

News From Our Many Employees In Service

JIMMY GETS AROUND

James A. Hammond, S1c, in a recent letter is thinking about Ecusta as he writes from Guam, "We left the states the 16th. of April and landed on Guam one month later, the 16th. of May . . . it was two weeks before we got underway again. Our next stop was Eniwetok in the Marshalls and we only stayed there a few hours. As you know the Marshalls are further down than the Marianas but at that time Wake was in the hands of the Japs so we had to go a little out of our way . . . The islands are very close together and I was talking to a Marine when we were approaching Eniwetok who was in the invasion of the Marshalls. He told me that when the tide was very low one could go from one island to the next, and that is just what the Japs had to do when the Marines got hot on their trail . . . I went over on an APA, USS CLINTON. Late one night one of our neighboring ships, we called her the THREE DUCES because of its number, 222, nearly collided with our ship and boy, if it had hit us we would all be in Davey Jones Locker because it nearly hit our stern where all of our ammunition was stored. Some excitement! Our next stop was Guam. Boy, did land look good to me. I am working in the office of Radio Supply Branch and like it all right . . . I log mail in and out and also deliver inter-office mail. It isn't too bad if it wasn't so dog-gone hot out here . . . Frankly, I would like to get duty in Japan for a while. It probably would be kind of rugged for a while but it would be worth it . . . Give my regards to all at Ecusta."

GETS A DISCHARGE

Harold L. Hogsed, former corporal in the Air Force, recently received a medical discharge. He was in administrative work and had been in service more than three years. Harold was employed as a machinist in Champagne. He had been in Northington General hospital, Tuscaloosa, Ala.

TIRED OF IT ALL

From Phrozheim, Germany, Sgt. Ed. W. Ervin writes, "Received the July issue of the Echo and want to thank you all very much for all of the issues I have received . . . I'd like to be there myself, especially for one of those picnics that was written up so grandly in this edition of the Echo . . . I've been in the Army now about three years, and I'm getting awfully tired of it, but so are a couple million other guys. It seems as if I've been in this uniform all my life, and three years is a good part of it at that. However, I hope to be out within the next six months or before . . . I have gotten married since joining the Army and would like very much to settle down . . . I will most certainly come to see you as soon as I get out."

QUIET IN AUSTRIA

Cpl. Howard Lawing in Austria writes, "Things sure are quiet here since the war ended. I have been to most of the places that the Army has tours . . . I've been overseas for 22 months and expect to be back in the States before Christmas. I have 74 points now. Say hello to all Ecusta for me. I hope to be seeing you before many months and be back on the job."

Ecustan at Work In Laboratory In England



PFC. GEORGE TRUETT HENDERSON is shown above, right, making a test at the U.S. 119th Hospital's Medical Laboratory in England. The test is to determine the carbon dioxide content of blood of a wounded patient. Private Henderson entered the Army in April, 1942. He was employed at Ecusta as a chlorinator operator. Truett trained in Illinois, Wisconsin and in Michigan prior to overseas service beginning in September, 1944.

In German Field



The picture of SGT. MELVIN McCORMICK was made in a wheat field in Germany. Mac expects to be home in October, after about 18 months' overseas service in England, France, Holland and Germany. Mac writes that he is seeing a lot of good baseball games in Germany. Mac, formerly employed in the Inspection department, entered the army in August, '41. His father, C. A. McCormick, is employed in the Machine Room.

AT SEA

While 'sitting on his bunk and rocking a bit' Sgt. John Jackson writes, "I'm at sea and so far it's been a wonderful trip—so nice and smooth—and our chow is good . . . I love to hear from you folks at Ecusta and hello to everyone in the old Boiler Room."

HOT IN FLORIDA

From S-Sgt. Vernon Reese at Camp Blanding, Fla., "I am no longer in Alabama but am now in Florida. I see no change in the weather. This place is just about as hot as Alabama. There is one thing here which we didn't have in Alabama. Sand! Sand and more sand. (Vernon was alerted for the hurricane when he wrote) . . . Pardon me a moment, I think one of the huts just blew across the street. No, it was only a couple of windows—the hut is still there. If this wind keeps up I think it would be a good idea for me to go out and dig a foxhole. I've got to sign off as it's getting about chowtime."

Recently On Guam



RALPH J. BROWN, S 1-c, U. S. Navy, is a member of Armed guard. Ralph had boot training at Camp Peary, Va., and Armed Guard school in Norfolk, Va., prior to sea duty in November, 1944. He was recently on Guam, but is now at sea. Ralph was employed in the Inspection department before volunteering for service in July, 1944.

GETS A PROMOTION

Sgt. Charles W. McJunkin is stationed at Belem, Brazil, with the South American division of the Air Transport Command, and was recently promoted to sergeant. Charles was employed on the landscape crew and entered service in December, 1942.

ABOARD A DESTROYER

According to a release from the USS JOHN HOOD, a destroyer, Jesse C. Gillespie, fire controlman 3-c, is aboard her and is aiding in the Allied occupation on northern Japan. The Hood and another destroyer proceeded ahead to investigate and patrol the anchorage before the arrival of the rest of the force which took over this base, headquarters for all of northern Japan. Jesse is a former Champagne printing operator. He entered service in August 1943.

CHINESE GLAD TO SEE 'EM

EM 3c J, Edwin Mims is aboard an LSM carrying Marines, supplies and equipment into the Tientsin-Peiping area of Northern China. In a letter to his family here recently he wrote, "I know now how those fellows felt in Europe when they went into Paris and other liberated cities. The Chinese were just as glad to see us here and believe me they staged a celebration. For the majority of the Chinese we are the first white people they have seen in around thirteen years. Those junk boats we used to read about are lined up the river by the hundreds, and I can readily believe now by their dress, houses, etc., that they are years behind us, although I realize the war has affected a lot of these things greatly." Mims, a veteran of the Okinawa campaign, has been overseas for 10 months. He wears the American theatre, the Asiatic-Pacific campaign ribbons with bronze star, and holds an award equivalent to the Army's expert rifleman's badge. At Ecusta he was employed in the Finishing department.

'TM A-GOIN' HOME"

From Germany, Pfc. Wade M. Scroggs, writes: ". . . thought I would drop a line to let you know I'm getting along just fine and hope to be back at work at Ecusta soon. Don't know the exact date but expect to be leaving here within the next couple of weeks . . . I sure have enjoyed reading the Echo the past few months, and hope to continue in the future, but not over here . . . I have been lucky in a way for I've seen a good bit of the country over here, Hitler's Hideout, Frankfurt, Heidelberg and am only a few miles from Nurenberg. Saw the ETO Swimming Events, Track and Field Events, and also the GI World's Championship baseball games here at Soldiers' Field, which compares with if not better than most big league fields. Also had a swell seven days' furlough at the Chamonix, France, rest camp, and boy, what mountains! Snow the year round on top of them, biggest thrill I had was riding the Uplift going up Mt. Blanc, but never again! . . . How is the Pulp Mill getting along? Tell Stan I hope to see him soon. Maybe Ralph Morris, Theo Williams and a few more of us will be back by or before bowling season is over and make Walter Straus and his Champagne team live hard once more . . . Hoping this finds everything going just fine and dandy, will close."

IS ON THE ALABAMA

Eugene E. McCall Y 3-c, is serving aboard the USS ALABAMA. A recent dispatch from that ship reads as follows: Eugene E. McCall is serving aboard this battleship which in one month's time raided the Japanese mainland twice, bombarded Jap-held island north of Okinawa and rode unscathed through a violent typhoon. The "Mighty A" as the man-o'-war is known to her crewmen, ran into a hornet's nest of Jap suicide pilots. Scores of the Kamikaze planes were shot down outside the task force formation, but at least two came in close enough to be splashed by the guns of this and other ships. ALABAMA gunners claim credit for downing two of these planes and for assisting in destroying another.