

Mid-Willamette Valley Men Are Serving Their Country on Battlefronts of World

AAF Sergeant From Salem Gets Promoted

While the airmail from the 15th AAF in Italy was dotted with dispatches concerning his promotion from staff sergeant to technical sergeant and his experience on a mission to oil refineries at Blechhammer, Germany, William (Dewey) Paulus, 22, was on his way home to Salem and Portland.

Paulus, who visited friends here late last week, beat the airmail. Son of Mrs. Pauline Paulus, 3924 Northeast Mason street, Portland, Paulus is a graduate of Salem high school, class of 1940. Before enlisting in the army air forces Dec. 29, 1941, he was employed by the Cherry City Baking company as a shipping clerk.

He is an engineer-gunner in an Italy-based 15th AAF Flying Fortress, who flew his 50th daylight bombing mission in the Mediterranean theatre, September 7 of this year. That particular flight the group blasted a jet-propelled aircraft factory at Munich.

The Blechhammer mission of August 27 he describes as the toughest of his career, more colorful and dangerous than that of July 8 at Ploesti when Paulus, riding as waist gunner was hit in the left shoulder by flak which knocked him down but inflicted only minor injury.

Among other important targets, Paulus has flown missions to the aircraft factory at Wiener, Neustadt, Austria, railyards at Budapest, Hungary, and refineries at Vienna, Austria.

Friends here expect the sergeant to spend some time here while in this country on furlough.

DALLAS — Dick Hartman is visiting at the home of his mother, Mrs. A. R. Hartman, until November 8, when he will report to the Alameda airport in California for navy flight training. Hartman completed his naval pre-flight training at the University of Washington.

Lt. Robert A. Hartman, his brother, is now overseas in the European theatre serving with a field artillery battalion.

DALLAS — Pvt. Richard L. Venter has arrived from Camp Claiborne, La., to spend his furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. Venter. Venter is a cook with an army engineers outfit.

Mr. and Mrs. Venter have another son serving with the army air forces in England, who writes that he will soon complete his required missions and expects to be sent home on leave. He went overseas in March.



SILVERTON—Three blue service stars grace the windows of the home of City Manager and Mrs. Harry C. McCrea on Mill street. Included are their elder son, Lt. Donald W. McCrea, left, who was recently awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross in Italy; their younger son, Harry Tom McCrea, flightman 3/c, center, and their son-in-law, Capt. Joseph Forsha, right, who is flying a Liberator in England. Lt. McCrea's wife is still in the east but may come west by Christmas when her husband is expected here on furlough. Seaman McCrea is at Camp Bradford, Va., where he was sent after leaving Camp Farragut. Mrs. Forsha (Betty McCrea) and infant daughter are at the home of her parents in Silverton for the duration.

English Woman Dreaming Of Chicken and Ice Cream; Robot Bombing Described

Hitler's robot bombs have damaged London "beyond estimate" and "thousands are homeless," but Londoners "are a great crowd and meet the V-1 (robots) with the same spirit as they met the blitzes—plenty of cockney humor."

This was the summary written by an English matron at the height of the robot assaults, to Mrs. Jess A. Nunn, the former Nadine Orcutt, of Salem.

The writer, herself a resident of a rural district but 20 miles north of Southampton on the channel coast, began corresponding with Mrs. Nunn after the latter's husband, Lt. Jess A. Nunn, was quartered at the English family's home. London Main Target

The English woman described London as "their (robots) main target," but said, regarding her own district: "We have some very bad nights here. I gave up going to bed and parked, fully dressed, on the settee all night * * *. We have had some narrow escapes; they have fallen all around the town," but "we got nothing more than cracked windows."

She added that "London children play a game called 'Dodge the Doodles', seeing who can get to the shelters first. Taking shelter from air raids is part of the school training. A nice thing to have to teach children in this year of our Lord, 1944."

The writer also mentioned rationing—weekly allowances of two ounces of tea, two of butter, four of margarine, two of fat, three of cheese, half pound of meat—but closed her letter with the cheering hope that "I'll bet you 20 cents next time I write I shall be glorying in peace * * *. We want an American flag to hang beside the Union Jack in front of the house: If I can't get one I may send an SOS to you for one."

As to war reaction, the English woman said "the war is getting on my nerves in a curious way—I keep dreaming I am eating lovely meals of chicken and ice cream."

She added that she had one cockerel "which I am fattening up on potatoes in readiness in case those boys (meaning Lieutenant Nunn and another army officer) spring a surprise on us and come home on leave."

Regarding Lieutenant Nunn, she commented: "When he cables and says 'I love you,' you can walk on air with perfect safety—he certainly means it."

RICKEY—William H. Bales, apprentice seaman, is at San Diego, for his basic training. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Bales of route six.

DALLAS — Pvt. George Nicol is spending the week with his mother, Mrs. Rosa Nicol, while en route from the infantry replacement training camp to Camp Wolters, Texas. He will report to Fort Ord, Calif. Nicol enlisted last spring and this is his first visit home.

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Lt. (jg) Egon F. Hoffman, who was reported missing in action in the South Pacific, according to a telegram received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Hoffmann, 440 North 17th street. Word was received by his wife and parents this week, that Lt. Hoffman had been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

DALLAS — Tech. Sgt. Leroy Teal is in Dallas for a visit with his wife, Mrs. Wanda Teal. He has completed 50 missions totaling 224 combat hours as a radio-operator-gunner with the "Air Apaches," veteran B-25 skip bomber and strafe outfit in the southwest Pacific. Teal was assigned to his present unit in October 1943, somewhere in New Guinea and has been awarded the Oak Leaf cluster and the Air Medal for meritorious achievement in aerial flight.

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15TH AAF IN ITALY — Tech. Sgt. Robert L. Furchner, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. James C. Furchner, 530 North 5th street, Corvallis, Ore., radio-gunner on a B-24 Liberator, recently was awarded his first oak leaf cluster to the air medal. Since his arrival in Italy, Sgt. Furchner has participated in bombing attacks on such important targets as enemy air-dromes, oil refineries, railroad yards, harbors and bridges in Germany, Austria, Hungary, France, and other axis-occupied territories. Sgt. Furchner is a graduate of Corvallis high school, class of 1941. Prior to entering the army air corps he was a free-lance writer.

Aviation Cadet Donald Cecil Carey, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Carey, Rt. 1, Lyons, Ore., has reported at Carlsbad, NM army air field, where he will receive advanced flight training, high-level bombardiering and dead-reckoning navigation.

DALLAS — Pvt. Don Webster is spending his furlough with his father, C. A. Webster and family. Webster, who was inducted in June, will report to an army camp in Arkansas for further training.

A public relations story from the war department tells that S/Sgt. William Keffer, 39333935, after being shot down over Berlin is now a prisoner of war in Germany. Mrs. A. M. Keffer of a Salem rural route is said to be his mother, but it is doubtful she has heard of the news.

\$500 Reward!

This sum will be paid

to anyone who will prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Denver Young, while serving as a criminal deputy in the sheriff's office in September, 1943, "turned up... more than \$300 in claims for mileage traveled in serving civil papers" as set forth in an editorial in the Salem Capital Journal of date November 2, 1944, said editorial being headed "Time for a Change." This reward money is on deposit in the U. S. National Bank in Salem. Get this straight: The record-keeping in the sheriff's office is done by Chief Deputy Miss Alma Johnson. It is my belief that the allegations made in this editorial in the evening paper were the outgrowth of spite and prejudice, rather than an earnest desire to correct any mistakes, or wrongdoing.

A. C. BURK, Sheriff. Pd. Adv.



DALLAS, Nov. 4 — Word has been received by Mr. and Mrs. Bert McKibben of the birth of a daughter, Gall Louise, to their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Keith McKibben at North Rockhampton, Queensland, Australia. This is the first granddaughter of the McKibbens.

The father was the first member of the local company to marry an Australian girl. McKibben is serving with the 41st division in the southwest Pacific.

DALLAS — Letters from Pfc. Linton E. Hoff, a bulldozer oper-

ator with the engineers of the marine division on Peleliu island during the invasion, describe some of his experiences on his first time in combat with that division.

He built roads up to the front lines in opening supply lines; covered up Jap caves and pillboxes and also large shell craters. In fact states Hoff, "I'll have enough to talk about the rest of my life."

Hoff has been in the marines since September 1943 and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Hoff now of Portland.

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