

Items About Local Boys In Service

Commended By His Commanding Officer

Mrs. Marc Shelley is naturally very much pleased with the copy of a letter which the commanding officer of the vessel on which Marc has been stationed wrote to him on March 14. It read as follows:

From: The Commanding Officer.
To: Shelley, Marc Hanna, CMIC, U.S.N.R.

Subject: Commendatory performance of duty.

1. During precommissioning and for the time this vessel has been in commission you have been outstanding in the performance of your duties. Your ability as a leader of men and as ship's carpenter's mate have been admirably displayed on many occasions.

2. The expeditious manner in which you undertook and repaired battle damage, the constant attention you have given to routine repairs and upkeep, and the high quality of work, initiative, and thought that you have displayed, warrant much praise.

3. It is with great pleasure that I congratulate you on a job well done and your outstanding contribution in making the McCord an effective unit of the U. S. Navy. W. T. Kenny

Mrs. Shelley has not received any definite word yet as to why it was necessary but she has had word that Marc had entered a hospital on this coast, in California, for an operation last week.

Five Members Of His Crew Killed

After several weeks of not hearing from their son, Willis W. Marshall, who is a graduate of the North Bend high school and is now a bomber pilot in the Pacific, Mr. and Mrs. N. L. Springer received two letters from him in the same mail. He said he had been in a special mission—it was one that resulted in considerable damage to the Jap aircraft and boats around that island—he had returned to his base to find about 50 letters awaiting him.

He told about one raid early in February on which five members of the crew of his craft were killed and he was the only one to get back. He was injured but not seriously.

He has received several medals, the Flying Cross, the Purple Heart and an Air Medal to which have now been added two oak leaf clusters.

Harold Winnegar Now A Seaman First Class

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Winnegar have received a letter from their son, Harold, who is in the Navy somewhere in the South Pacific, that he is now officially designated as a Seaman First Class, a promotion.

Orvil Coy Home On A Few Days' Furlough

Pvt. Orvil B. Coy, son of Oren Coy, arrived home on furlough Thursday morning. He has been in training at Camp Carson, Colorado, Shreveport, Louisiana, and is now training at Camp Roberts, Calif. He is now in the 354th Infantry and will be returning to duty next Monday.

Bill Pook Writes From So. Pacific

In a letter to the Sentinel editor and Mrs. Young, Lieut. Wm. R. Pook, formerly with the Mt. States here, wrote from his station in the Southwestern Pacific, the following interesting letter telling of conditions over there, what the men do and talk about, and a little about the native. The letter came through in less than three weeks. It follows:

Your most welcome card came last Sunday and you can bet it went no end to boost my morale. Sure swell to know people at home haven't forgotten you. We are reminded each day of the people at home who are behind us for we want for nothing. We are the best equipped army and when a fellows sits down to a meal of Irish potatoes and fresh meat, you can't help but be thankful that you are an American.

We hear lots of rumors about the rationing you folks have, the boys are always talking about the poor people at home who have to eat those old-fashioned eggs that you have to break, on having milk that comes in bottles, of course, we do it in fun. Anything for a smile for a soldier smiles everything is O. K.

We have a very nice camp, in fact if the people at home could see it, they would want to move over. Some of the fellows up above don't have a picnic, they're doing a swell job. This war is much like a football game at home. The Signal Corps is the line along with the T. M. and Ordnance, while the Marine and Infantry and Air Corps get the credit. Believe me, they deserve it and we are only too glad to be playing on the same team.

Over here we eat, sleep and talk Army, so I can't make my letter very interesting and, of course, censorship regulations don't help the matter any. I guess the most talked about item is how Uncle Sam treats the Japs in U. S. We can't understand the Tulelake deal. I'm afraid none of us boys would be very good guards on them because, try as we may, we can't forget how some of our boys were found. We have been lucky enough to follow close enough behind to see how they lived and get an idea of their habits and, honestly, they are only animals and live as such. Enuff of that.

We do work like Dan Brown and his crew and have fifty natives to harvest our poles. They are interesting people and live quite a social life. Their social standing is quite different from Coquille's in the fact that on the bottom of the rung of New Guinea's social ladder are women and children, then come dogs, then men who are ordinary laborers, followed by pigs and the village craftsmen. At the top of the rung are police boys and native soldiers. The native soldier gets 10 shillings (\$1.60) a month. Maybe it isn't such a bad idea, they won't have much to pay back after the war.

I thought about the people at home yesterday (income tax returns). I wish they could see one of the bases over here and they could sure tell where their money is going. We can't understand where it all came from. But it's there and it's being used and best of all, it doesn't say, "Made in Japan."

Coquille is well represented in this

area. I have run across at least a dozen boys I knew at home. We write to each other and pass on letters from home. The last one to be passed from Gordon Neil to all the gang was a letter from Geo. Johnson, in which he gave all the lowdown on the town characters. It brought back so many swell memories and happy thoughts. Maybe some day soon we can all return to our old jobs and once again walk down the street and say "Hello" to all our friends. I am sure Alvin Shaver, Bill Smith and the rest of the Boys will be there on the streets, too.

The Sentinel finds its way here in bunches, the last being the Nov. 25th issue, but still appreciated and up-to-date news. Time doesn't mean much here.

In closing may I thank you again for your swell card. Would you please thank Mr. Grimes for me. He sent a card, too, and I hope this letter will serve you both. Keep the good work up at home and we'll do our best here. Sincerely, Bill Pook.

Another Letter From New Guinea

Frank J. Brewster, who lived in or around Coquille for about ten years, the last two of them at Fairview before joining the Army, writes the Sentinel a letter from his post on New Guinea. He says:

You will wonder why I am writing this. A friend of mine sent me some clippings from the Sentinel so thought I would drop you a line and tell you a little about this country. It is a very pretty place as far as scenery is concerned—but that is all. Boy—the mosquitos are as big as crows, nearly; and mud and rain! Oregon is a paradise in the winter compared to this. Coos county is one of the swellest places in the whole world to me. Here we have all the coconuts, pineapples and bananas we want, but you can have them all. Our outfit has been in a few major battles, but they were not too bad.

I am with a boat battalion. The Army isn't so bad but it's a heck of a good place to be from.

One of the clippings sent me had the picture of Don Estes on it. He certainly looked natural.

We have the Japs on the run here and I am just waiting to get home again.

Regards to all my Coos county friends.

Italy Is Much Like Oregon

The following are extracts from a letter written in Italy by Paul Harmon, who was employed at the plant here for five years before entering the service a couple of years ago:

March 16—The other morning I was awakened with a start by a fellow saying, "Don't get out of bed or you will drown." It had happened to others before so I wasn't surprised when I saw about six inches of water all over the floor. Luckily I slept in a high corner and hadn't yet gotten my blankets wet but lots of my clothes were wet and muddy. It was funny to see shoes floating around the tent, bobbing up and down like boats at anchor. An empty five-gallon can was joyfully floating around, exploring odd corners of the tent. Time must have stood still for a moment because I was out of bed and dressed in nothing flat by my watch. I rescued my stuff as best I could and went to work.

Later on, near the mess tent, I noticed some tents with over a foot of water running through them in a fast stream. Everything was a mess. In my field we had to wade through about six to ten inches of water and soft mud, where you would sink up to your knees once in a while, a lot of tents partially collapsed because the soft mud would not hold the tent pegs.

Mar. 18—I'll finish this now while I am waiting for the planes

to come in. "Sweatin' them out," according to publicity stuff.

In contrast to the weather of two days ago, we now have swell spring weather with frosty morning and all. It's a beautiful day.

The mail situation is still "anafu." I haven't had any for a long time. A little came yesterday but none for me. I have hopes for today.

Our planes are coming. I hope there is no damage from flak or enemy action of any kind. So far we have been lucky.

March 19—No damage. Our planes are getting enough of those little "mission bombs" painted on them to look like anything but rookies. Sooner or later they bound to come in pretty well damaged, then the real work starts.

Two Coquille Boys Just Miss One Another Down Under

Elmer Zwicker wrote his mother here recently that one day when he was somewhere in Australia he saw "Buzz" Holmstrom's name written just two or three lines above his. At the time of writing, however, he had not yet run across Haldane, whose mother is expecting him home before long.

Calling cards 5¢ for \$1.00.

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Honey Butter, Miner 1 lb. 29c
Honey, Farmers Gold 2 lb. jar 56c
Margarine, Dalewood (6 pts) 1 lb. 18c
Cheese Kraft Roks (3 pts) 5 oz. 22c
Cheese, Kraft Am. Relish (3) 5 oz. 21c

Other Grocery Values

Guava Jelly, Ferro (7 pts) 2 1/2 can 49c
Grapelade, Welch (4 pts) 1 lb. 24c
Jam, Starr P. Plum (no pts) 2 1/2 49c
Marmalade, Everbest Or-Grapt 1 lb. 25c
Marmalade Tibbets Brook 2 lb. 35c

Karo Syrup Red Label 1 1/2 lb. 16c
Flour Kitchen Craft 49 lb. sh. \$1.89
Shorten's Royal Sath (12) 3 lb. 63c
Egg Noodles, Betty Baker 14 oz. 13c
Mushroom Soup Mix, Deluxe 4 oz. 12c
Sea Mussels, M Ball (no pts) 10 oz. 25c
H K Pease, Fcy (no pts) No. 2 15c

Tomatoes Jory (7 pts) No. 2 1/2 2/25c
Cut Beans, Staregon (no pts) No. 2 10
Spinach PurPak (10 pts) No. 2 14c
Precooked Beans, Copeland's 8 oz. 10c
Tomato Juice, S. Dawn (16) 46 oz. 21c

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BLEACH, White Magic quart 10c
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Kerr Fruit Jars dozen qts. 85c
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Sure Jell Pectin 8 oz. 2/25c
Paraffin Wax 1 lb. pkg. 2/25c

ASPARAGUS—Lb. 14 1/2c
CARROTS—Lb. 8c
CUCUMBERS—Lb. 29c
RUEBARS—lb. 12 1/2c
GRAPE FRUIT, Florida Bronze—Lb. 8c
APPLES—Red Delicious—Lb. 12c

SPRY Shortening (12 points) 3 lb. Jar	RINSO SOAP 24 oz. 23c	SIERRA PINE Toilet Soap Reg. bar 7c
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Beef Short Ribs A&B grade 19 lb. 4
Beef Roast Arm or Blade Cut A grade 27 lb. 7
Bacon, any size piece 33c lb. 1
Sliced Bacon, rind on 35c lb. 1
Skinned Ham, whole or butt half 36c lb. 3

Bologna, Type 4 35c lb. 6
Wieners (sheep casing), Type 4 33c lb. 2
OYSTERS pt. 65c

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