

Letters From Ecusta Employees In Service

NOT ALLOWED ONE MISTAKE

c-o Fleet P. O.
New York, N. Y.
May 23, 1943

Hello Mr. Straus,
I know that you must think I have forgotten all of you who are still operating Ecusta. I have not, though I have been very busy. As you probably know I am afloat now and that means work day and night. You work until one and two the morning and still have to get up and at it again by six a. m. I am on a new ship, which means I have to set up our own departments. And that means lots of working times. You do a lot of working for you know that now lives depend on your decisions and your ability to carry out according to plan. Everything has a system and you have to follow that system so that you will correspond to all other ships. You are not allowed even one mistake. You have to do it right the first time and no excuses accepted. You sleep in your clothes; answer all kinds of questions all day and night; stand your watches; keep your department up to date; stay on the alert; keep cool when the shooting is going on; in other words, do everything at one time and no slip-ups. All of this may sound like a lot of good old-fashioned bellyaching, but it isn't, for I truthfully enjoy every much. I like the work and the part we play. However, I still look forward to returning to the mountains when this is all over with, and again renew old acquaintances.

I miss the people there very much, and am looking ahead to when we will all be together again in a peaceful world when the biggest arguments going on will be between women over the neighbor's new bonnet. Hoping you can find time to write to me soon, I will close.
Sincerely,
MILLENDER ("Sam")
Lieut. (jg)
Millender M. Matthews

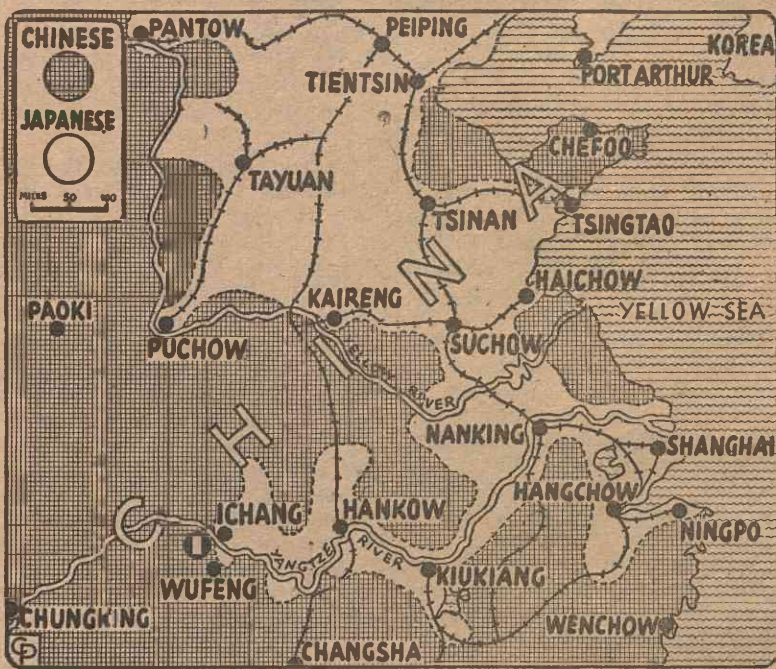
SAW LETTER IN PRINT

Tucson, Ariz.,
June 9, 1943.

Dear Mr. Wells:
The last time I received an issue of the Echo was in May. I was at Lowry Field in Denver, Colo. and I enjoyed that issue very much and I was surprised to read a copy of my own letter in it. Since that time I have been to Salt Lake City and went from there to Tucson. I certainly am enjoying the scenery of the West. We came by way of California to get here. This part of the country is very pretentious. I will settle for good old North Carolina any day, especially Bre-

I hope to get a furlough before long and if I do I want to visit you and all my friends at Ecusta. I am sure will be good to see and talk with all of you again.
The purpose of this letter is to give you my new address. If this letter is published in the Echo, I want my friends to take down my address and please write to me. I would love to hear from each and every one of you. Every time I light a cigarette, I look at it and wonder which one of the boys I will write soon and give my best regards to all employees of Ecusta. Please send the next issue of the Echo to your friend, Pfc. Lewis P. Howell, 679th Bomb Squadron, Monthan Field, Tucson,

NEW JAP THREAT IN CHINA



FROM THEIR MAIN BASE on the upper Yangtze, Japanese columns are reported pushing west and south in what may be the initial stages of a new drive on Chungking, Chinese provisional capital. Chinese report the invaders within 275 airline miles of the city, with one column said to be approaching Wufeng, 50 miles southwest of the main Japanese base located at Ichang. (International)

TRAINING NO "BUGGY RIDE"

Fort Monmouth, N. J.
May 30, 1943

Dear Mr. Straus:
It has been some time since I wrote you. I have been quite busy most of the time since starting my O. C. S. training. We seldom have time for much letter writing. I trust everything is going fine at the plant. Had the pleasure of enjoying the news of the folks down there in the Echo which I received the other day. There's no way of fully estimating the good it does, and the pleasant thoughts it brings to mind to us service men. Some day perhaps we may have the chance to repay the kindness.

Well, Mr. Straus, I have only five more weeks of this training which, by the way, is no "buggy-ride." So far, I have been doing swell, passing all my subjects, getting satisfactory drill grades, etc. I received the distinction of being chosen, among others, as a student officer in my company. I hope I can actually be the means of changing it to real bars. I think I have a pretty fair chance, anyway.

Tell everyone "hello" for me, please, and I will be down to visit you about the 15th of July.

Respectfully yours,
ANSEL R. JONES (T-S)
Co. V, 803rd Regt.

GETS THE LATEST DOPE

Navy Yard
Charleston, S. C.
June 4, 1943

Dear Mr. Wells,
As I have only a few minutes, I thought I would drop you a few lines to say hello and to let you know how much I enjoy getting the Echo. I enjoy it as much as the newspaper, if not more, because I can catch up on the latest dope on what my buddies are doing back on the job. To top it all, I hear from all that have entered the service.

Time is going so I have to be going too—but to put out a washing. Thanks again and I'm wishing the Company, you and all the rest of the employees the best of luck.
Yours truly,
Hale Siniard, Jr.

ECHO LIKE LETTER FROM HOME

May 17, 1943

Dear Mr. Wells,
Here I am in North Africa; and have been in Africa since the latter part of January. Sorry that I haven't taken time to write of my change in location and address before now.

I received the March Echo yesterday, I always enjoy reading it for it brings back memories of my days at Ecusta which each of us are hoping may return soon. Receiving a copy of the Echo is the same as getting a letter from home.

The fighting in Africa is over. The question with everyone here now is where to go from here. We all hope that we can go somewhere that we may throw a powerful downfall to the Germans and Japs.

Give my regards to Mr. Finck and the other Filter Plant members. Hoping soon to return to be a member of the gang. Thanks for the Echo. Give my regards to all.

I remain,
Cpl. Lee F. Beatty

GOING TO SCHOOL AGAIN

May 22, 1943

Dear Mr. Wells:
It dawns upon me that I haven't written to you in some time so will do so now.

I am here at Aberdeen going to school again on a six week course in half tracks. I will only be here until June 26 and then I will re-join my company in Mass. Sure would like to make it on down to see you all but will be unable. They keep us on the go most of the day and several nights during the week.

I have been receiving the Echo very regular and am very glad to get the news from the plant. Continue to send it to Aberdeen, Mass., unless I write and let you know of any change.

Hope this will find everything O. K. with you all. Hoping to see you soon,

I remain as ever,
"Mac"
Cpl. Melvin McCormick
32nd Ord. Co. (mm)
Auburndale, Mass.

DESCRIBES GREAT EXCITEMENT

May 5, 1943

Dear Bob:
Today I received the Echo and I just can't express how glad I was to receive it. It was the February issue, and I saw Roy's picture in it, I like to hear about my old friends, and the Echo is the best source I have.

There's not much news from the jungles of New Guinea. There's still lots of excitement, the Bismark Sea Battle included. I guess you have read about it in LIFE and NEWSWEEK. I could tell you more if it were permissible.

Last night I had a coco cola, the first one in about four months, so you can imagine how much I enjoyed it. I hope to go on leave very soon, and then I will be able to get plenty of coco colas, good food, and milk.

Today has been very pleasant, and it's the first day that I can remember that it hasn't been miserably hot. We have free movies here and lately I've seen some real good shows; I go almost every night even though I do have to sit on log seats.

Last night one of the native boys who works around here came by the tent and tried to teach me some card games he knew. Some of the natives can speak our language pretty well.

I must close now as it almost time for supper. I suppose we will have corned beef again as usual. I'd like to hear from you when you have time to write.

Sincerely,
Lt. William B. Long

(Editor's note: Bill has recently been promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant.)

RECEIVED ANOTHER PROMOTION

Camp Crowder Mo.
May 30, 1943

Dear Mr. Wells,
It's been quite a while since I wrote you, but that doesn't mean I haven't been thinking of you, Al, Speedy, Mr. Rhodes, and all the rest. After so long I still miss all of you. I look forward very much to when we will win the war and we can all be back together at good old Ecusta.

I haven't missed any issues of the Echo and please don't leave me out on the mailing list.

Since I wrote last I have received one more promotion. For two months I have been "Top Sgt." with one more promotion to go to make the grade of 1st Sgt. "Here's hoping." I'm very happy to know I can be of some service that will help.

Give my regards to all. With best wishes,
JOE ROY JOHNSON (T-Sgt.)
Co. C, 848th Sig. Tng. Bn.

RELISHES ECUSTA WATER

Sunday Morning

Dear Sir:
Well sir, I am on my way down in Georgia and, boy, is it hot! I sure would like to have a drink of good old Ecusta water. Be sure and send me the Echo as I will be stationed here for a good while. Most of the boys that left with me from Brevard are here except Karl Straus. I sure would like to get his address. My address is:

Pvt. Wade M. Scroggs
Btry. "A" 794th A.A.A. Bn
Camp Stewart, Ga.
Sincerely,
Wade Scroggs