

# I'M STILL IN THE ARMY!

By  
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## Notes on Nimitz, Korea, and Haircuts

**PEARL HARBOR, T. H.**— "You're welcome to attend Adm. Nimitz' press conference this morning, Corporal," the five star admiral's public information officer told me over the telephone recently.

So, I went to the meeting and for 100 minutes I sat by the Nation's No. 1 admiral — the white-haired, soft-spoken new chief of naval operations.

The conference was interesting with much off-the-record information released concerning the job the Navy is doing now, including the dangerous duty of mine sweeping, occupying captured islands, and transporting thousands men Stateside.

Most of the talking was done by Adm. Nimitz' chiefs of staffs. The Admiral interrupted them now and then, however, and put his own interpretations on different Naval matters.

But most of the time he sat in the leather chair beside mine, seemingly thinking deeply on many subjects — perhaps, too, on the serious Navy riot involving 1000 sailors and Honolulu hoodlums which occurred the night before, and which we correspondents were told not to discuss with the Fleet Chief.

### WATCHES ADMIRAL

I sat and watched the Admiral. He is not a tall man; but he is solidly built. His face is highly sunburned and his white hair and eyebrows stand out noticeably.

He wore a tan tropical worsted uniform, neatly pressed. His tan shoes were polished brightly — but his heels were slightly run over. He wore short, tan socks held up by elastic.

His fingernails were short and clean. His wrist watch was large and loosely strapped to his arm with a gold and silver band. He wore a five star insignia as a tie holder.

During the 100 minutes he changed his position 30 times. He sat slouched in his chair, his legs crossed most of the time, his feet wiggling.

### EMPHASIZES POINT

His left ear seemed to be itching frequently for he rubbed it often.

The correspondent from The Christian Science Monitor, sitting to my left, asked a pertinent question, and Adm. Nimitz turned and answered him, using his left hand to emphasize the point.

It was then that I noticed that the Admiral's third finger, left hand, is gone from the knuckle up. Towards the end of the 100 minutes, the Admiral stood and told us newsmen that we must be patient with the Navy in the Pacific.

"There are great distances to cover out here. We can't get all the men home overnight. Remember that," he declared.

He said he was surprised at the way the Navy was dwindling in strength — "Far faster than I had ever anticipated," he said.

With that he smiled, turned, walked abruptly out of the room, and the press conference ended.

### NOTES ON KOREA

A fellow Stars and Stripes correspondent, Sgt. Gordon Davis, who recently returned from Korea, told some highlights on life in that country to a group of us the

other evening. . . . Korea's national anthem is sung to the tune of Auld Lang Syne. . . . The No. 1 song on Korea's Hit Parade, Gord reports, is My Blue Heaven. Remember that, oldie? . . . The Koreans are good dancers and they prefer tangos and rhumbas.

Babe Ruth is still their top sports hero. . . . They love the word "Okay" and say it frequently. . . . When a stranger visits a Korean home, the hostess, or wife, never appears. She remains in the kitchen, supervises the meal, stays in the background. . . .

Men and women in Korea use the same latrines. . . . The highways in the somewhat backward state are "fair". . . . And an American correspondent can walk in anywhere and get a free meal. . . .

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### GET US HOME, PLEASE!

I thought for a time I might be home for Thanksgiving.

But, no. Then Christmas appeared the next possible day of my homecoming.

But, no again. (The War Department seems anxious to keep this corporal — and thousands of other over-three-year-men — under arms.)

Then, I wishfully thought to myself, it would be nice to get home to welcome in the New Year.

But, no again. The "big, blundering War Department" (a quote from Time, Sir!) decided to SLOW UP discharges again, lowering the daddled points to a HIGH of 55.

So, no New Year's in Highland Park.

Spring is always nice in HP, though.

But at the rate Congress is investigating everything from OPA price ceilings to atomic bombs — and totally ignoring fast demobilization, their No. 1 job — I'll probably be home in time to take a late summer (1946) dip at Roger Williams beach!

NO BOATS, NO VOTES, Congressmen!

GET THE TROOPS HOME NOW!

### ON WOMEN BARBERS

After much urging by Stars and Stripes staff writers, this corporal visited one of Honolulu's many barber shops where women are the barbers.

I had an excellent haircut — the best one I've had since I left Highland Park and the skillful hands of hair artist, Matt Maiman of Ravinia.

The Japanese woman who gave me a crew-cut (at my request, U. of I. chum!) did so gently and carefully.

It was a pleasure not to have hair slipping down my neck constantly. She seemed to take great interest in her work, and I got up from ye olde barber chair kinda pleased with my trim.

have disclosed had probably a more varied career and a longer one than almost any ship of the fleet.

The Keokuk is a survivor of two world wars, with continuous service beginning in 1914 when she was built for peaceful commercial trade. During the recently ended Pacific conflict, she went back to the wars to see the capitulation of Japan after suffering her first damage due to enemy action, an aerial bomb hit at Iwo Jima. In that operation she became known affectionately as "struggle buggy" because she was the oldest auxiliary in the campaign, if not the very oldest vessel present.

Changes of name, classification and theaters of operation were common for the Keokuk. Proof of her staunchness is the fact that she still retains her original engines and boilers, though the latter units have been converted from coal to oil burners.

Acquired by the Navy July 28, 1941, the ex-merchantman had a career as a cruiser-minelayer, taking part in virtually all of the Atlantic and European campaigns. Then, as a netlayer, she saw service in most of the Pacific "hot spots," including Okinawa.

During World War I, the ship served as a train ferry, transporting box cars to Europe.

### Lt. William Cope Receives Discharge From Navy Air Corps

Lt. (jg) William Cope, of the air corps, USNR, son of Mrs. Walter Cope, 645 Vine, arrived home last Sunday to take up residence again in Highland Park as a civilian. He was last stationed at Pensacola, Fla.

### Lt. Ullmann Home on Terminal Leave from China-India Area

Home on terminal leave after 15 months in the China, Burma, India and French Indo-China area with the AAF, Lt. Gunther Ullmann is visiting his father, William Ullmann, 1305 East, and his brother, Arthur, of Deerfield.

Returning by air across India, the lieutenant made the remainder of his trip by boat, via the Suez-Mediterranean-Atlantic route.

A pilot with the 3rd combat-cargo squadron, Lt. Ullmann entered the service in January, 1943, and left for India in August, 1944. He possesses the American victory ribbon, the victory medal and 4 stars on his Asiatic-Pacific ribbons. After his release at Ft. Sheridan, Dec. 18, he plans to resume his studies.

### Dr. Francis M. Yager Resumes Dental Practice In Hubbard Woods

Lt. Comdr. Francis M. Yager, 916 Marion Ave., Highland Park, has been released to inactive duty by the navy.

Upon entering the service he was assigned to Great Lakes naval training center where he was supervisor of a dental clinic. After serving this tour of duty at Great Lakes he was assigned to an attack transport in the Pacific area. On this ship, the USS Brookings, he traveled 60,000 miles from New Guinea north and saw service in the Philippines, the occupation of Tokyo and China. He flew from Tsingtao, China, to Shanghai and then home.

On Dec. 15, Dr. Yager will resume dental practice at his office, 888 Linden Ave., Hubbard Woods.

### Inman, High Point Veteran, On Way Home from Hawaii

Raymond H. Inman, F1/c, of Highland Park, is on his way home.

Inman is one of 3,730 high-point veterans whom the "Magic Carpet" is bringing back to the States aboard the USS Saratoga.

The Saratoga, one of more than 250 carriers, battleships, cruisers, and attack transports in the navy's famed "Magic Carpet" fleet — left Pearl Harbor Wednesday, Nov. 250 carriers, battleships, cruisers, 14, and arrived in San Francisco Sunday, Nov. 18.

Passengers went directly to separation centers nearest their homes to complete the formalities of obtaining their discharges before returning to civilian life.

### Two Sons of Mrs. Josephine Giallanza Released from Service

Pvt. Joseph A. and Cpl. Anthony, sons of Mrs. Josephine Giallanza, were both recently released from service. Before entering the armed forces they maintained the National Prize Winner Shoe Rebuilder service at 24 N. Second.

Pvt. Joseph, two years in the army, served as supply clerk at Camp Grant, Camp Lee and Ft. Sheridan. Cpl. Anthony, AAF, served 4 years and 9 months, stationed at Chanute Field and at Lincoln Field, Neb. Their shop at 24 N. Second is again open for service.

### S. Sgt. John Salyards, Marine Veteran, Released from Service

Marine Sergeant John Salyards, brother of Mrs. Edgar Hayes, 518 veteran of 28 months in the Pacific area, received his discharge from service Nov. 17. He is the Midlothian.

After participating in action at Tarawa, Kwajalein, Makin, Midway, Magura and Funifuti, he came back to the States on furlough, returning to the Pacific, afterward, to take part in the campaigns at Luzon and Okinawa.

Pvt. Stanley, a brother, is in town for a 32-day convalescent furlough from the White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, hospital. Clyde, hospital apprentice 1/c, of the navy, attached to the Marines, is believed to be now on his way home from the Philippines.

### Sgt. Alfred Christiansen Met Death in Accident In Germany, Sept. 22

A few weeks ago word was received of the death of T./Sgt. Alfred Christiansen, in Germany, but only recently were the particulars of the tragedy learned.

The son of John Christiansen, 52 Deerfield Pl., Alfred was 20 years of age, and a 1943 graduate of Highland Park high. He had made something of a record for himself on the European front. In four major engagements, he had participated in several missions, each time being one of the lucky few to return. At one time only five out of 17 returned safely. At another, 7 out of 23, and again he was the sole survivor of a party of 35. He took part in rescuing our forces surrounded at Bastogne, for which feat his unit received the Presidential citation. It seemed almost as though the young sergeant bore a charmed life, and he had made definite plans to be home for Christmas.

While attending school in Germany, near Munich, last September, he received a pass to visit some buddies in his old company at Kempton. Starting out to hitchhike, he flagged a ride from a passing truck. Later the truck was forced from the road by a passing vehicle, and Sgt. Christiansen received injuries which resulted in his death.

Besides his father, he is survived by two brothers, Lt. John of the AAF and Bob, now released from service, but who saw action in North Africa, Italy and Sicily; and two sisters, Mrs. Jennie Wilson of Highland Park, and Emma, a 1945 graduate of the local high school, who was awarded a scholarship upon graduation.

Edward I. Smith, of the Smith Manufacturing company, after 3 1/2 years of service, is back at his place of business at 48 S. Skokie Valley road.

### Former Staff Sergeant, Edward I. Smith Again a Civilian

Two years overseas, in tank retrieving (rugged work, by the way) Smith served in Scotland, England, France, Luxembourg, Belgium, Germany, Czechoslovakia and Switzerland. . . . but refuses to discuss his experiences.

"The heroes are in the infantry," he declares. "They're the boys who really took it — every one a hero!"

Of the girls overseas, the former sergeant pronounces them all wonderful! — and all different. . . . each country better than the last.

### Richman Brothers Are Separated By Continent

The war has put the continent of Asia between T/Sgt. David Richman and his brother, Pfc. Alvin, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Richman, 655 Deerfield Ave.

Pfc. Alvin expects to be stationed in Japan until next April. His present work is planning recreation for the occupation troops in the land of cherry blossoms. He will take part in a basketball tournament in Tokyo next month.

T./Sgt. David, of the army air corps, has been transferred from Iran to Cairo, Egypt.

The two brothers met last Christmas in New York City. Both are graduates of Highland Park high and former students at Northwestern university.

### Seaman Earl Riddle Arrives Home in Time For Thanksgiving

Seaman 1/c Earl Riddle arrived in town the day before Thanksgiving to spend a 21-day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Riddle, 330 Vine.

Seaman Riddle was stationed aboard the Missouri at the time the peace treaty with Japan was signed.

### Excerpt from Letter From Cpl. Whitt Schultz Telling of Promotion

"I have now taken over the editorship of 'Dear Editor,' presumably the most popular feature in 'Stars and Stripes.' I must add quickly that it was the most popular feature long before I joined the staff; I only hope I can maintain its high readership qualities. It'll be a big job. I have a staff of three working with me: two sergeants and a WAC. Daily scores of letters arrive here. It is our duty to sort out the best ones, cut them if necessary, edit them, write heads for them, and answer them in the column if they require an answer. Already the column has done some good: it has gotten men back pay, emergency furloughs, more points, dependency allotments, better administration, better feeding and housing conditions, and it has tried to make the lot of the enlisted men a better, happier one. That is our goal. This is, to date the most responsible job I've had since I enlisted. I hope I do well in it."

### Methodists to Hold

### Monthly Friday Dinner At Highland Park Church

Friday, Nov. 30, at 5:30 p.m., the joint monthly dinner of the Highland Park and Highwood Methodist churches will be held at the Highland Park church. The dinners are served alternately at the two churches.

### Medal and Citation Awarded Lt. Jay Pugh For Leadership

Lt. (jg) Jay Wilber Pugh, 1301 S. St. Johns, has been awarded the Bronze Star medal and accom-

panying citation "for meritorious service in connection with operations against the enemy, as senior commanding officer of a flotilla of United States ships during amphibious assaults on Iwo Jima and Okinawa."

Lt. Pugh is lauded for his courage and outstanding leadership, often under enemy attack, in contributing materially to the success of the operations.

The lieutenant's parents are Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Pugh.

### Pfc. Jack Lanigan Of Army Air Corps Reenlists in Service

Fifteen months in the army air corps, and now home for 60 days, Pfc. Jack Lanigan, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Lanigan, 919 Wade, will report to Fort Sheridan for reassignment at the end of his leave. He has reenlisted in the service for a term of one year.

A radio mechanic, stationed at Ogden, Utah, he is an alumnus of Highland Park high, class of 1944.

### Max Ekelman Receives Discharge At Oklahoma Camp

Max Ekelman Jr., with his wife and son, are staying with his parents at 438 Lincoln place, for the present. He received his discharge from service recently at Camp Gruber, Okla.

### C.W.O. Edward Lloyd Back at Post After 19-Day Furlough

C.W.O. Edward Lloyd, son of the Reuben Loyds, 515 S. St. Johns, arrived at Amarillo, Texas, Monday, after spending a 19-day furlough with his parents.

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