

# - INTERVIEWS -

We talked to Sgt. John H. King, home on furlough from Tonopah, Nev. with heavy bomber unit there. In service 18 months and says he will trade present status for that of civilian. Tom Parker, CM2/c, now home from Pacific on furlough- was in invasion at Guadalcanal, Tulagi, Russell Islands and New Georgia. Tom says he is fed up with Pacific Islands. His wife and 2 yr. old boy live here (He'd never seen his son).

Flight Officer Joe Wagner was a caller enroute to Lincoln, Nev., where he is to finish training for combat flying. Joe gave several of us the most interesting description of flying, maneuvering, and the general operation of fighting aerial equipment we have ever had. This lad is bright and full to running over with his job. Take a guy like that and you can go places. So thanks, Joe, and good luck.

Road-hog Ballard completes amphib. training at Norfolk. Home on furlough he called on us. Looking fine and ready for Pacific. Gives a splendid description of duties, etc. Big and husky, the boy is a picture of American youth, ready for excitement. HFN always glad to have you guys call on us and wishes you all the luck.

Lonnie Sasser, USN., has been in Aleutians and Pacific area aboard destroyer when rear end boat cut off by mine, losing 86 men. Has really seen Pacific action from front seat. Home on furlough.

Had a fine interview with Pvt. Woodrow Rawls. He was at home on furlough from Fort Knox and was "on his way". Woodrow gave me the low-down on how to get along in a tank, and when I said I would like to go aboard one, said, "How in the heck would you ever get through the door?" Well, I never thought of that, for I do have a slight stomach. At any rate his description was good and HFN wishes him well wherever he goes.

Sgt. B. B. Phelps, at home on a furlough after 34 months in Sitka, Alaska, dropped in to see us. Says he likes it up there in the land of the midnight sun, plenty of good fishing, hunting, and what-have-you. He is a mess sergeant, but not so hot on his present assignment at Camp Gruber, Okla. Is with the field artillery and wears a couple of medals for expert gunnery when he was doing his stuff in the outfit. Richard sent us some very interesting pictures of Alaska. Thanks, and good shooting with those beans, soldier.

Civilian "Wop" Carstarphen, now a State Game Warden down around Elizabeth City and Dismal Swamp, stopped in to say hello. You remember, "Wop" was in the Navy for a long time but received an honorable discharge on account of the illness of his fine wife. "Wop" will make a good Warden for he likes the out-doors and is a good hunter.

Long, tall, good-looking T/S Charles Pillow blew in from Smyrna Air base. We certainly enjoyed his visit. Says he wouldn't mind getting out of service; but on condition that the emergency was over. Ready and willing to stay in there along with the other fine guys. We here on the home front certainly get fine slants by talking to you fellows, and whether you be in from Pacific or European theatre, the story is just the same- to be in there pitching until the last man is out.

Pvt. Herbert L. Rawls, Jr., is with 222nd Airborne Medical Co. at Camp McKall. He paid us a most pleasant call, saying he had completed his training and was "ready". Herbert told us that 5 members in his family were in the service,- Sister Estelle is a WAC, at Ft. Benning. Earl is in the navy in the Pacific; Sgt. Johnnie is in Burma and brother Woodrow is on his way with tank outfit. Don't you think this is a fine record and one to be proud of? Well, we do, and wish each one of them good luck and God Speed.