

Completed Radio Course



PVT. EVERETTE W. WHITMIRE is now stationed at Hammer Field, Fresno, Calif. He took his basic training at Keesler Field, Miss., and has recently completed a radio course in Chicago, Ill. Before entering the Air Corps last June Pvt. Whitmire was employed as Bleach Operator at the Ecusta Plant.

Finishing Touches

These March winds are blowing us back in again. Our editor probably thinks that there's enough breeze about this column without the help of the winds. Have patience and give us time. We may improve with age . . . Since our last entry of gossip we have acquired several newcomers. They are Estelle Lowe, Velma Hen-son, Thelma Charles and Argie Pat-terson. Not new to Finishing Depart-ment but new to our shift are Ruth Fisher and Henry Brookshire . . . We have lost Mary Lee Greene to the Signal Corps in Arlington, Va., Freda Corn to Atlanta, Ga., and Mar-vin Jones to Newport News, Va. We miss them all but wish them the best of luck at whatever they undertake and there's always the hope of see-ing them back again punching the old time clock . . . We were all glad to get back in the light of day again after working graveyard for a month. The first day on returning from lunch at the cafeteria Louvilla said, "Well, girls, I was proud of you. Not one of you yelled for a hamburger." Graveyard shift has its good points however. For instance, Maude misses those "midlin" sandwiches, "Rosco" misses his sleep and we all miss our overtime. But we lose our blues when we hit day shift, for there's Joe, our cheerful head mechanic, to serve as an everlasting ray of sun-shine . . . Jessie seems to be having more than her share of hard luck. Taking care of fever blisters and a burned hand proves to be a hard task. Hope they are well soon, Jessie . . . These vacationing employees are too fast to keep up with so we'll skip them for this time. Anyway Mildred tells us that a wonderful time was had in Thomasville. It seems there's a soldier in the picture and Raymond is basking in the warmth of his own pride over that newly acquired sun tan. That was the result of a vacation in Florida . . . Our foreman liked graveyard so well that he worked a week longer than we did. He admits that he was glad to come back on days again, even if he doesn't like to get up early . . . What's this about Lib having a date that came in a car? Well, that is news! (about the car, of course) . . . We hardly know Alta these days. There's not a trace of laryngitis and her voice has gone back to its normal tones . . . The insignia and gold wings that Edith Wilkie is sporting are enough to let us all know that her heart is in the clouds . . .

The force of an ideal is greater than the ideal of force. — Josephus Daniels.

LETTERS HOME:

February 22, 1943

Dear Mr. Wells:

How is everything up at Ecusta? I haven't received a copy of the Echo since the December issue and I was about to lose track of you people. I have changed companies since I received the last issue and if it was mailed it must have been misplaced. I enjoyed reading the paper so much that I'd like to continue receiving it.

I'm planning on visiting home again in March and I hope to visit Ecusta while I'm home. It does me good to see many of my old friends.

In the near future I hope to have a picture to send you to be published in the Echo.

Thanks for putting you to so much trouble.

Very sincerely,
GEORGE O. TAYLOR, Cpl.

February 27, 1943

Dear Mr. Wells:

I received my first copy of the Echo which I appreciated very much. When I read the Echo it makes me wish I was back at Ecusta but I am here to do my part for my country and I like the Navy life very well. Tell every-one "hello" and the very best of luck to you all.

Yours very truly,
CHARLES W. SHERRILL
Co. 100-Bk. 129
U S N T S, Bainbridge, Md.

Dear Mr. Wells:

February 28, 1943

I received the January issue of the Echo to-day. I sure appreciate get-ting this fine paper. It means a lot to me to be able to read all of the letters from the boys in the service, and too the boys and girls that are back home. They are the most important. They are making the things fly. Tell them all hello for me.

In closing I wish to thank you again for the Echo.

Sincerely,
CPL. VERNON REECE
Co. D. 10th Bn. . R. T. C.
Fort McClellan, Ala.

Dear Mr. Wells:

February 20, 1943

Just a line to let you know I am now at West Point, New York. I have been transferred from the Infantry to the Quarter-Master Corps as a truck driver and it sure is a nice place. It sure is worth something to watch the Officer Cadets on Parade.

I received the Echo at Camp Croft and I sure did enjoy it. Please see that it is sent on to me here. I sure would like to see everyone at Ecusta but I suppose that is impossible for about two more months. I should be up for furlough then for my records in the Army are clear.

Hoping to see you all in about two months I remain,

PVT. JAMES D. REECE
Q. M. C. Detachment
West Point, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Straus:

March 2, 1943

Had I had time I would have written sooner to thank you for the kind-ness and consideration you extended to me as an employee of Ecusta Paper Corporation. I can sincerely say that I enjoyed working for you and hope to be fortunate enough to return some day when we get things cleared up "over there."

I am now stationed in Lebanon, Tennessee for a course leading to Pre-flight training. Living conditions here are ideal and I'm sure I'll enjoy my stay here though I would much rather be at Ecusta.

I would appreciate your sending me the Echo if army regulations still permit it.

Sincerely,
ERNEST V. RECTOR, Pvt.
10th College Trn. Det. a/c
Cumberland University,
Lebanon, Tenn.

March 6, 1943

Dear Mr. Wells:

Thought I would take this opportunity to write to you and all the fel-lows at the plant. Sure have appreciated the copies of the Echo and hope you continue to send every issue of it.

Am rooming with one of the fellows from the Electrical Department. We start our second week of our lower classes here and the upper class fel-lows sure put us through the raw once in a while.

Keep all the fellows at the plant on the ball and buy them for us and we will try to stay on the ball and fly them for you.

Yours truly,
MAC HEATON
A/C Wm. M. Heaton
Squadron K-6
Maxwell Field, Ala.

March 1, 1943

Dear Mr. Straus:

I received your nice letter and a copy of the Echo some time ago and it sure makes a guy feel good to know one who is as busy as you are would take the time to write to all the men who have left your employ for the service.

I am and have been in Africa for some time with an armoured unit do-ing our bit to further our cause along. Maybe we will be home soon. I hope so for I am anxious to see the plant and the evergreens we put on the of-fice.

I had a letter from Bob Bolt some time ago. He is married now and is First Lieutenant. I knew he was a fast worker but not that fast. Tell Mc-Cann I would like to see our department contribute a little to the Echo as I like to get it. It is just like having a letter from everyone at the plant.

Please excuse the writing for I am sitting on a pine stump trying to write on my knee. I would have written sooner but I had not the time nor paper. I want to thank all of you for the nice Christmas present. Maybe I can return the favor some day.

I am going to enclose a picture and be sure Tony Rhodes, McCann and Mr. Luther get a peek at it for I promised them I would send one. Yes, I am still a private but I guess all of us can't rank or their wouldn't be any-one to do the work.

Give my regards to all and be sure I get the Echo.

Yours truly,
WILLIAM H. JOHNSON.

Solomon Islands

Headhunting in the Solomons is the title of a new book by Carol My-tinger. It gives us a startling picture of the type of country in which our Marines and soldiers are living and fighting. Take a look at the Guadal-canal jungle:

"Underfoot it was a labyrinth of huge aerial rotts and black muck, drooling with centuries of undried rains, and the cold air was pungent with the odor of rotting leaves and wood. The muck underfoot was a deep brown, almost black; the tower-ing pillars of the trees were a cold gray. The air was filled with gloom-loving anopheles

We had left most of the flies be-hind in the bush wall tunnel, but now our tortured horses, ourselves included, were coated with blood-swollen mosquitoes . . . The higher we climbed the deeper the muck . . . A storm was coming up . . . The dis-tant roar swelled in volume, and then we were in the darkness of a moon-less night . . . Finally the whirlwind hit. The sound has no parallel. It was howl, roar and moan together, but with unearthly volume. Then came the rain. It came in a deafening roar and fell not in drops but in streams from the high branches . . . and in bucketfuls when the roof split open."

That's the Guadalcanal jungle. You'll find no corner drug stores or movie theatres there—no long cool drinks or soft music or warm beds. There is no hot food or drink at a jungle outpost—only muddy water and emergency rations. Our men ad-vance toward Japanese positions along torturous jungle trails with sudden death via a sniper's bullet around every bend. They fight two enemies—the jungle and the tough, crafty Japs who would rather die than surrender.

There is no complaining, no flin-ching among these Americans on Guadalcanal. Their only desire is to go on fighting—to push the Japs back to Tokyo. Let's back up our men by giving them the planes, tanks and guns they need to do the job and let's help Uncle Sam pay for them by continuing to buy War Bonds to the utmost limit of our ability.

Enjoys The Echo



CPL. VERNON H. REESE, form-erly employed by Champagne in the Gummy Department, is now stationed at Fort McClellan, Ala-bama. We received a letter from Cpl. Reese and the whole letter was about how much he enjoyed receiving the Echo and how much it meant to him to read the letters from the other boys in service and all about the boys and girls still working at Ecusta. He said, "Tell them all hello for me." You keep 'em flying, Vernon, and we'll keep the Echo flying your way.

Actions Speak Louder

"What did your wife say when you got home last night?"

"Not a word, and I was going to have those two front teeth pulled anyway."