

Destroyer O'Brien Brings Bill Weatherford Home

Bill Weatherford, III, fireman in the Navy, received unusual service by coincidence when his ship, the USS O'Brien, a destroyer brought him to The Dalles from where it was just a "skip and a jump" by Navy standards to his home town of Heppner.

Bill, son of W. W. Weatherford of Heppner, started a 28-day leave just after the ship arrived July 19 to help observe Dalles Days on the Columbia River. It came through the Bonneville Dam locks with room to spare. The O'Brien left The Dalles Monday.

For some time the destroyer has been operating off the coast of North Vietnam, engaging in shore bombardment with its 5-inch guns, which have a 9-mile range. On December 23, the O'Brien took four direct hits from a North Vietnamese mobile artillery unit. Two men were killed and four were wounded. Young Weatherford was in a repair party and acted as a stretcher bearer.

After taking the hits, two caps of two shells were recovered. One was of North Vietnamese manufacture and the other came from Red China. Usually the destroyer operated as part of a convoy consisting of two destroyers and a cruiser and maneuvered beyond the 3-mile limit. On one occasion the heavy cruiser Canberra was straddled by Vietnamese batteries 10 miles at sea but wasn't hit.

Weatherford, who has been in the Vietnam area for about six months, has been at Subic Bay, Philippines, where the O'Brien went for repairs; to Pearl Harbor; to Japan; to Hong Kong; and other ports. He has never set foot on Vietnamese soil but has had plenty of opportunity to observe the land from aboard ship. He states that the coastline looks much like the Oregon coast.

Aboard ship since August, 1966, before taking this first leave, the sailor says that he "loves it at sea." Quarters are somewhat cramped on the destroyer, but regulations are not as strict on the smaller ships as they are on larger ones. The O'Brien is 374 feet long, has a 42 ft. beam, and draws 19 ft. 6 inches of water. It is 6500 tons. Now carrying a full war-time complement, the ship has 14 officers and 300 men.

In his opinion, the war should be "stepped up a little."

He states that he believes it is a "big political game of cat and mouse."

"If they turned us loose, we could have it over in six months," he said.

Weatherford entered service in January of 1966 after graduating from Heppner High school in 1964. He is due for discharge in January, 1970.

The young sailor said that it is "good to get home," but that he is looking forward to going back. He reports that the food is good aboard ship, that he and his shipmates are getting "enough letters," but that they would like to have the nation "get rid of the long hairs, and the riots." Reading of these disturbances "burns them up," he declares, adding, "We don't get much good news from the States."

After spending the first part of his leave here, he will return to Long Beach, Calif., where his wife and son, William Washington Weatherford, IV, are living. He will meet the ship again there, and after undergoing overhaul, it is due to return to waters off Vietnam between March and May of next year.

Weatherford, who has been in the Vietnam area for about six months, has been at Subic Bay, Philippines, where the O'Brien went for repairs; to Pearl Harbor; to Japan; to Hong Kong; and other ports. He has never set foot on Vietnamese soil but has had plenty of opportunity to observe the land from aboard ship. He states that the coastline looks much like the Oregon coast.

Aboard ship since August, 1966, before taking this first leave, the sailor says that he "loves it at sea." Quarters are somewhat cramped on the destroyer, but regulations are not as strict on the smaller ships as they are on larger ones. The O'Brien is 374 feet long, has a 42 ft. beam, and draws 19 ft. 6 inches of water. It is 6500 tons. Now carrying a full war-time complement, the ship has 14 officers and 300 men.

In his opinion, the war should be "stepped up a little."

He states that he believes it is a "big political game of cat and mouse."

"If they turned us loose, we could have it over in six months," he said.

Weatherford entered service in January of 1966 after graduating from Heppner High school in 1964. He is due for discharge in January, 1970.

The young sailor said that it is "good to get home," but that he is looking forward to going back. He reports that the food is good aboard ship, that he and his shipmates are getting "enough letters," but that they would like to have the nation "get rid of the long hairs, and the riots." Reading of these disturbances "burns them up," he declares, adding, "We don't get much good news from the States."

After spending the first part of his leave here, he will return to Long Beach, Calif., where his wife and son, William Washington Weatherford, IV, are living. He will meet the ship again there, and after undergoing overhaul, it is due to return to waters off Vietnam between March and May of next year.

Weatherford, who has been in the Vietnam area for about six months, has been at Subic Bay, Philippines, where the O'Brien went for repairs; to Pearl Harbor; to Japan; to Hong Kong; and other ports. He has never set foot on Vietnamese soil but has had plenty of opportunity to observe the land from aboard ship. He states that the coastline looks much like the Oregon coast.

Aboard ship since August, 1966, before taking this first leave, the sailor says that he "loves it at sea." Quarters are somewhat cramped on the destroyer, but regulations are not as strict on the smaller ships as they are on larger ones. The O'Brien is 374 feet long, has a 42 ft. beam, and draws 19 ft. 6 inches of water. It is 6500 tons. Now carrying a full war-time complement, the ship has 14 officers and 300 men.

In his opinion, the war should be "stepped up a little."

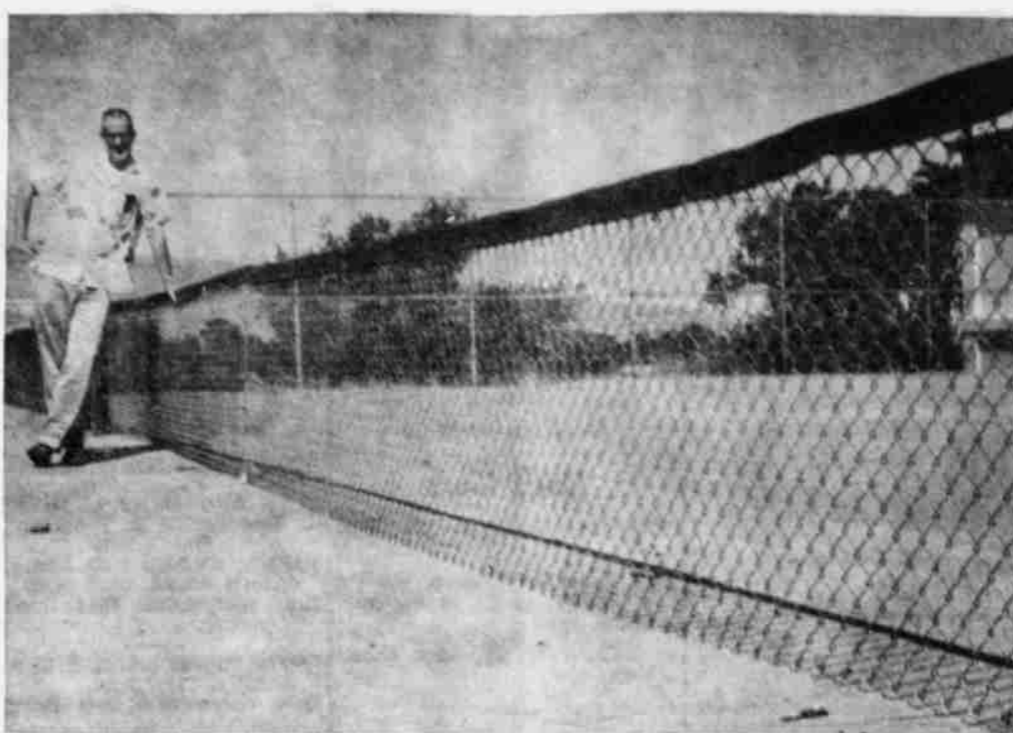
He states that he believes it is a "big political game of cat and mouse."

"If they turned us loose, we could have it over in six months," he said.

Weatherford entered service in January of 1966 after graduating from Heppner High school in 1964. He is due for discharge in January, 1970.

The young sailor said that it is "good to get home," but that he is looking forward to going back. He reports that the food is good aboard ship, that he and his shipmates are getting "enough letters," but that they would like to have the nation "get rid of the long hairs, and the riots." Reading of these disturbances "burns them up," he declares, adding, "We don't get much good news from the States."

After spending the first part of his leave here, he will return to Long Beach, Calif., where his wife and son, William Washington Weatherford, IV, are living. He will meet the ship again there, and after undergoing overhaul, it is due to return to waters off Vietnam between March and May of next year.



A NEW STEEL NET, designed to last for many years, has been installed at the tennis courts at Heppner Elementary school, replacing the frayed and worn nets that yielded to time. Principal Al Martin, standing by the new net, extends an invitation to the public to come and try their tennis skill on the two courts. (G-T Photo).

Scoutmaster Gives Report On Boy Scout Troop 661

"Scouting is a game, not a science," J. G. (Moose) Stephens, scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop No. 661, Heppner, told members of the sponsoring organization, the Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce, Monday.

Among the benefits of Scouting to the boys are getting their first taste of being on their own, learning to get along with other boys, and respecting the rights of others.

The scoutmaster outlined three duties emphasized in Scouting: Duty to God and country, duty to other people, and duty to the boy himself—to keep him physically strong, morally straight and mentally awake.

Troop meetings are held in the American Legion hall on a weekly basis, meeting Monday nights, with emphasis on different things on different nights. Some meetings are scheduled for work on rank advancements, some for a particular Scout activity or game tied to Scouting, and some for general troop meetings.

It is planned to hold a camping trip, or similar activity, once each six weeks, Scoutmaster Stephens said. Several winter camps are held, and a good percentage of the boys attend summer camp.

Older members are planning a 50-mile wilderness trek soon, to be led by Bob Abrams. Winter Olympics is planned for this coming winter with boys from Hermiston, Echo, Condon, Arlington and Heppner participating in such events as snow-shoe races and inertube races.

Advancement of the boys is going "pretty well," Stephens said. Some will soon be ready to become Life Scouts, and a couple may make Eagle by next June.

Troop 661 operates under its own budget, the scoutmaster said. Activities for raising funds include a Christmas tree sale and a pancake dinner. It costs an estimated \$500 per year to operate the troop's activities, and of this, \$200 goes to help send boys to summer camp. A system is worked out whereby the boy benefits from the fund according to the amount of time and toll he has devoted to it, Stephens said.

At the present time the troop is considering ideas for a community service project.

Scoutmaster Stephens said that the troop's sponsoring organization has the responsibility of seeing that the troop has adequate and safe place to meet, and that it has financial means to carry on its activities.

None of these have posed a particular problem recently, he said.

At the present time 37 boys are registered, and about 22 are "fairly active," the scoutmaster said. Others are coming in, and meetings normally bring out about 20 boys. Camping trips find some 18 to 20 participating.

Methodist Church Picnic Scheduled

Annual picnic of the Heppner Methodist church will be Sunday, July 30, at the courthouse park, beginning at noon, the Rev. Mel Dixon, pastor, announced.

Those attending are asked to bring table service and a hot dish, salad or dessert. All members and friends of the church are invited to come.

Metsker maps of Morrow, Gilliam, Umatilla, Wheeler counties on sale at the Gazette-Times.

At the present time the troop is considering ideas for a community service project.

Scoutmaster Stephens said that the troop's sponsoring organization has the responsibility of seeing that the troop has adequate and safe place to meet, and that it has financial means to carry on its activities.

None of these have posed a particular problem recently, he said.

At the present time 37 boys are registered, and about 22 are "fairly active," the scoutmaster said. Others are coming in, and meetings normally bring out about 20 boys. Camping trips find some 18 to 20 participating.

The scoutmaster said that boys who are not too involved in other activities are invited to join the Scouts.

Junior Rodeo Set For Two Evenings At Umatilla Fair

Umatilla County Fair, August 9 to 12, will feature the second annual junior rodeo, scheduled for 7:30 o'clock during the evenings of Friday, August 11, and Saturday, August 12. This event is approved by Western States Junior Rodeo Association.

General manager of this show is Harold Buchanan of Hermiston. Boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 18, who wish to enter rodeo competition, may do so by contacting the rodeo secretary, Mrs. Harold (Beverly) Buchanan, Rt. 1, Box 261A, Hermiston 97838, telephone days, 567-5229, or evenings, 567-5971. A list of rules and events is as follows:

1. To be a contestant, it is not necessary to be a member of the WSJRA (Western States Junior Rodeo Association).

2. Entry blanks available from rodeo secretary or fair office.

3. Entries close August 9, at 8:00 p.m.

4. Entry forms properly filled out and signed, with insurance fee \$3.50 and entry fee for at least one event must be in the Rodeo Secretary before entries close August 9, 8:00 p.m.

5. No entries accepted without the insurance fee.

6. No entries accepted without the entry fee for at least one event. Balance of entry fees due when number is picked up at rodeo headquarters, on the fairgrounds, Hermiston.

7. Entries will be submitted to WSJRA.

8. Rules approved by WSJRA.

9. Two go-arounds, two head starts. In case of excessive entries in any one event a portion of the events will be run off Saturday morning and Saturday afternoon, August 12. A drawing will be held to determine who will participate in these events.

10. All entry fees will be added to purse. Championship buckles will be awarded in each event. Payoff, Saturday night, to four places for each go-around, and average.

Firemen Answer Grass Fire Calls

Heppner firemen answered two calls to grass fires on the week-end, one to the Terry Thompson place on Willow Creek shortly after noon Friday and the other to the Bill Kenney place in Sandhollow Saturday evening.

The Friday fire started along the highway and burned a stretch of about 75 feet. Fire Chief Forrest Burkenbine said Oris Crisp, coming to Heppner, noticed the blaze in the grass, radioed in and asked that the department be summoned. Then he stayed at the scene to help extinguish the fire.

The Kennys said that the firemen responded very quickly to the fire on their place, and the prompt action held it to a small area. Little damage was done. Origin of the fire is unknown.

The fire started along the highway and burned a stretch of about 75 feet. Fire Chief Forrest Burkenbine said Oris Crisp, coming to Heppner, noticed the blaze in the grass, radioed in and asked that the department be summoned. Then he stayed at the scene to help extinguish the fire.

The Kennys said that the firemen responded very quickly to the fire on their place, and the prompt action held it to a small area. Little damage was done. Origin of the fire is unknown.

The fire started along the highway and burned a stretch of about 75 feet. Fire Chief Forrest Burkenbine said Oris Crisp, coming to Heppner, noticed the blaze in the grass, radioed in and asked that the department be summoned. Then he stayed at the scene to help extinguish the fire.

The Kennys said that the firemen responded very quickly to the fire on their place, and the prompt action held it to a small area. Little damage was done. Origin of the fire is unknown.

The fire started along the highway and burned a stretch of about 75 feet. Fire Chief Forrest Burkenbine said Oris Crisp, coming to Heppner, noticed the blaze in the grass, radioed in and asked that the department be summoned. Then he stayed at the scene to help extinguish the fire.

The Kennys said that the firemen responded very quickly to the fire on their place, and the prompt action held it to a small area. Little damage was done. Origin of the fire is unknown.

HOSPITAL NEWS

Patients who were admitted to Pioneer Memorial hospital during the past week, and are still receiving medical care, are the following: Rosa Wetzell, Westfir; Frank Robinson, Lexington; Tommy Schoolcraft, Kinzua; Dorothy Zinter, Ione, and Ida Olson, Heppner.

Those who were given medical care, and were later dismissed, were the following: Eric Lucore, Heppner; Herbert Ekstrom, III, Ione; Kristin Gadeken, Spokane, Wn.; John Rousseau, Condon; Cecilia Webb, Condon; C. N. Jones, Heppner; Dail Turner, Heppner, and Mildred Yocom, Lexington.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Oyler of Kinzua became parents of their first child, a son, born Friday, July 21. His birth weight was 5 lb., 14 oz., and he has been named Don Leon.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Dockter of Ione are parents of an 8 lb., 12 oz. son, born Sunday, July 23. He has been named Mikell Eugene, and joins a sister, Tammie Jo at home. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Hampton of Nyssa, and paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Albert C. Dockter of Rupert, Idaho.

We Will Deliver Your Processed Meat

Free Of Charge To Heppner, Ione, Lexington

WHOLESALE MEATS

CUSTOM SLAUGHTERING SCHEDULE:
MONDAY AFTERNOON
ALL DAY WEDNESDAY
FRIDAY MORNING

Follett Meat Co.
Ph. 567-6651
Hermiston, Oregon
On Highway 101
McNary Highway

Penney's
ALWAYS FIRST QUALITY

STORE HOURS
9 A.M. to 6 P.M.

WHITE GOODS EVENT
Penney's reduces quality sheets!
white and colors!

NATION-WIDE WHITE cotton muslins, 133 count*.

| | |
|--|------------|
| Twin 72"x108" flat or Elasta-fit Sanforized bottom. Reg. 1.89 now | 1.51 |
| Full 81"x108" flat or Elasta-fit Sanforized bottom. Reg. 2.09 now | 1.71 |
| Pillow cases, 42"x36". Reg. 2 for 98 | 2 for .83 |
| PENCALE WHITE cotton percales, 186 count*. | |
| Twin 72"x108" flat or Elasta-fit Sanforized bottom. Reg. 2.29 now | 1.83 |
| Full 81"x108" flat or Elasta-fit Sanforized bottom. Reg. 2.49 now | 2.05 |
| Pillow cases, 42"x38". Reg. 2 for 1.29 | 2 for 1.05 |
| PENCALE PASTEL COLORS: pastels, lt. lilac, and opaline green. | |
| Twin 72"x108" flat or Elasta-fit Sanforized bottom. Reg. 2.79 now | 2.58 |
| Full 81"x108" flat or Elasta-fit Sanforized bottom. Reg. 2.98 now | 2.78 |
| Pillow cases, 42"x38". Reg. 2 for 1.49 | 2 for 1.28 |

*Bleached and Finished

Charge It Today and Save!

All-Stars Lose; Have Good Time

Members of the Willow Creek All-Stars who competed in the district tournament at Hood River on July 21 and 22 had a good trip and lots of fun but were disappointed at losing their two games in the "big leagues."

First game for the 15 boys, coached by Manager Al Boschee and Assistant Manager Lindsay Kincaid, was on Friday afternoon against the Deschutes league team. Led by pitcher Steve Rhea, the Willow Creek boys were ahead until the last two innings of the six inning game when Deschutes managed to build up a one run margin.

On Saturday the All Stars played Hood River at 4 p.m. in the consolation competition. This time they had a larger and faster team to contend with and came out on the short end of an 11 to 0 score. Pitchers for the second game were Dick Snider and Allen McCabe.

Parents who made the trip to take boys and to watch one or both of the games included Mr.

and Mrs. Carl Rhea, Mr. and Mrs. Tim Moore, Mrs. Bob Rietmann, Mrs. Bob Jepsen, Mr. and Mrs. Marion Green, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Prock, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Snider, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Eckman, Mrs. Alice McCabe, Mr. and Mrs. Mel Boyer, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Munkers and Bud Marshall.

Too Late to Classify

LOST—At Heppner swimming pool Tuesday, one pair girl's white buckle sandals, size 2 1/2. Finder please call 676-5562.

NOTICE

Annual Bleakman Reunion will be held Sunday, July 30, at the Civic Recreation Park in Hermiston. Potluck picnic at 1 p.m., friends invited. 22p

Gazette-Times ads pay. Phone 676-9228 for G-T want-ad service.

Emergency Signals --

WHAT THEY MEAN

If you are new to the area, or have forgotten the meaning of Heppner's emergency signals, Fire Chief Forrest Burkenbine reminds of their significance. It is advisable that this be saved for reference.

FIRE SIGNAL (AIR HORN)

City fire alarm—12 blasts, four series of three blasts each, separated by 10 second intervals.
Rural alarm—three blasts separated by intervals.
Noon on Mondays—one blast, except on the first Monday when the full sequence (12 blasts) is sounded as a test in compliance with state law.
Fire meetings—two blasts on the second and fourth Monday evenings of each month.

CITY SIREN

(For flood and Civil Defense alarms only)
Alert for flood threats—Three sequences of three soundings (total of nine), the series separated by 10-second intervals.
Civil Defense alert—Five minutes continuous blast, no intervals.
Notice to evacuate—Continuous blowing of siren with 10 second intervals between each series of three.

TO REPORT A FIRE-- PHONE 676-9109

To Ask Any Questions or Anything Other Than Reporting a Fire, Phone 676-9690

—Forrest Burkenbine, Fire Chief

25 Color TV Sets Due This Week

—1968 MODELS—

Several 1967 Color TV Models on Hand At Reduced Prices SAVE As Much As \$150

ON SOME MODELS

Also on Hand 3 REFRIGERATORS WITH AUTOMATIC ICE MAKERS

- ONE IS ALL REFRIGERATOR
- ONE IS A TOP FREEZER
- ONE IS A BOTTOM FREEZER

Lott's Electric

369 N. MAIN

HEPPNER

PH. 676-5811