

# IN THE... Nation's Service



Teah. 5 Homer D. Walters of Salem is one of a group of Oregon men of the 41st division in this country on the rotation program to be reassigned to duty in this country on completion of furloughs at home and a stay at the Santa Barbara redistribution center.

## Four Men From Polk County Are Discharged

DALLAS — E. B. Hamilton, manager, U.S. employment service, has been notified that four Polk county soldiers had been discharged from the armed services. Pvt. John Werline of Independence was discharged December 27. He served overseas as a searchlight crewman. Cpl. Walter W. Schuerch of Willamina, also discharged December 27, was at Ft. Lewis, Wash., at the time of his discharge but had served overseas. Pvt. John Pichette of Grand Ronde was released on December 22 from McCaw General hospital, Walla Walla, Wash. He served overseas with the 45th Cavalry. Pvt. Homer L. H. White also of Grand Ronde was discharged at Ft. Benning, Ga., January 6. He had no overseas service. He was a member of the fifth infantry.

## Boyer and Drager Home on Furlough From Pacific Area

After many months in the Pacific two Marion county marines recently returned home on furlough. They are T/Sgt. Eldon J. Boyer, 30, of Turner, and Cpl. Douglas M. Drager, 28, son of Mr. and Mrs. Rue Drager, route 5, Salem. Drager is a graduate of Salem senior high school, and a former student of the University of Washington. A member of the first marine division, he last served in the Solomon islands and wears the presidential unit citation ribbon. Boyer served with the second marine division and also holds the presidential unit citation. His sister is Mrs. Edward Dimbat of Turner.



WEST SALEM—Harry F. Reid, MM2/c, of a naval construction battalion, after nine months of overseas duty, received a 30-day leave and was able to spend Christmas and New Year's with his wife and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Reid, of West Salem. His unit, operating in the European area, has been recommended for the Presidential Unit Citation and its members have been awarded the Legion of Merit medal for duty performed during the period of preparation for and participation in the invasion of Normandy. Reid has reported for duty at Camp Endicott, RI.

Oliver Gene Anderson, seaman first class, has returned to San Diego after spending a 15 day leave with his wife, the former Alta Gousses and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. O. Anderson, 171 North 13th street. Having completed amphibious training he is awaiting further assignment.



DALLAS—Leroy H. Fry, gunner's mate first class is spending a leave with his mother, Mrs. Harry Codner, after five years in the southwest Pacific. Fry spent a year and a half at Pearl Harbor before the war, and also took part in the battle of Midway, the battle of the Coral Sea and in one of the Marshall island engagements. He holds two commendation citations from Admiral Nimitz for meritorious service. Fry was graduated from the Dallas high school in 1937.

PFC Frank Nichols, U.S. army air corps, has returned to duty after a 21 day furlough spent with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Nichols, Roberts avenue. He has been in the army for two years.

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## Merlin Nelson Recovering In England

The Purple Heart came this week to Mr. and Mrs. Theodore G. Nelson of Salem from the war department in recognition of wounds received in action in the European theatre early in December by their son, PFC Merlin Edward Nelson. Simultaneously a message came from a hospital in England telling that young Nelson was making a nice recovery. Another son, Lt. Herald Nelson, now serving in the Philippines, has written his parents that he and his cousin, Sgt. Robert Nelson, son of Alf O. Nelson of Silverton, had finally got together. They have been stationed 20 miles apart and their families have been endeavoring to get information necessary for a meeting to them.

SWEIGLE—Robert W. Burson, son of Mrs. Kay Hetzler, has been awarded a combat ribbon. He received his basic training at Camp Adair.

## Donald Slater, Saipan Veteran, Gets Discharge

Donald D. Slater, private first class, was given a medical discharge from the marine corps at the Naval hospital at Oakland, Calif. as a result of a wound received in the battle for Saipan where he served with the second marine division. He was near when a Jap artillery shell exploded and he lay half covered with debris for approximately three hours before receiving aid. Slater enlisted with the Leathernecks at Portland in August, 1943, and was discharged early this month, after which he returned to his home at 921 North Winter street, in Salem.

TOM PICKETT WOUNDED  
Lt. Tom Pickett, with the US army tank corps in Germany, has been seriously wounded, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Howard R. Pickett, 960 Union street, have been notified by the war department. His wife is now visiting here from Long Island, NY. Lt. James Pickett, US navy reserve is with the naval air corps in the Aleutians.

DALLAS—Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Woodman, route 2, Dallas, have received word their son, Robert A. Woodman, has been promoted to technical sergeant. Sgt. Woodman, a member of the army airways communications system, has served in the central Pacific area since June, 1943.

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