

Mechanic Trainee



Pvt. Kenneth Clark, Third Hand, left Ecusta in October of last year to take his basic training in the air corps at Walnut Ridge, Ark. His latest address shows Kenneth at Seymour Johnson Field, Goldsboro, N. C., where we understand he is learning to be a mechanic in the Ground Crew.

At Fort Benning



Having had no correspondence from Doyle Hamilton, there is very little information we can give concerning him. Doyle was an Inspector and left Ecusta in November of last year. He is now a Private in an Armored Division at Fort Benning, Ga. We are mighty anxious to know how things are going, Doyle. How about a letter?

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had something to do with it . . . Charlie Matthews is back in the "grove" after being ill — "What makes you so strong Charlie?" . . . Looks like "Petie" Colwell is doing a good job pitching for the soft ball team at noon even with all the "heckling" she gets. Who said anything about Jim Curwen's catching??? . . . It was good to see Lil Clarke around again if she did linger only a few minutes, "Child" . . . Ann Howell was off to New York for a vacation and we were all so envious (but we would never admit it) . . . We are happy to see Kathleen Ricker back at work and the next time she has a cold we advise her to see Mr. Milner—he has a wonderful remedy . . . "Tootsie" Johnson seems to think that Fontana is a grand place to live, but we are glad she could spend a week-end over there and come back to work on Monday morning still Miss Johnson . . . Ted Gentry had two days' vacation and according to him his wife thought it was two days to work in the garden—"a hint to the wise"—Don't go home when you have two days off! . . . Bill Milner has been on vacation and we are anxious to know how much work he did—Wanta bet he didn't work in his garden? . . . Yours 'til May-Flies
"Sniff 'n Snoop"

LETTERS HOME

Naval Air Station
Pensacola, Fla.
April 18, 1943.

Dear Mr. Straus:
This is to thank you for the carton of cigarettes which Ecusta sent me for Christmas. I know this seems rather late, but actually I only received them a little over three weeks ago. You may recall that I was attached to the USS "Hornet," which was sunk, and after that our mail never got completely straightened out. Ecusta's was the first package I received, and I only got the other two or three packages, which have chased me around for several months, yesterday when I checked in with the post office here at the Naval Air Station, Pensacola.

It is very fine of you to take such an interest in all your "boys" who have gone into the service, especially so now that there must be several hundred of them. I, for one, appreciate it very much. My memories of Ecusta are all good, and I get a little homesick for it once in a while.

After quite a long time of knocking around the South Pacific, I have just had a change of duty. I am reporting in, here, and find that, after a short course in instructors' school, I am to become an instructor in an advanced training squadron, one which is preparatory for carrier-fighter pilots.

Thanks again for the Christmas remembrance. I shall be looking forward to receiving the "Echo" each month regularly now.

Sincerely yours,
ROY McCLINTOCK

Lieut. (jg) Ernest L. McClintock.

DEML-34592823

Barracks 73-16, U. S. Army
Camp Shanks, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Wells:
I often think of you and all the good folks I worked with at Ecusta. I am busy these days learning to be a soldier. We have plenty to eat, plenty to wear and plenty to do. I expect to be around to see you this spring if I am fortunate enough to get a furlough. Please put me on your mailing list for the Echo. Kindest regards to all, I am,

Your friend,
PVT ARTHUR P. BELL, Jr.

January 28, 1943

Dear Mr. Straus:
Thanks for the cigarettes. They have come in mighty handy. I have been receiving the Echo regularly also, but wish you to note the change in the A.P.O. number. Sure is good to read so many letters at one time of other people you know.

I have about completed six months over here now and have been visiting all that I can. I even found a factory where cigarette paper is made. Been wondering what the quality of it is. The hardness of the water over here makes you use the inverse method when testing for it. At one treatment plant I saw a pile of hardness about the size of the coal pile behind the boiler room.

Wishing you all a successful 1943,
Yours in the service,
RUEL HUNT

January 9, 1943

Dear Mr. Straus:
I receive the Echo occasionally. Thanks so much. It keeps me in touch with the boys I used to work with. Would like to receive it more often. I enjoy the letters from the boys in service most.

For myself I have little to say and a lot to do. Not much of a hand at writing. We over here commend Ecusta's effort in helping to end this war through everyone's taking his or her share in it. I speak for myself but I know it is the same with all your former employees.

I thank Ecusta for the kind remembrance at Christmas time. Would like to take this chance to wish all my former fellow workers, where ever they are, a Happy 1943 and may we all be back together again soon.

Sincerely yours,
BOYD B. MEIXELL, JR.

In Signal Corps



Pvt. Lawrence Richardson, formerly employed in the Inspection Dept. of Ecusta, left us in November, 1942, for his basic training at Camp Crowder, Mo. Pvt. Richardson is now in the Signal Corps at Camp Blanding, Fla.

LETTERS HOME

Dear Mr. Wells:
I received the Echo today and was glad to get it. Sorry I have been too busy to write. We spent five days in the field this week and have to go out for another week. Have finished my basic training and have started on the Infantry training. I believe the biggest part of our training from now on will be in the field. I saw some of the biggest guns in Infantry Artillery yesterday and they really tear up the ground. I saw Leon Scruggs but didn't get a chance to talk to him.

I was reading in a paper from Va. where Macon Davis, former Machine Room employee has a medical discharge. I knew the biggest majority of boys whose pictures were there. They reminded me of good old days back there and hope to have the privilege of returning there some day. The pictures were really good.

Heard from Melvin and he is still in Mass. He said he has seen the ground once since the first of Dec. We do have good weather here since the rainy spell is over. I hear that Tom (from rewinders) now is in 1-A so it won't be long until there will be five of us here in service counting my sister who is in North Africa. I have seen John Reid quite often. There are more boys or soldiers from N. C. than any other state.

That was really a good picture of the plant and I could pick out about every building there.

Tell "Tony" Rhodes that I haven't forgotten him and will write as soon as I have time. A soldier here has no spare time. There is little to do here on Sun., except play ball and I play all day. I've gained about 15 lbs. since I've been here so guess it agrees with me. I can't understand why the Army makes people eat so much candy. We eat it all the time. There are two other boys from near Brevard in my company so it isn't very lonesome.

Well, it's bedtime so will close until later. Keep up the good work and maybe we can all return in peace for good.

Sincerely yours,
DOUG McCORMICK

654 T S.S.-Brks. 1128
Sioux Falls, So. Dak.

Dear Mr. Wells:
This Army sure believes in moving aa fellow around and no short trips to be sure. Above is my new address. Hope you receive this in time to send me the Echo. I start 22 weeks in radio and code study after which I may join a squadron or go on to advanced school.

Regards to all,
TONY (SANSOSTI.)

What's all this talk about giving women men's wages? They always have got them—one way or another!

GUMMING GAB

We are glad to welcome to the Gumming Dept. this month quite a few new faces; among them are Evelyn Drake, Bernice Smith, Julia Barton, Isabelle Myder, Evelyn Morrow, and Robt. J. Quinn. We are glad to have all of you with us and hope you are going to enjoy working here as well as we do . . . You should hear Helen Duckworth talk about her babies—not one but three. Now don't get excited. They are just pigs . . . Mariam Galloway sure was intent upon eating the other night. When she finished she even threw her fork away. That's what graveyard will do to you. If she hadn't thought to tuck her teeth in her pocket they would most likely have disappeared too . . . Preston says he can run every machine but the cutters. Come on over, Preston. We gals would be glad to give you a few lessons . . . Ed Garren and Robt. Lyda are just back from a week's vacation. Suppose they got those Victory Gardens planted . . . They must have quit making coca-colas for we haven't seen Bill with one for over 5 minutes . . . Susie Hyder just up and got herself married a couple weeks ago. We wish you every happiness, Susie . . . Preston McCrary has a new name—"Pest-on." By the way, he has something else new too, an eight pound girl! Congratulations . . . James Henson reports a new addition to his family, a bouncing baby boy! We feel rather proud of the Gumming Dept. production figures . . . Jim Holden's dancing is improving since he got a "helper" . . . We think Rosalie and Mariam should have a phone installed. It's much too difficult to converse over the sound of machines . . . We hear that Marvin is a frequent caller at the Ward home . . . Bob Whitaker says he prefers a case and what a "Case" it is! . . . Rosalie thinks the war is over now that they have started toting candy on the lunch wagon once more . . . Wonder why Chris and Wilma are so happy lately. Why of course! It's spring-time and you know what . . . Shift E is happy to report that Mitch Taylor, former Operator, is recovering from his recent illness. Mitch has been confined to the Army Hospital at Fort Benning, Ga. . . Before we sign off we wish to report that our Superintendent, Eric Newman, has fully recovered. His son is now 4 months old . . . See you next month.

At Camp Tyson



Sgt. Robert J. Huggins is still at Camp Tyson, where he has been ever since his assignment to the balloon barrage service following his enlistment at Fort Bragg in February, 1942. He says that after the Germans and Japs are cleaned out he will come back to Ecusta to take up where he left off on the Cleaner Crew. Bob received his Christmas cigarettes with this comment: "Few soldiers don't smoke, and Ecusta is playing a vital part in the war effort."