

News From Former Employees In Service

REALLY GETS AROUND

Pfc. James ("Jim") McCormick, of the 504th Parachute Infantry, writes from France, telling about some of the places where his outfit "jumped". First, in Sicily, in the invasion: "the plane I was in got out of formation, so we jumped 50 miles from our goal, but got back all right . . . then we walked up the west side of the island, which was pretty country. Later we jumped in Italy. Pretty rough going. We were supposed to jump at Anzio, but went by sea instead. Later we came to England for a short rest, then jumped in Holland. I hear that we are supposed to get a furlough to Paris soon."

TORRANCE IN BELGIUM

Sgt. H. E. Torrance, in Belgium, describes his trip overseas, writes about the building and flats in England; in the invasion, he says: "I will never forget how desolate the bombed and fox-holed hill looked where we landed . . . One night enemy planes came over and our guns opened up. Seemed like every kind of Christmas fireworks were in the sky, with tracer making burning red patterns and flak falling . . . It's funny to see a house—the whole front just crumpled, and on the second floor chimney, a large mirror not touched. Our air-force is second to none, and oh, what a headache they are giving the Huns . . . It's a beautiful sight to see the big formations of bombers go over and come back."

McCRARY VISITS US

Cpl. Lewis S. McCrary, former of the Finishing department, visited Ecusta on Tuesday, Dec. 12. He is spending a 16-day furlough with his relatives at Peninsula. Cpl. McCrary had his basic training at Shaw Field, S. C., and now stationed at Robbins Field, Ga. He is a relative of Sybil and Mary Merrell, who are employed here. At the end of his leave, he will report again to Robbins Field. A brother, Troy McCrary, former employee of Refining, also visited the plant at the same time. He was a prisoner-of-war in Romania for 13 months, and was recently freed when the Russians entered Romania.

HOME AFTER CONVOY DUTY

Tom F. Cooper, petty officer 3c, recently home on a 4-day leave, having had convoy duty in the Atlantic. He had been to Sicily and North Africa. Seaman Cooper was employed in the Machine Room, and has been overseas for four months with 24 months in service.

MOTHERS MEET IN GERMANY

Cpl. Dewey Winchester and Pfc. Wincheste met recently in Germany, according to a V-mail letter written to their mother. She wrote that it was wonderful to be together. Cpl. Winchester has been in service since June, 1942; he was a Chlorinator operator at Ecusta. Pfc. Wincheste of the infantry was a helper in the chemical laboratory. He has been overseas three months and in service for two years.

STATIONED IN N. J.

William W. Robinson, S 1-c, stationed at Earle, N. J., writes that he is always glad to get the Echo, and likes to read of the work being done at Ecusta.

Killed In Action



PVT. JOHN ROBERT JONES, popular Cafeteria chef, was killed in action on November 23 while fighting in Germany. He entered service May 20, 1944.

Pvt. Johnny Jones Killed In Action

A message from the War department, telling of the death in combat, in Germany, of Pvt. John Robert Jones, on November 23, has been received by his wife, Mrs. Reva DuBord Jones, of Sylva, N. C.

Pvt. Jones, "Johnny" to most of us here, was cafeteria chef at the time of his call into service, last May 20, 1944.

Johnny was born in Sylva, May 21, 1918, and received his elementary education in the Sylva schools. He had worked with various concerns during school vacations since he was 14 years old. After his graduation from Mars Hill college in 1936, he attended North Carolina State college.

Since leaving college, he had several years' experience in retail hardware, grocery and meat business, and was employed for some time by the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Co., in connection with a real estate business of his own.

After coming to Ecusta on November 4, 1942, Johnny's amiable disposition, his loyalty to his job and to his associates made him a host of friends before he entered the service last May.

Pvt. Jones, who was the son of Mrs. J. R. Jones of Sylva, received infantry training at Camp Croft, S. C. He had been overseas since late October. Besides the widow and mother, survivors include two daughters, Linda and Martha, one brother, Pvt. Edward C. Jones, now in the Pacific area, and two sisters, Mrs. R. E. Turpin of Sylva and Mrs. G. F. Fitzgerald of Asheboro.

SEES MARLENE DIETRICH

Sgt. Melvin McCormick writes from France: ". . . It has been very bad over here from the weather standpoint. I see where all those movies of soldiers marching in mud up to their ankles are true . . . I had a letter from Jim and he didn't mention how he got in Holland but knowing the outfit he belongs to, I can guess . . . I was able to see Marlene Dietrich in person . . . and I see as many movies as I can to help take my mind off the conditions . . ."

On Bomber In Italy



T-SGT. LAWRENCE F. DIXON, JR., is now in Italy. Sgt. Dixon was employed on Esusta's Landscape crew. A bombardier on a heavy bomber he has been overseas six months. He was stationed in Savannah, Ga., before going overseas in May. A brother, David, is now in the U. S. Navy.

Former Inspector



T-5 RASTUS SMITH, former Ecusta inspector, is shown above, right, by a caterpillar in for repairs somewhere in New Guinea. In the Army 26 months, he has been overseas 14 months. He trained at Ft. Belvoir, Va., Fort Cook, Nebr., and Camp Claiborne, Miss.

COMPLETES MISSIONS

T-Sgt. Weldon Misenheimer, a flight engineer, has just completed a number of missions in the Pacific theatre of war and has arrived in San Francisco. He expects to be here soon on a 30-day furlough. Prior to induction he was a Champagne Gumming operator. August, 1942, he entered service. A brother, Pfc. Harold Misenheimer, U. S. M. C., formerly a Champagne Gumming operator, is now stationed at a Marine base at Norfolk, Va.

IN SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

Pfc. Walter F. Clubb is at present on duty in the Southwest Pacific area. Inducted at Fort Jackson, S. C., Sept. 10, 1943, he trained at Ft. McClellan, Ala., and was sent overseas. He was a bleach operator prior to induction.

Casualties

AT MOORE GENERAL

Pvt. Ray M. Rigdon, formerly of Ecusta Slitter service, is now convalescing at Moore General hospital, Swannanoa, N. C., after service in the Central Pacific. Pvt. Ray Rigdon has been in the army for 12 months. He trained at Keesler Field, Miss., and Richmond, Va.

WOUNDED IN ACTION

T-Sgt. Jack A. Blackwell, son of Mr. Ben E. Blackwell, of Hendersonville, has been wounded in overseas action. He was formerly employed in the Champagne Printing department, entering service in Jan. 1942. Sgt. Blackwell was assigned to a troop carrier squadron.

FRENCH NICE TO YANKS

2nd Lt. Ansel R. Jones writes from France: ". . . I arrived at my present station, which is somewhere in France, well and safe after a somewhat hectic, for me at least, trip during the course of which I saw some very interesting things and places . . . I became seasick during the voyage over. The fellows kidded me a lot about it, saying that the trip separated the men from the boys, but I was too miserable to give a 'hoot' . . . I rather like the country, at least what I saw that wasn't destroyed by the results of war, both here in France and in England . . . The Omaha beachhead where the invasion forces landed will sure bring the war close to one, so will the towns and installations that have been bombed and shelled till nothing of value is standing . . . The French people have been very nice to us since we've been here. Of course they can't take us into their homes and entertain us because they have no food. Everything most is rationed although things are getting better rapidly . . . Oh, by the way, what were the names of the French personnel who started the plant operations . . . I was asking a Red Cross girl in Paris, which I was lucky enough to get to visit, about the manufacture of cigarette paper before the war, but she knew nothing of it . . ."

WITH A. A. F. GROUND CREW

T-Sgt. Earl T. Fullbright, formerly Assistant Quality supervisor at Ecusta is in the ground forces of the A. A. F. serving in England. He has been overseas a year and in service for three years. Sgt. Fullbright trained in Mississippi, California, Washington, and Oregon.

TWO ECUSTANS IN BELGIUM

Sgt. Craig D. Snipes and Cpl. Glenn J. Summey write from somewhere in Belgium: ". . . Our thoughts oftentimes are with you and our friends at Ecusta . . . Since our landing in France we have been very busy . . . It warms our hearts when we know and feel that our friends at home are constantly supporting us . . ."

APPRECIATES XMAS BOX

W. G. Ball, S. S. M(L) 2-c, writes from Bainbridge, Md., to thank the company for his Christmas box, and that he enjoys receiving the Echo.