

### St. Nick Talks To Youngsters In Christmas Season

By JAMES V. HEALION  
United Press International  
WEST LEBANON, N. H. (UPI) — There will be no lumps of blackest coal in the Christmas stockings of some of the nation's kiddies if this New England town's "Telephone Santa" can help it.

Santa says the gloomy possibility may be reduced or eliminated if naughty boys and girls call him before he makes his annual rounds.

He says he wants to talk to them in particular because he's looked at his ledger and says there's no need of really good boys and girls telephoning him.

"Ho, ho, ho," he says, "Just let me talk to Johnny who won't take his medicine or Mary who isn't doing her homework..."

In his bustling workshop, he took a little breather to tell a reporter, "By Donder, by Blitzen, why, we will just see about that!"

If Mother or Dad feels a certain somebody is not behaving as he should, Santa says he may have the antidote. "Just a note addressed to me will do. It should say whatever it is that my little friend is or isn't doing."

Santa cautions that the telephone number and the time and date he should call also should be enclosed. He began his chores on Dec. 9. He says Mom and Dad should be prepared to accept his collect calls.

Santa is 48-year-old Joseph Schambler who works for the U. S. Army in its Cold Weather Research and Experimental Laboratories in nearby Hanover.

Mrs. Claus is his wife, Frances, who knows a great deal about small children. She has been a 5th grade teacher for many years.

The lightweight St. Nick — he weighs 125 pounds — has talked to some 200,000 youngsters in the U. S. and Canada since 1947. He tells you he likes to hear children laugh. He says, too, that he spent his formative years in various orphanages.

It all began in 1947 when a friend asked him to impersonate Santa and call his children. His fame soon spread. One year, 75,000 children tried to telephone but the switchboards could log only 25,000 of the calls.

Telephone engineers helped Santa in subsequent years. In 1962, he introduced the system of placing return calls he uses now so some children would not be disappointed and because its purpose is a bit more meaningful.

### Ruby's Brother Says Aid Offered

CHICAGO (UPI)—A brother of Jack Ruby said today there has been "a very good response from all over the country" from persons wanting to help pay the costs of Ruby's trial.

Ruby is being held in Dallas for the slaying of Lee Harvey Oswald, alleged assassin of President Kennedy. Oswald was shot on Nov. 24, two days after Kennedy was slain.

Ruby formerly lived in Chicago.

The brother, Hymen Rubenstein, said 300 telegrams and 2,000 letters have been received from "friends and sympathizers from all over the country."

Some enclosed checks or cash, and others made pledges, Rubenstein said.

"There are a few crackpots," Rubenstein said, "but most are very sympathetic with my brother Jack."

Rubenstein said all money and pledges were being turned over to a certified public accountant in Dallas.

The Rubenstein's family lawyer, Michael Levine, said Wednesday that Ruby's two Dallas night clubs will be sold to raise funds for his defense.

### News About Servicemen

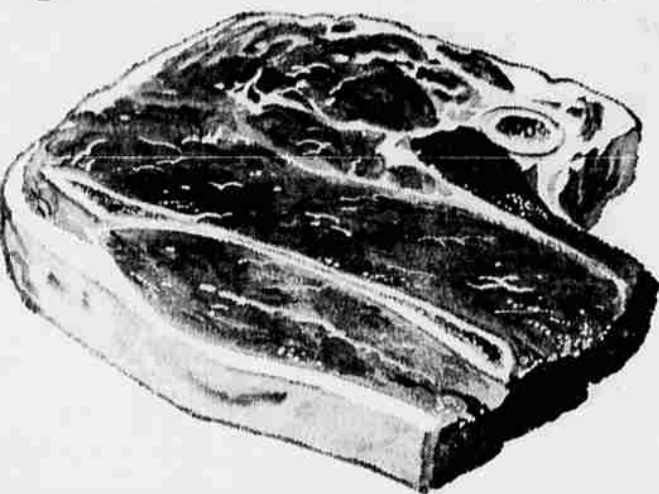
ASSIGNED  
Army Pvt. Lewis L. Neff, son of James T. Neff, 629 Besse St., Medford, was recently assigned to the First Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kan.

Neff, a heavy weapons infantry in Headquarters Company of the division's 63rd Armor, entered the Army last June and completed basic combat training at Ft. Ord, Calif.

The 19-year-old soldier is a 1963 graduate of St. Mary's High school. His mother, Mrs. Mary M. Judy, lives at 2256 Griffin Creek Road.

ON CARRIER  
Radioman Seaman William D. Deckard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul W. Deckard, 904 Summit St., Medford, is now serving aboard the antisubmarine warfare support aircraft carrier USS Kearsarge.

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