

News From Former Employees Now In Service

WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE SUN

Pfc. Alvin H. Drake, writes from the Aleutian Islands: "... Received the Echo of August this week, and have been home sick ever since as I read it... I have been in the Aleutian Islands a little over a month and I sure would like to see the sun once in a while... I find it quite easy to get cigarettes here and that makes me think of Ecusta and sometimes I think maybe I helped make the paper for the cigarettes I am smoking."

SENDS PROGRESS REPORT

Cpl. Sam Gordon writes from the Army Air Field of Symrna, Tenn.: "... Echo came today and reminded me I haven't made a 'Progress Report' since I got here... This field is very nice. There's a swimming pool, tennis courts, 'Rec' hall and movies for relaxation. There's KP every week for variety and just enough work to keep busy without being too pressed to get things done. The food is excellent and the fellows I am with are more so. Of course, it's hot, but the nights are cool enough to sleep, and occasionally a breeze sneaks in during the day... I am hoping to get to go overseas soon but I can only hope..."

MISSES COOL N. C. SUMMERS

Alvin W. Margolis, S 1-c, writes from the Central Pacific Area: "... I'm in the Central Pacific area now, working a lot, but have managed to do quite a bit of swimming and fishing. Haven't caught anything worth bragging about though... I really miss those cool N. C. summers, because it's hot out here... Best regards to Dr. Bryant and please keep sending the Echo..."

ROYAL WELCOME BY FRENCH

Pfc. Raleigh T. Waldrop writes from Southern France: "... I'm now in Southern France. It's pretty nice here. People are nice to us and give us a big welcome everywhere we go. A few evenings ago when we set up camp here, the people were so many it was like a picnic. There were old men, women, girls and children. I've never seen people so happy in my life. As we travel along in convoy, people throw fruits, melons and grapes to us. They all wave and shout and some of the girls throw kisses... It has been much pleasure to visit St. Raphael, Salon and Valence. Cities here are nothing like the cities in the States but are much better than in Italy... I understand there are lots of boys over here from around home but I never see any of them..."

SLEEPING ON GERMAN COT

Pvt. Tom Brown writes from France: "I have been on the move so much I haven't stopped long enough for the Echo to catch up with me."

"I sure have seen a lot since I came to France. I have seen a lot of Germans and a lot of things they left behind. In fact, I am sleeping on a German cot."

"The other day, as we were on the move, I saw something I had not seen in two years, and that was a cornfield. Boyee! I would have given anything to get off and stay until I got full of corn."

"Tell everyone hello, and I hope to see them soon."

Serving Overseas



PFC. GRADY OLIVER is somewhere in France. He left Champagne for military service in March, 1943. Before going overseas Pfc. Oliver was stationed at Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Was In Alaska



CPL. JAMES C. GEVEDON, of the Army air corps, entered service in March, 1942. He has been overseas 25 months, part of the time spent in Alaska. Since July he has been stationed at Gore Field, Montana. He is wearing the good conduct medal and ribbons for the American theatre and the Asiatic Pacific theatre of operation.

WILL BE GLAD TO GET BACK

S. Sgt. Andrew L. Williams writes from Wendover Field, Utah: "... Well, here I am back in the Army... I enjoyed my trip through the plant. Was glad to see some of the old employees and they sure did give me a welcome back home... Hope I can soon come back to stay..."

THINKS VICTORY IN SIGHT

Pvt. Bill Baley writes from Italy: "The war situation is looking very good on all fronts. It certainly seems as if we really have Jerry on the downhill drag. Maybe it won't be so long before the finish, but I don't like to be too optimistic."

"Just received my marching orders, so have a lot to do. Give my regards to all my friends at the mill and ask them to write when they have time."

Out On Sea Duty



ELZIE L. McCALL, Seaman Second Class, is a former Machine Room employee. At present he is assigned to sea duty in the Atlantic. He left Ecusta to enter the Navy in May, 1944.

In Foreign Service



SGT. JAMES D. FRANKS, above, served since February, 1942, in Australia and New Guinea. He was in pre-war service five years, in Phillipine Islands. In December, 1941, he re-entered the service. At Ecusta he was employed in the Finishing Department. Sgt. Franks is assigned to the ground forces of a fighter squadron. After a 20-day leave, he reported to Miami, Fla.

HAD ACCIDENT WHILE TRAINING

Pfc. John B. Baldwin writes from Camp Blanding, Fla: "... I am taking my basic training here in Florida... How is the old gang at Ecusta?... Roy Wolfe and I are still together and it's pretty swell to have someone you know with you. But they are producing some of the world's best doughboys here... Tell all the boys on 'D' Shift in the Machine Room hello for me... I had an accident in training and almost lost my right hand. Spent six weeks in the hospital and my fingers don't work so well anymore... Keep making paper 'til we win this darn war. I'm sure we are all looking forward to coming back to Ecusta in a better world..."

FRENCHMEN GLAD TO SEE YANKS

Pfc. Cortez Hyder writes from France: "... France seems to be quite a beautiful country, with climate similar to that of North Carolina at this time of year. The people here seem to be nice and friendly, glad to see us fellows from the States. Life has been pretty tough for them, but they seem to be taking it quite well and those who have had to leave their homes are moving back. Their former homes are still standing. It sure is nice to know that the people back home haven't had the misery and torture such as they have here in this war-torn part of the world. Seeing such things makes it much easier to realize the advantages of the peace which the people back home are taking in the war. Keep up the good work..."

IN RAIDS OVER BALKANS

Sgt. Edward Brackett writes from Italy: "... Sorry to hear about Dave and Rex. That is a hard way to go, but nine times out of ten they show up later... As you know, army regulations won't permit us to tell much, but our group has been in on some of the biggest raids in the Balkans and in several others. We were on the invasions, too. Several of my buddies that were missing came back from Rumania. We've hit fast and hard for the most eight months now. We've spent many nights after a rain working in rain and cold getting our planes ready for the next day... As everything is changing so fast, we have to take it slow... I imagine the boys down in the Beater Room are hitting it pretty steady now. Haven't had a chance to see Speedy yet, but hope to be fore long."

HOPES FOR FURLOUGH SOON

Pvt. Thelma Greene, USMC, writes from Camp LeJeune, N. C.: "... It was really good to be home... I would have liked to stay a week. Everyone was nice to me, especially at Ecusta. I hope to be coming back again in October. You wouldn't happen to have a dance during that month, would you?... I guess I've worked harder than ever would have in all my life, but I haven't for one minute ever regretted joining... Hoping to get my furlough in November... can get eight days then..."

WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK FRENCH

Pfc. John C. Love writes from "Somewhere in France": "... Stayed in England for quite a while and am now somewhere in France. All the French that I see seem to be glad that we are here. I cannot speak French, although I would like to. There are four boys in this outfit who worked at the plant and I see them very often. It is nice to see the boys I knew before coming to the army."

IN NEW JERSEY

Marshall Ballard, S 2-c writes from Naval Air Depot, Earle, N. J.: "... I really enjoy reading the Echo every month. Tell everybody I said hello and would like very much to be there now. I enjoyed working at the plant and hope to be there again some day after the war is over..."