything Happens at Night"

Coming: "Marriage Is a Private Affair," "Double Indemnity," and "Laura."

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IN THE NATION'S SERVICE

Mrs. Henry Parker, 440 Lincoln place, has three sons in the armed forces. Thomas, of the Seabees, is at present in a San Diego hospital for leg and foot injuries. Henry H., also of the Seabees, is stationed in the Pacific area. Sgt. John, whose wife and children live in Canada, is stationed in Italy with the Canadian army.

Two sons of Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Adair, formerly of Highland Park, but now living in Webster Grove, Mo., are now in the service. Cpl. Charles, "Bud," gunner in the AAF, is stationed overseas. Thomas is in the navy.

Further honors have been awarded 2nd Lt. Edward J. Moroney, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Moroney, 573 Glenview, for his services in the air force. The first oak leaf cluster has been added to the air medal. Lt. Moroney, who, prior to entering the AAF, was on the local police force, has received much praise for his courage, coolness and skill in combat.

Peyton S. Allen, Coast Guard Quartermaster, 2/c, of 528 S. Linden, has returned from sea duty and has been assigned to duty at the Coast Guard base in Detroit. Allen served aboard an LCI (landing craft infantry) during the invasions of Sicily, Salerno and Normandy. Before he enlisted in the Coast Guard he was attending the University of Illinois.

Ens. Lewis R. Hutchison, USNR, officer on an LCS, spent the holidays at the home of his uncle, Dr. Grover Q. Grady, 529 Forest. He is stationed at Solomons, Maryland.

His brother, "Bill," a student in the V-12 at DePauw university, was also home at the Grady's for Christmas.

Lt. Robert Hutchison, the eldest brother, is at sea somewhere in the Pacific area.

Sgt. Daniel W. Grady, of the 9th Air Force, son of Dr. and Mrs. Grady, is stationed in England.

Pfc. Grover Q. Grady, Jr., is at present en route to a new post.

Raymond H. Anthony, USNR, son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond B. Anthony, 270 Cedar, is now an ensign in the Naval air force. He received his pilot's wings and commission at Corpus Christi, Tex. His twin brother, A/C Joseph, USNR, is receiving advanced training at Corpus Christi.

Cpl. Robert Brown, of the Field Artillery, Camp Chaffee, Ark., was the holiday guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Brown, 1009 N. St. Johns. He has been in the service for 10 months.

Another son, Thomas, has nearly completed his training at the engineering officer's candidate school at Ft. Belvoir, Va.

One of the three Marine-minded Cadys, Cpl. Margot, recently visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hearst W. Cady, 339 E. Park, prior to leaving the country with the first contingent of women marines to be sent overseas. She expects to be stationed at Pearl Harbor for two years.

Pfc. Jean, also of the Marines, is now stationed at Camp Pendleton, Calif. Lt. Hearst W. Cady, pilot flier, is on duty at North Island, San Diego, Calif.

Pvt. Alvin Pantle, 21, of the Army infantry, was slightly wounded on Dec. 8, while fighting on German soil. A letter received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pantle, 828 Deerfield Rd., written by Pantle from a hospital bed in Belgium, stated that he has suffered leg burns and wounds in the left arm.

Pfc. Gilbert, 22, a brother, also of the Army infantry, is presumably in southern France.

Pvt. Willard, 18, is stationed at Ft. McClellan, Ala.

Pvt. Stanley L. Danielson, of the Army infantry, returned recently from the European area aboard the hospital ship, Chateau Thierry, and is receiving hospital treatment in this country.

Prior to entering service last January, Pvt. Danielson was in charge of a department at Rapp Bros. grocery. Mrs. Danielson lives at 1867 Pleasant.

"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."

"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."

These are the men who were flown here straight from the front lines to tell you what they need . . .

Help 'em out!

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.

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
 - Mechanists • Turret Lathe Operators
 - Radar Equipment Assemblers • Mechanics
 - Pattern Makers • Core Makers
 - Tool and Die Makers • Inspectors
 - Engine Lathe Operators • Designers
 - Engineers • Grinders
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PRODUCTION URGENCY INFORMATION COMMITTEE

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