

News From Former Employees Now In Service

PROUD OF ECUSTA

Lt. William M. Heaton writes from Ft. Meyers, Fla.: "... Have been here for almost two months now and will soon be finishing my RTU training and will be moving on to OTU outfit; have had to work awfully hard here, getting in the required time in the plane I'm learning. It's a wonderful plane, but it takes a long time to really fly it like it should be flown. The higher you go, the better the performance gets. It hits its stride at about 30,000 feet, and as you all know, that's up some distance from old Mother Earth... I sure could go for some of that nice winter weather you have been having there. It stays the same here all the time, not too warm and not too chilly. We have lots of overcast sky and that makes the flying all the harder... Wish all the people on the home front could see what all the fellows here have to go through before they get a chance to take a crack at the enemy, then they would never hesitate at putting part of their salary into those dear old War Bonds. I take great pleasure in telling all the fellows here with me how much the people at Ecusta are doing..."

TRAINING IS INTENSE

Pvt. Manfred Landeck (former New York Office employee) writes from Ft. Bragg: "... I found the package on my foot-locker when returning from maneuvers in the snow-swept pinewoods of sunny North Carolina. Snow and sub-zero weather had to be coped with, but we all took it lightly since this meant our "final examination." Now we have only to await shipping orders to points unknown... Our training has been intense and thorough. We have been taught the use of practically all artillery and infantry weapons, and have gone over the assault and infiltration courses, the former with dynamite accompaniment, and the latter to the tune of live machine gun fire over our heads. We sure do a good job at keeping our heads down, believe me..."

IS FLYING A LIBERATOR

Richard M. Loftis, Aviation Radioman, 3-c, writes from Camp Kearney, Calif.: "... Enjoy the Echo, especially the one which contained the pictures of the Warehouse Crew and the articles telling of them and the work being carried on at the Warehouse... Since coming to the West Coast I've been flying in Liberator bombers and like them very much... We did have quite a rainy December, but of late we're enjoying the sunshine for which the state is famous. Last week we were required to go swimming in an outdoor pool, so you can see what I mean. I understand at this time Brevard and surrounding country are getting a few inches of snow. It isn't winter without snow, but I still prefer the North Carolina climate... I have been placed in a squadron and I certainly do like it..."

LIKES ITALY BETTER

Cpl. Jentry D. Poland writes from somewhere in Italy: "... I am now in Italy and like it better than I did in North Africa, but I have learned that back in the States if you ask a soldier where he lives, he gives you a specific and definite location as to state and city. Over here, he will say 'Anywhere in the USA, brother!'..."



A Bombardier



SGT. CONLEY M. McKIN-NISH was employed as a back-tender in the Machine Room before he went into the Air Corps in August of 1942. The last we heard from Conley he was in training for a bombardier, but we have learned that he has won his wings, Congratulations, Conley.

READS OF HER BROTHERS

Mrs. C. A. McCormick, writes to us giving a new A. P. O. for Pfc. Thomas N. McCormick. She says that her daughter, Juanita McCormick, in the Army Nurse Corps in North Africa sends many thanks for the Echo; she really enjoys news like that. Her four Ecusta brothers in the service are so often mentioned.

FLIES 10 HOURS DAILY

Lt. Fred Yelton writes from the Greenville Aviation school in Ocala, Fla.: "The only time I have to write is when it rains or fog sets in, such as is the case today, because after putting in a day of flying I'm ready to hit my little old bed, but after a 10 hour flying day, it's easy enough to crawl in bed and sleep 10 or 11 hours..."

Served With Marines



PFC. HAROLD C. MISENHEIMER, former Champagne Gumming Operator, has been seeing service in both the American and Asiatic-Pacific Theatres. He visited the plant on Jan. 4. After a 30-day furlough, Pvt. Misenheimer reported to the Naval hospital in Norfolk. He has been stationed at Parris Island, S. C., and at Cherry Point, N. C.

LEARNING AIRPLANE MECHANICS

David S. Dixon, Seaman, 2-C, writes from Jacksonville, Fla.: "... I'm trying to learn to be an airplane mechanic and gunner. At the moment, I'm in engine phase, learning the internal workings of the 2000 H. P. engine. Whenever I finish this school I'll be sent to gunnery school, where I'll learn about machine guns..."

MARRIED DURING FURLOUGH

Pvt. Alvin H. Drake writes from Burbank, Calif.: "... I was home in August but as I got married while I was there I didn't have very much time for visiting, and will try to visit the plant on my next furlough."

FOUND ONLY "LIQUID SUNSHINE"

Sgt. Donald C. Steppe writes from Ft. MacArthur, San Pedro, Calif.: "... During my stay in California I have continually looked for the sun that the old folks used to talk about. Seems as if all the places I have been have had the sun blotted out with the so called "liquid sunshine" — the fog... The story of John Goolsby and the deer was a scream. That's one for Ripley..."

STATIONED IN WASHINGTON

Nancy M. Davis, S 2-c, writes from Washington, D. C.: "... Together, my friends and I have worn the Echo out reading it. The girls especially noticed the service men's pictures and asked me questions about them... I finished my training in New York. It was very interesting. The first week I was there I got lost every time they turned me loose. Among 6,000 girls, you can understand why... They liked me so much I got mess detail for a couple of weeks. You can imagine working with 260 girls in a mess hall we didn't get lonely. Incidentally, we got the leftover ice cream, including our serving at meal time... I am working in the Bureau of Ships, Navy Dept. in Washington... I love my work and have wonderful people to work with..."

GUARD DUTY FOR CHRISTMAS

Bill Hannan, SK 2-c, writes from Atlanta, Ga.: "... I've just received my copy of the Echo with the fine publicity line on myself, which tickled me pink, for I think everyone loves to see his name in a paper and I am certainly no exception... Did it ever occur to you that if one were to keep up with doings in Pisgah Forest without the Echo what a large personal correspondence it would involve, and how little able most of us would be to tackle that?... I was on Guard Duty all day Christmas, and then the weather here was severe (sleet storm) and kept most everyone indoors... I think I'll be here a while longer, but one never knows. I've ceased thinking about it, for our Skipper told one of the fellows here that we'll be gotten around to in due time, and to stop fretting about not getting sea duty — we'd all get it soon enough..."

LANDED IN BRITISH ISLES

James Earl Corn, Seaman 2-C, according to a letter from his mother, has landed safely in the British Isles, enjoyed his trip and is getting along fine.

LADIES LIKE SOUTHERN VOICES

Edwin C. McCall, Seaman, 2-C, writes from the University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.: "... I heard it was pretty cold down there. Sure is nice fishing weather here. We caught some nice ones Christmas day. Of course, there's lots of work fishing this time of year when you have to cut them out of 3 or 4 feet of ice... The people here are sure nice to the boys in service. Most of us who lived too far away to go home were invited on for Christmas dinner. It's a pleasant change to get a home cooked meal... I think the war between the North and South is just about over; the Yankees treat us Southern boys o. k. The men kid us a lot about our soft southern voices but the ladies seem to rather like them that way..."