

# Service Men

Where They Are—What They Are Doing



The first word in over two years was received from Cpl. Donald B. Eshleman, by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Eshleman this week. Cpl. Eshleman, who fought in the Philippines with the marines, has been a captive of the Japanese since the fall of Bataan.

Word came to his parents by way of a printed card, words on which the prisoner was permitted to underline. It indicated that he is in good health, is not wounded and is well and not undergoing treatment. The card was signed in his own handwriting, his mother said.

Cpl. Eshleman is a graduate of Salem high school and a former Statesman carrier.

Frank Gray Ferris, husband of Katherine B. Ferris of 128 Evergreen street, Salem, has enlisted in the US coast guard in Seattle, it was announced.

After receiving three months preliminary training in seamanship and service duties, Ferris either will be assigned to active duty or sent to one of the coast guard's advanced training schools for specialized courses.

George Earl Spicer and Donald Neil Nelson of Mill City have arrived at the Farragut, Idaho, naval training station where they will take their basic training. On completion of their preliminary training, the seamen will be given an opportunity to qualify for one of the specialized training schools of the navy.

Elroy Burton Howard, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Howard, and Bob Douglas Creason, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Creason, both of Astoria, have arrived at the Farragut, Idaho, naval training station for their basic training, an announcement from the station revealed.

Robert Lynn Norton, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Norton of route 4, Salem, William Colin Elerick, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Elerick of 335 Division street, Salem, and Leo Loran Ramp, husband of Mrs. Flora Ramp of 1615 Roosevelt street, Salem, were among the recruits who have arrived at the Farragut, Idaho, naval training station for their basic training.

Arthur C. Kiehl, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Kiehl of route 7, Salem, has been promoted from the grade of corporal to that of sergeant at the antisubmarine squadron stationed on the east coast of the US.

Robert E. Becker, seaman first class with the Seabees at Camp Endicott, RI, returned to Salem recently to visit his wife and family at 1744 Chemeketa street. Becker was employed at the Oregon State hospital before his enlistment in October 1942.

Rex Hardy, son of Mr. and Mrs. William G. Hardy of Salem, is now stationed at the Santa Ana, Calif., air base and is taking his preflight training as an air service cadet. Hardy was formerly a student at Willamette university.

Ernest Schrider, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Schrider of Salem, has recently been graduated from the US naval air technical training school at Memphis, Tenn. Schrider has received the rating of aviation radioman, third class.

GERVAIS—Cpl. E. Dale Fuller writes from New Guinea that the mosquitoes "sound like Flying Fortresses coming at you, but when they get there they're only as large as a Piper Cub."

JEFFERSON—Francis Rehfeld, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rehfeld, reported to Fort Lewis, Wash., Wednesday for army duty. He has been employed in the Boeing aircraft plant in Seattle for more than a year.

WOODBURN—Charles Howe, father of two sons in the service, received a letter from the war department this week informing him that his son, James, a member of an armored division which was active in the Tunisian campaign and later in Sicily, had been slightly wounded in action on July 11. James was called by selective service into training in March, 1941, and was assigned to tank maneuvers at various training camps in the southern states. He was among the first troops sent to North Africa.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Steiger of Portland have been at the home of Mrs. Steiger's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne B. Gill, for a few weeks awaiting Mr. Steiger's induction into the army air corps,

He has just been ordered to Fort Douglas, Utah, where he will serve as an instructor in flying. His wife expects to join him as soon as practicable.

PIONEER—Mrs. Tom Keller and Howard Coy received word that their cousin, Fred Hatton, has been killed in action. Hatton lived in Pioneer when a boy. The family moved to the Alfred Domaschofsky place, later moving again to Portland. Hatton attended grade school in Dallas.

Harry Weideman has joined the marines and will leave for San Diego Friday. He is a son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Keller.

WEST SALEM—Frank Wells, 246 Gerth street, received a letter from his son, Sgt. Leroy Wells, who is stationed at Honolulu, stating that he is well and has been promoted to supply sergeant of his squadron.



SCOTTS MILLS—Nelson A. Miles in the navy returned to his base at Farragut, Idaho, last week after spending a leave at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter C. Miles.

Oregon's centennial was observed by a group of Oregon service men on foreign soil at a club under Red Cross auspices. Gov. Earl Snell was advised Wednesday by William B. Cruise, Red Cross worker, who conveyed the men's greetings and advised the governor that their families could be proud of the service they are giving.

The group included Sgt. Merton Roemhildt and Cpl. Charles Perry, Salem; Sgt. Harold Dyer, Cpls. Donald McClay and Robert Funk and Pvt. Damon Greer, all of Portland; Second Lt. Chester Ferguson, Medford; Pfc. Walter Severson, Tillamook; Lt. Ransald Steiner, Port Orford; Sgt. Harold Bower, Lebanon; Sgt. George Camp, Mapleton; Cpl. Oscar Ashbeck, Echo; Lt. Walter Norblad, Astoria; Sgt. Gene Blanc, Corbett, and Second Lt. Patt Frizzell, Rickreall.

Shattering all records for enlistments in any one month, 12 Salem men signed up during the last 18 days as privates in the marine corps. Sgt. Herman Doney, Salem recruiting officer, announced. Accepted at Portland were: Raymond Harry Lundeen, route six; Joe Albert Shields; Clyde Everett May; Robert Lee Tompkins, route two; William Albert Halseth, route three; Alvin Sylvester Lundy; Donald David Slater; Robert Leon Parsons; Lowell Alexander Curry; Charles Fred Bilow; Ralph Clinton Ennor and Kenneth Jewell Smith.

Seventeen-year-old Pvt. May will remain on inactive status working for the forest service until a later date. The others were given 14 day furloughs at home before reporting to San Diego for training.

"Too hot—too much sand" was what Pvt. Clarence Hippe had to say about Camp McCall, NC, where he has been training with the glider infantry. Pvt. Hippe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hippe, 798 South 21st street, has been at Camp McCall ever since he joined the army six months ago and was plenty glad to get his first furlough to return to green Oregon. He has 15 days, five of which he is spending in Salem. Training in glider infantry included maneuvering behind supposed enemy lines, landing and setting up fire, Hippe explained. He wears machine gun, rifle and hand grenade insignia along with his silver glider wings which are given only after a soldier has been up at least five times. Hippe has been up nine times and still finds it exciting. Before joining the army, he attended Leslie junior high school and worked for Paulus Brothers and the Marion Creamery here.

MT. ANGEL—A letter received Tuesday from Pvt. Joe E. Dehler, with the armored signal battalion in Sicily, gives some very interesting side lights on the people and country.

Joe says the Sicilians are very friendly and sell their fruits among the soldiers. Melons and muskmelons are very good and sell for about four cents a pound. Tomatoes are likewise plentiful and of very fine flavor. The people, he said, seem to live mainly on bread, wine, a few vegetables and fruit.

Cows are scarce but the farmers have many milk goats. They drive the animals into town every morning and the housewives come out with buckets, kettles and

pitchers and get exactly as much as they want.

The architecture is very ornate; every building is covered with bas relief and mosaic inside and out; and niches with statues are everywhere. The churches are especially decorative and there seems to be a Catholic church in almost every block.

The Sicilians also have candy. Most of it is of the caramel type or caramelized sugar mixed with nuts. Other confections are fruit and nut mixtures and a kind of uncooked fruit cake made with fruits, nuts and wine.

All in all, the letter implies that Sicily is a godsend after the parched sands and foods of Africa, where Pvt. Dehler was until very recently. The letter, written August 4, is the first sent from Sicily.

He landed in Africa with the invading forces last November 9 and was mentioned in Colliers last April in an article that described those first days and the importance of jeeps in laying communication lines. He was inducted into the army in March, 1942, and has not been home since.

PORTLAND, Aug. 18—(AP)—Navy enlistments announced Wednesday included James L. Buckley, Salem; Robert C. Cosler Charles K. Buckley, Roy G. Jager, Kenneth C. Seavy, Wyman D. Sumner, Keith G. Underwood, Leland V. Crocker, Albany; Jesse C. Colmer, jr., Crawfordsville; Dan L. Kelly, Jefferson; Glenn I. Robertson, Lebanon; Willis Cooley, jr., Newberg.

SILVERTON—Mrs. Ronald Hubbs received word today from her husband, Major Hubbs, that he is now in England. He flew over. Major Hubbs, in the intelligence division, had been stationed in Washington, DC, where Mrs. Hubbs was making her home with him, until his transfer. She arrived this week to stay for the duration with her mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Jamie. Hubbs is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Hubbs of Silverton.

## Rickenbacker Says Bombing To Lick Nazis

By KENNETH L. DIXON  
NEW YORK, Aug. 17—(AP)—Captain Edward V. Rickenbacker said Tuesday that Italy was being bombed out of the war so fast that a "complete blowup" might come any day and that Germany then would be knocked out the same way because "no people on earth can stand" the terrific blasting being unleashed by allied air power.

"But in the next breath, he warned that, even so, he doubted that Germany would crack before the fall of 1944" at the present rate of the war's progress.

And after that, he said—barring a miracle—it would take another year of war to dispose of "savagery and treacherous" Japan, whose soldiers, "unlike the Germans and Italians, will never give up."

Lean and smiling, but admittedly tired from his 50,000-mile tour of world battlefronts, Rickenbacker admitted he believed in the possibility of such a miracle, and said "Something is coming this winter that will shock the world—maybe sooner."

Describing, as a "private citizen," the third trip he made as War Secretary Stimson's representative, Rickenbacker, who was in civilian clothes, said he was not air power fanatic, but that Germany must be broken "from the inside" by bombing because any other way would be "too expensive."

He said Italy is ready to crack because of morale, "the same as in Hamburg. The bombing of Hamburg is something no people on earth can stand—no people on earth, including ourselves."

After speaking of the 25 days he spent in Russia during his three-month jaunt, Rickenbacker veered from his recount of the warfront scene to say that if Premier Stalin was unable to join President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill in their strategy huddles, it was because "he has an all-out war on his hands," at home and added:

## Flying Cross Goes To Lebanon Man

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA, Aug. 18—(AP)—S/Sgt. Joseph A. Kaczmarek of Lebanon, Ore., has been awarded the distinguished flying cross for extraordinary achievement while participating in 200 hours of operational flight missions in the southwest Pacific.

The citation said these operations included long-range bombing against enemy airbases and installations, and attacks on enemy naval vessels and shipping. He was praised for outstanding courage, ability and devotion to duty.

Second Lieut. Justin G. Knowlton, Eugene, also won a DFC for extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight near Wewak, New Guinea, last January.

## Dies in Action



SGT. HAROLD V. CROOK

## Harold Crook Of Monmouth Lost in Action

MONMOUTH—Sgt. Harold V. Crook, 22, son of Ewin B. Crook, Monmouth, and Mrs. Eva Crook, Independence, was killed in action in New Guinea July 22, according to official word from the war department. No details were given. He is the first native son here to be listed a casualty.

Sgt. Crook was a member of the national guard, Company L of Dallas, which mobilized with other guard units at Camp Murray, September 15, 1940. He went overseas in February, 1942, and was stationed for a time in Australia before being transferred to New Guinea.

He had won rapid promotion for one so young. Born in Polk county, he had lived all his life time, before going overseas, in this area. While attending Monmouth high school he was active in athletics, starring in football and basketball.

He is survived by his father and mother, three brothers, Ernest of Cloverdale, Robert, overseas in military service, and Wade of Monmouth, and a sister, Helen, of Cloverdale.

His younger brother, Robert, arrived in Australia about 10 days ago where he is with the radio division of the air corps.

## Vandenberg Willing to Cut Down Politics

By D. HAROLD OLIVER  
WASHINGTON, Aug. 17—(AP)—Senator Vandenberg (R-Mich) said Tuesday that soft-pedaling of political debate until the fall of 1944 as suggested by James F. Byrnes, war mobilization director, is all right with him if the democrats will get Vice President Wallace to "pipe down in his program of disunity speeches."

Byrnes in a radio address last night struck at those in all parties who he said are diverting the minds of the people from the war effort by political statements. He said until the fall presidential campaign of 1944 the less said about politics the better.

Commenting on this part of the address, Vandenberg said he agreed with the home front chief, but added it was "A poor rule that doesn't work both ways."

## Federal Bank Liquidates Oregon Farms

Sixty-six Oregon farms were sold by the Federal Land Bank of Spokane during the 12-month period ended June 30, 1943, R. E. Brown, bank president, reported Wednesday.

These sales, which practically close out the bank's real estate inventory in Oregon, denote confidence in the future of the state's agriculture, and financial progress of its farmers, he said.

As further indication of this financial progress, the bank president revealed that during this same period land bank and commissioner loans in Oregon were reduced \$6,641,126, notwithstanding the fact that National Farm Loan associations made \$803,310 in new loans.

"While the reduction in farm mortgage indebtedness reflects the healthy condition of agriculture today," Brown said, "credit agencies should continue to make adequate credit available to assure all-out production for war and to assist farmers to place their farm plants on a sound financial basis, looking to debt free ownership."

## Court Postpones Naming Legislator

Election of a Marion county state representative to fill the vacancy created by the death of L. M. Ramage was postponed Wednesday by the county court after it had taken up the matter at the request of Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, jr.

The name of Mrs. Ramage, widow of the late representative, was presented by County Commissioner J. E. Smith, but other members of the court asked additional time to consider the qualifications of the several applicants. Ramage died recently as the result of injuries suffered in Seattle.

Other names presented to the court were those of W. H. Paulus, Lloyd Rigdon, Walter Lamkin and W. W. McKinney, all of Salem; A. R. Siegmund of Gervais and Fred Schwab of Mount Angel.

## Robbery Suspect Return Ordered

Caldwell Milton Hamill charged jointly with Laurence Elwood Beyer in the serious wounding of Frank Donley, Clackamas county farmer, after they allegedly had robbed his home, is to be returned to Oregon City for trial.

Hamill is under arrest at St. Louis, Mo., according to information received in Clackamas county.

Gov. Earl Snell on Wednesday issued papers asking for Hamill's return to Oregon. The papers were addressed to the governor of Missouri.

## Zander Improves After Shooting

Don Zander, truck driver who was shot and seriously wounded here recently when he discovered two unidentified men siphoning gasoline from his vehicle, was removed from an oxygen tent Wednesday. Hospital attendants said his condition was encouraging.

After shooting Zander one of the men was alleged to have beaten him on the head with a blunt instrument. One man was described by Zander as 40 years of age and the other about 18.

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