

I'M IN THE ARMY NOW

By
Cpl. Whitt N. Schultz



Spring—You're Wonderful!

Special to the Highland Park Press

You're wonderful, Spring!
You're so gay, so young, so fresh, so alive. You're that bud over there on that bush — bursting with life, blooming into a beautiful flower.

There's no meanness in you, Spring!

You don't know there's a war going on. And I, for one, am happy you don't.

You were born to renew, refresh, create. You're doing well already, Spring, 'cause we're all feeling better since you came.

THE SOUNDS OF SPRING . . .

You bring with you such pleasant sounds . . .

A baseball bat hitting home plate . . . Roller skates on children's active feet . . . The lazy lapping of the lake against the shore . . . A cricket chirping . . . Wet, clean clothes flapping in the air from your warm and gentle breath . . . The roar of tractors as they pull plows through the wintered ground . . .

Ah, yes, Spring; you, like a Mother can make a man happy—wherever he may be . . . You can show him that all is not lost . . . That there is life . . . And there is happiness . . . And that man can live in this world light-heartedly as you do . . .

MEMORIES . . .

O, Spring, what is this charm that you have over us? This charm that makes us smile and open our hearts and remember the gay days in certain yester-years? . . .

How come you can bring back so easily all these sweet memories of peaceful years, of years when our friends were here in Highland Park — alive, well, strong? . . .

PARTINGTHOUGHT

"Shadow and light, dark days and bright. Evil and good will be thy lot as everyman's. Be not dismayed by the one, dazzled by the other. Keep thou the path. Life's achievements and not its pleasures bring thee lasting happiness."

EDITOR'S NOTE: Spring settled in our typewriter keys this week and . . . well . . .

LAONIC

When a salvo of marine artillery would cut loose on Iwo, marines would assure themselves: "That's ours." When an explosion would send gullies of sand running down the shelter walls, someone would remark: "That's theirs."

Later, finding Jap duds in their area, with shell fragments in their sandbags, the comment was: "That was close."

IN THE NATION'S SERVICE

Marine Staff Sergeant Vera M. Greene, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Greene, of 504 Gray avenue, has been promoted to her present rank at the marine auxiliary air field, Congaree Field, S. Car.

She entered the marine corps May 22, 1943, and is now on duty as non-commissioned officer in charge of the bus department at this field.

A graduate of Northern Illinois State Teacher's college, she was employed as a school teacher at Waukegan, prior to her enlistment.

Capt. Jack White, U. S. army, veteran of 33 months' service in the European area, is enjoying a leave with his wife and two small sons, who are at present living at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Perkins of Deerfield.

Capt. White, who possesses the bronze star medal, took part in the African, Tunisian and Italian campaigns. He will report for duty early in May.

Lt. F. Kent Blatchford, of the NAF, who has served for eight months in the Pacific area, is expected home daily by Mrs. Blatchford, who, with her infant son, is living with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Roach, 199 Ravine.

During his service in the Pacific area, the lieutenant took part in the bombing of Tokio.

Lt. Wm. R. Tenney, Jr., USN, son of the W. R. Tenney's, 785 Oak Grove, has seen three and one-half years service in the Pacific. During that time he has taken part in five major invasions—Green and Emerau, in the Bismarck group, Guam, Leyte and Luzon. The latter, he asserts, was the most rugged engagement.

2nd Lt. Robert, a brother, is with the infantry at Camp Maxey, Texas.

T/Sgt. David Richman, 23, is now stationed in Egypt, according to a letter received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Richman, 655 Deerfield, but he went the long way round to get there.

Placed aboard a Liberty ship in New York, he and five other AAF men were given orders to stay aboard until officially removed. Followed weeks of cruising, living in comfort, however, until they began to pine for dry land once more.—But leaving the ship would be desertion, according to their orders. Through some slip, they had evidently become forgotten men. Finally army authorities in Calcutta received them with reluctance,

Local Man Wins Legion of Merit

WITH THE VI CORPS, SEVENTH ARMY, France. — It was announced recently that Col. Kermit L. Davis of Highland Park has been awarded the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious service with the VI corps in France, by the commanding general, Maj. Gen. Edward Brooks.

Col. Davis, a graduate of the U. S. Military academy at West Point in 1934, holds the Purple Heart, Silver Star and Bronze Star.

His wife resides at 396 Walker avenue. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Davis, reside in Rockwood, Mich.

The colonel has been serving overseas for 28 months, and was formerly with the Third division.

Alex Haincek, USMC, Wounded at Iwo Jima

Pfc. Alex Haincek, USMC, son of Mrs. Joseph Borgini, 207 Jeffrey, Highwood, has written from a fleet hospital in the Pacific that he has undergone an operation for the removal of a bullet imbedded in a rib, during the engagement at Iwo Jima. Haincek joined the Leathernecks in January, 1943, and left for overseas the following November. He will be 22 on April 11.

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T-Sgt. Evo Mini Is Home on Leave

T/Sgt. Evo Mini, of the AAF, 1943 graduate of the local high school, is enjoying a 21-day leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Julio Mini, 321 Grove, Highwood. It is marvelous, being home again, he says.

The fine-looking young bombardier, just turned 21, has been in the service since March, 1943, and based in England for the last nine months. During this time he has flown on 35 missions over German territory, and has been awarded the air medal with five oak leaf clusters, the Distinguished Flying Cross, and the Presidential citation with one cluster "for meritorious achievement for participating in aerial combat." His toughest assignment occurred on Dec. 5, he says.

Although he asserts that being home gives you the most wonderful feeling, he is anxious to get started again. He will report on April 25 to Santa Anna, Calif., for three to six weeks' rest, and then expects to be assigned to a B-29 for service in the Pacific area.

A brother, Pvt. Albert Mini, is now stationed in Washington, D.C.

Dancing Parties at Highland Park USO

Special Parties—Friday, April 6—

Dancing party from 8 to 11. Music by the 344th army band. Variety show at 9 p.m. Refreshments at 9:30.

Tuesday, April 10—

The Wilmette Rotary club will sponsor a special dancing party from 8 to 11. Service: men and GSO girls will dance to the music of the 344th army band. An all G. I. show presented by men from Fort Sheridan. Refreshments at 9:30.

Cpl. Philip Zoul Safe on Iwo Jima

Friends who have been concerned as to the safety of Cpl. Philip Zoul, 21, who was known to have taken part in the Iwo Jima engagement, will be glad to learn that two letters from him arrived at the Llewellyn home, 121 Prairie, Highwood, on Saturday, stating that he was safe. No letter had been received from him since Jan. 26. He states that he has been kept busy, the going has been rugged and that he lives mostly in fox-holes.

Cpl. Zoul also took part in the Marshalls, Saipan and Tinian campaigns.

Carl Johnson Promoted To Rank of Captain

Carl J. Johnson, P-47 thunderbolt fighter bomber and flight commander, has been promoted to the rank of captain.

He has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with 16 oak leaf clusters and the Presidential Distinguished Unit badge, and has participated in more than 95 missions over France, Belgium and Germany.

He is 28 and the son of Mrs. Anna Johnson, 641 Glenview.

Six Busy Women Work Wonders at 'Y'

A special feature of the annual YWCA meeting, April 5, will be an exhibit of 23 or more quilts, dozens of children's dresses, beanies and sweaters to be given to the Red Cross. These items were turned out in the last two or three months by seven women who have asked to remain anonymous, who meet faithfully at the "Y" every Thursday and who donate or beg friends for materials used. Sometimes practically worn out women's dresses find themselves amazingly cut down and trimmed up into very useful children's clothing. As for wool "gathering"—beware of the seven ladies' itching fingers — for odd balls of yarn turn out many an unexpected tiny sweater and cap. Small pieces of cotton material so hard to buy now help make up the many quilts turned out by this energetic group. Old sheets, worn cotton blankets, even drapes, help to fill and back the quilts. Anyone viewing the display, which is open to the public Thursday evening, will be moved to look around at home for odds and ends gathering dust or moths and drop in to see the ladies some Thursday at the "Y."

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