

Jim Agostino Has Medical Discharge From The Navy

Jim Agostino, who had been in the Navy for the past seven months and was stationed on an island off the Maine coast, arrived in Coquille Sunday. He has received a medical discharge but is still on the reserve list. He says he will stay around Coquille for a time but expects eventually to go back up to Alaska, where he was living when he enlisted.

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M/Sgt. John Shull To Be Home On Furlough Soon

After long service in Italy with the 15th Air Force, M/Sgt. John E. Shull, of Coquille, will soon return to the United States with the veteran 496th Bomb Group, according to a recent announcement. Sgt. Shull will report to the Reception Station at Ft. Lewis, Washington, for processing after which he will be given a furlough before reassignment.

Since going overseas, he has been assigned to the 496th Bombardment Group, a B-24 Liberator bomber group which has participated in numerous bombings of German-held targets throughout southern Europe and the Balkans.

The veteran unit is being returned to the State for a period of training and receipt of new equipment before jumping into the battle against Japan. The training and additional equipment has been made necessary because of the changed tactical situations which ground and air men of the group will experience in the Pacific Theatre.

The group has flown 238 combat missions since entering the Mediterranean Theatre of Operations, having bombed such vital targets as Vienna, Austria; Wiener Neustadt, Austria; Munich, Germany; Ploesti, Roumania; coastal fortifications on southern France before D-Day; as well as numerous other pin-point bombing on enemy troops concentrations in northern Italy. In all, the group bombed over 128 different targets, dropping nearly 14,000 tons of bombs. Gunners destroyed 130 enemy airplanes, probably destroyed 53 and damaged 95 others.

Frank Byers Expected Home In Aug. After 30 Months' Absence

Word has been recently received here that Pfc. Frank L. Byers, 21, is again in the United States. His boat docked in San Diego the morning of Friday, July 13.

As a tank driver and maintenance man with the veteran 3rd Marine division, Pvt. Byers has been on various Pacific islands including New Caledonia, the Marshalls, Guadalcanal, Guam, Iwo Jima and Hawaii.

After returning unharmed from Iwo Jima to Guam, he was involved in a jeep wreck March 25 and was seriously injured. From two months' hospitalization on Guam he was flown to the Naval Hospital in Honolulu where he has been until his shipment out July 1 to the San Diego naval hospital where he is convalescing. Within the month he is expected home for the first time in two and one-half years.

Wallace T. Miller Now An Army Engineer Major

Wallace T. Miller, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nile Miller who live above Arago, has sent them word of his recent promotion to the rank of major. He is in the Engineer Corps and is stationed at the Army Air Base near Colorado Springs, Colo.

Wm. L. Donaldson On Job When Jap Suicide Plane Attacked

The following citation was recently given William Lee Donaldson, of Coquille, by his commanding officer for his heroic actions during a Jap attack last spring:

For excellent service in the line of duty during an air attack, on 12 April 1945, in which a Japanese suicide plane crashed into his ship. By his prompt and efficient action, he contributed materially in minimizing the damage to his ship by fighting and extinguishing fires in the damaged areas. His conduct gives evidence of his value to the naval service.

Japs Getting Hungry--Were Taking U. S. Troops' Food

Jas. M. Pinkston of this city, who now has five boys in Uncle Sam's service, last week received a letter from one of them who was stationed, at the time he wrote, on an uninhabited island in the Pacific. He told of a Jap raiding party of 100 who had sneaked onto the island and grabbed as much food as they could carry. Just as they were leaving they were discovered and the searchlight was thrown on them. They dropped the food and ran but 60 of the party were killed before they could get off the island.

Mrs. Clara Bell McCool Kelley Has Two Sons In The Service

Mrs. Clara Bell McCool Kelley has received word from the commanding officer of her son, Norman L. McCool, that Norman sustained a gunshot wound in the neck in action against the enemy on May 16, on Okinawa Island. The Lieut. Col. promised that additional details would be sent as soon as possible.

Another of Mrs. Kelley's son, Wayne C. McCool, is now in the Navy and at present is stationed at San Diego.

Calling cards, 50 for \$1.00.



Washington, D. C., July 26 — Of plans for post-war highway construction there seems to be no end. Several bills have been introduced in congress, all ambitious in their scope and each contemplating the expenditure of enormous sums of money. Generally, an excuse for the generous spending is found in the expected need for public works to take up the slack in employment during the reconversion period. The latest highway bill to appear in the house is the brain child of Representative Hand of New Jersey and while it omits some of the features which were found to be objectionable in previous bills it is even more ambitious in expanding the highway system.

The plan, Mr. Hand insisted, will be self-liquidating, job-creating and revenue-producing for the federal government and at the same time profit-making for patrons. He describes his project as a national defense super-highway and airport system. It would provide automobile highways, airplane emergency landing fields, and commercial airports. There would be no less than 15 super-highways criss-crossing the country in every direction, touching all the principal cities and linking them up in a national system. The work would be in charge of a national commission of nine members, each drawing \$10,000 a year. Employment would be given only to American citizens at standard wages, with preference going to discharged veterans. All material must be produced in the United States and by American-owned business. No convict labor would be permitted.

Building of the highways and their adjuncts would be financed by the issuance of government bonds in the amount of \$10,000,000,000, to be repaid by the imposition of toll charges not to exceed one cent a mile for use of the roads. This, Mr. Hand explained, would encourage use of the super-highways for long distance travel, leaving local highways open for customary uses and thereby averting congestion and contributing to public safety.

Emergency landing fields, properly lighted, would be built along the highways at frequent intervals, also commercial and military airports located as close to each center of traffic as practicable. These would be open to the public for use in flight instruction and to accommodate private planes at reasonable fees.

Congress is placed in the seemingly inconsistent position of being asked to appropriate \$10,000,000 a year to develop more deadly weapons while considering means by which to prevent another war. It is held that the army and navy, due to lack of funds for that purpose, failed to continue proper research after the first world war and thereby placed the United States in an inferior position as compared with developments in other countries. The office of scientific research and development would prevent recurrence of this situation by making available not less than \$10,000,000 annually for research and experiments in the development of war weapons and material. Meanwhile consideration is being given a bill introduced a few days ago to create the cabinet post of secretary for peace to emphasize the evils of war. Both the preparation for bigger and better wars and the plan to prevent war would be financed from the federal treasury.

Why there was imported into the United States last year a total of 110,000,000 bushels of wheat, duty free, while in the same period ten million bushels of wheat was exported under subsidy payments ranging from 25 to 33 cents a bushel is a question which disturbs Representative Murray of Wisconsin. The importations were under executive order and the wheat was used mostly for feeding livestock. In Mr. Murray's opinion, this transaction just doesn't make sense. He also has called attention to the fact that in 1934, 1935 and 1936 the United States imported more wheat than it exported while at the same time farmers were being paid not to produce wheat. The revelation aroused the interest of other members but none of them attempted to supply the answer.

Action in the senate struck out an appropriation of \$300,000 for the development and prosecution of a program for the control of commun-

icable diseases in Liberia in cooperation with the Liberian government." It had been asked by the state department on the grounds that it was necessary to safeguard the health of Americans stationed at an airport established in that part of Africa. Objection was that use of the money would be at the discretion of the Liberian government and, anyway, the airport is not a permanent installation.

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