

Serving Uncle Sam

Edited by Margaret Magee



Lt. Raleigh Wirth, commander on a Saipan based B-29 Superfortress, is presented the Distinguished Flying Cross with one Oak Leaf Cluster by Gen. O'Donnell. The officer, recently promoted to first lieutenant, has completed 30 missions over Japan and is now instructing new replacements in tactical training. He, in addition to the DFC, wears the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters and three battle stars on his theater ribbon. (AAF photo.)

Sgt. Williams Here

Spending an 18-day furlough in Salem with his parents is Sgt. George Glen Williams, son of Mr. and Mrs. Newell Williams of 346 South 23rd street, who arrived Sunday morning. Williams, an instructor at the air army air corps radio school at Sioux Falls, S. D., for two years, recently completed his gunnery training at Yuma, Ariz., and is now being transferred to Tyndall field at Panama City, Fla.

The younger brother of the air corps man, Newell Williams, Jr., is with a combat aviation service unit of the navy in the South Pacific.

Southwick Visits

In Salem on a 15-day furlough before reporting to his new assignment with the first air force at the base at Columbia, South Carolina, is Pvt. Frank Southwick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Southwick.

A former Capital Journal carrier boy, the air corps man is a graduate of Salem high school and at the time of entering the service was a student at Willamette university. He took his basic training at Keesler field, Miss., and recently completed his training at the advanced flight engineer's school at Long Beach, Calif. He reports to Columbia June 28.

Aurora—Cpl. Lester Rupp of Canby, Ore., recently was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroic achievement in action on the fifth army front during the Italian campaign as a member of the 91st division.

Rupp volunteered to carry badly needed supplies of food and ammunition to soldiers manning front line positions and although German machine gun fire swept the mountain trail which was the only route forward, and a heavy enemy mortar barrage fell around him, he doggedly continued forward and delivered the supplies.

A farmer in civilian life, he entered the service in November, 1942. His mother, Mrs. Lena Rupp, lives on route 1, Canby. Warrant Officer, Henry V. Snyder of the U. S. marines, son of Mrs. Diana Snyder Poling, has returned to his base after having spent a short leave with relatives.

Arthur J. Jeffries of the U. S. army son of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Jeffries of Aurora, is home on furlough from his base in Texas.

In Germany

Stationed in Germany with the army of occupation as a purchasing and contracting officer is First Lt. Charles R. Campbell, son of Mrs. Anne Macy, city police matron. The Salem lieutenant, on the continent since D-day, has "picked-up" some German, he writes his mother, but on the job has to have an interpreter to help him in transacting his business.

Now living in Weiden, a city with a population of 7500, Campbell was with the 90th division, the outfit that captured the huge store of hidden gold, which he described as quite a sight, and was with Patton's third army until the end of hostilities.

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With an Automatic Weapons Battalion of the 14th Anti-aircraft Command on Leyte—Now wearing the Philippine Liberation ribbon along with the Good Conduct Medal and Asiatic Pacific ribbon with one bronze battle star for participating in the northern Solomons campaign is Staff Sgt. William T. Mills of Lyons, Oregon. The soldier, an employe of the Evans Plywood corporation at Lebanon, Oregon, before his induction into the army in April, 1942, received his basic training at Camp Roberts and Camp Haan, Calif. He left for overseas duty in August, 1943.

Corbett Leaves

Entraining from Portland Wednesday morning for Great Lakes training center was Theodore (Ted) Corbett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Phil Corbett of 585 Shipping street. The former navy man, who this year was graduated from Salem high school, successfully passed the Eddy test and will, after completing his boot training at Great Lakes, take special training in radar at the navy's radio materiel school in Chicago. Corbett and his parents drove to Portland Tuesday.

Rickreall—Mrs. Florence Ragsdale has received word of the advancement of her son, Robert C. Ragsdale, to chief radar technician, USNR. Ragsdale has for some time been in charge of all radio and radar equipment on an aircraft carrier. He has served in both the Atlantic and Pacific fleets and participated in the Philippine and Iwo Jima invasions.



First Lt. Donald O. Cronemiller, pilot of a B-25 with the 12th army air force, is congratulated by his commanding officer following presentation to Cronemiller of the Air Medal. The flier is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lynn F. Cronemiller of 1760 South Winter street. (AAF photo.)

of a large hotel in the city since V-E day the lieutenant and his fellow officers have their meals in the officers' mess hall on the first floor. The food he stated was excellent, then went on to say that as they eat the German people walk by and watch them. The soldiers have chocolate and sugar, but there is none for the people in that town and food he stated was scarce, though the women dress well. Across the street from the hotel is a grocery store where women daily line up for their rationed food and sometimes wait two or three hours before securing it. Campbell compared the weather to spring time in the Wil-



Motor Machinist's Mates 2/c Robert (left) and Raymond (right) Thies, 19-year-old twin sons of the late George A. Thies of Salem and Mt. Angel, who have been spending their 30-day leave from navy duties at the home of their cousin, George Naderman. The twins, together since entering the service in February, 1943, when they left for their basic training at Farragut, Idaho, recently returned from 17 months of service in the New Hebrides. Graduates of the Silverton high school, the sailors after completing their basic training attended machinist's mate school at Lawrence, Kansas, and the Packard school in Detroit. They leave Salem Friday to report for duty at Bremerton, Wash.

Casualty List

One man from this area was listed as wounded in action in the fighting in the Pacific and two as liberated German prisoners of war on the army-navy war casualty list released last night by the OWI.

Wounded while serving in the Pacific was Pfc. Ervin C. Rottcher, husband of Mrs. Hazel Mae Rottcher of Lebanon. Liberated prisoners were Pfc. Elijah H. Chambers, son of Mrs. Mahalia Chambers of Independence, and Tech. Sgt. Orla Sorenson, son of Mrs. Martin M. Sorenson of Albany.

Griffith Promoted

Word has been received here that Carl Griffith of the United States army, well known in Salem, has received his promotion to major. He is in the European

theater. He is the son of the late Dr. Carl Griffith, many years practicing physician at Burns, and his mother is county health nurse for Haney county. He also is a nephew of the late Dr. Frank Griffith, for many years head physician at the Oregon state hospital, and his cousin, Dr. John Griffith, is practicing dentistry in Salem at the present time.

Pvt. Schlegel Visits

Arriving in Salem Sunday night for a brief visit before leaving for Salinas, Calif., to be with his parents was Pvt. Robert Schlegel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Schlegel, who for nine months was held prisoner by the Germans at Mooseburg, Stage 7-A camp.

The soldier, a former Willamette university student, was freed April 30 by his former outfit, the seventh army, under command of General Patch. On termination of his 30-day furlough Schlegel will report to Santa Barbara.

Silverton—Tech 4 Norman Jensen, son of Mrs. Anna Jensen, has been awarded the Bronze Star medal for meritorious service up to April 20, in Germany. Jensen is radio operator and repairman. His wife, the former Laura Hall, is residing with relatives in Clatskanie.

Cpl. Ronald Reed has received his discharge from the army and has returned home from a rest period at Santa Barbara after serving for 38 months in the South Pacific area. Reed plans to complete his college course.

Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard have received word that their son, Melvin Hubbard, USN torpedoman 1/c, has been awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in action May 4 against the Japanese in the South Pacific area.

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Released German Prisoner Home

Prisoner of the Germans since last summer, when the B-17 bomber which he was piloting was shot down over Berlin, First Lt. Douglas Farmer arrived in Salem Saturday night to spend his leave with his wife, the former Elaine Flathers, and young daughter, Dianne, who reside at 1580 D street.

The flier, in the service since June, 1942, spent 14 months overseas and for six weeks after his plane failed to return to its home base was listed as missing in action. Five letters received from him in December were the only word his wife had from him until his release.

Farmer, who wears the European theater of operation ribbon with three battle stars, the Presidential Unit Citation and the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, was at the Mooseburg prison camp where Major Stephen A. Stone, Jr., and Second Lt. William T. Foster, both of Salem, were also held by the Germans.

Receive Discharges

Fort Lewis, Wash., June 13 (AP)—Ninety-nine enlisted men from Oregon have returned to civilian life, following their discharge from the service on the point system or over-age regulations, Fort Lewis separation center officials announced Tuesday.

In the group were three from Salem, Tech. 5 Gilbert R. Stuller of route 1, and Pfc. Richard W. Jones and Pfc. Theodore R. Rape, both of route 2; and two from Dallas, Sgt. George A. Lindahl and Tech. 4 Gordon E. Hansen.

Weisner Here

In the service since the Oregon national guard was mobilized in the fall of 1940, Pfc. Bruce F. Weisner arrived in Salem Tuesday from Camp Gruber, Okla., to spend a 10-day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Weisner.

Weisner, a former student at the Sacred Heart academy, has been stationed at Camp Gruber since November, 1944, when he reported there at the termination of his furlough, which followed 22 months of service with the coast artillery in the Aleutians.



Marine Pfc. Donald E. Croy, former student at the Chemawa Indian school, who recently was awarded the Purple Heart medal for wounds received as a result of enemy action at Guam. Presentation of the medal was made at the U. S. naval hospital at Oakland, Calif., by Capt. A. H. Dearing. The marine is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Segerquise of Woodinville, Wn. (Marine corps photo.)

Soldier Wounded

Mrs. Homer Palacios of Silverton has received word that her husband, an army corporal



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serving with the 10th army in the Pacific, was wounded in action in the fighting on Okinawa May 24. The corporal has been in the army for three years and during 11 months of that time has been overseas. He took part in the Leyte invasion before going to Okinawa.

of war in Germany for the past two years, arrived at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Scollard of Portland, Saturday. The family is well known in Woodburn where they lived many years. His mother is the former Nora Beck. Lt. Scollard is a bombardier and was captured on his first mission over Kiel.



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