

Your Letter From Home

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Sponsors of "Your Letter From Home" heard over KVFD
daily 12:45 p. m., Monday through Friday.

The buck sergeant was invited to a town dance. For number one, he was paired off with a tall and beautiful blonde to whom he had not been introduced. Slightly apologetic, he said, "I'm afraid I'm not dancing well this evening. I'm a little stiff from polo." The tall and beautiful blonde replied coldly, "It doesn't make any difference to me where you come from."

Stranded between trains in a small Texas town, the G. I. wandered into a local pool room. Indicating his desire to play billiards, he was given a set of balls of the same uniform dirty color. "How do you expect me to play with these," said the G. I. "I can't tell the red from the white." "That's o. k. You'll get to know them by their shape."

DEAR JOE: It's winter again. We had a beautiful snow Sunday, about six inches. And then it turned cold and highways to the east and north were blocked. Snow plows plugged along but the winds blew and the drifts filled in again and again. Little boys and girls had a wonderful time. The Red Cross Drive goes along. We are about a third of the way to our goal and the house to house canvass is still to be made. In the last war bond drive, Webster county went over the top—141 per cent. Beat the quota by almost a million dollars. In the four drives, Webster county has invested more than \$15,000,000 in war bonds.

AROUND THE TOWN. Richard Mitchell is the party's candidate for governor on the Democratic ticket. F. C. Frieberger died Sunday of injuries received in an auto crash. He missed the turn at the Duncombe corner. Mrs. C. A. Garlock has been elected state regent of the D. A. R. Ross Likins died at the University Hospital at Iowa City Monday after several weeks' illness. Senator Guy Gillette has the Democratic party in stitches. One day the rumor is "He's going to run," the next day, "he isn't." Mr. and Mrs. William Tonhouse, of Duncombe, celebrated their silver wedding anniversary the other day. 85 friends and relatives met for a party at the Woman's Club House in Fort Dodge. Roy Johnson, former county auditor, died in Denver last Sunday. They'll be flying again. Karl Fantle, W. B. Swaney, Louis Armstrong and Dean Lotta, of Eagle Grove, bought six planes from the government the other day. They'll be based at the airport here. Want to vote in the Iowa primary? The ballots are ready for servicemen. Ask your folks to get a request form at the County Auditor's office. Henry Coughlin, football and basketball great in '16 and '17, died last week at the hospital in Knoxville. A veteran of the last war, he had been ill for years.

SCOREBOARD. Harcourt and Fort Dodge won the sectional finals played at Harcourt last weekend. They now move on to the district tournament at Webster City. The Dodgers meet the Lynx there tonight. The Lynx have been tough this year, just as tough as they were last year when they went clear to the State finals only to lose to the Mohawks of Mason City. So far this season, it's even steven. They beat the Dodgers early in the season, we beat them a couple of weeks ago by ONE point. Hold on to your hats! Harcourt just beat Dayton in the B championship finals, 38 to 33. The Dodgers larruped Churdan, 48 to 14. At Rockwell City, the wonder boys from Barnum took the B championship, defeating Lytton, 44 to 36. Davenport will be the team to beat in the state tournament, if and when. They've won 25 in a row. The U. of Iowa Hawks lost a share of the conference title by dropping the last game to an under dog, Northwestern, 42 to 41. During the season, they set a new record with one 103 point game and with Dick Ives winning individual scoring honors with 208 points.

HERE COMES THE BRIDE. Irma Grünwald and Sgt. L. R. Fertig, of Redding, Iowa, February 26th in Fort Dodge. He is stationed at Clovis, N. M. Vernice Larson, of Bradgate, and Pfc. Durwood Nelson, of Dayton, February 24th at Fort Dodge. Nelson is at Avon Park, Fla. Marguerite Hager and Geo. Trimble, of Lake City, at Lake City, March 4th.

VISITING THE HOME FOLKS. Sgt. Richard Larson, of Ft. Sumner, N. M. Cpl. Aurelio Avelleyra, marine veteran of several engagements in the South Pacific. Lt. Clarence Larson, from Camp Adair, Ore. Cpl. Clinton Carr, from Camp Wolters, Texas. Cpl. Merle Spivak, from Baltimore, Md. Pvt. Clarence Stoufer, from Camp Croft, S. C. 1st Lt. Roy Schonberger, from Indio, Calif. Cpl. James Ford, from Camp Siebert, Alaska. Cpl. Glenn Dencklau, from Camp Shelby, Miss. Robert Ault, from boot training at Farragut. Cpl. Walter Ackerson, from Ft. Jackson, S. C. Robert Keeler, from boot training at Farragut. Cpl. Don Strom, from the air field at Gulfport, Miss. Pvt. Eugene A. Coleman, from Camp Pendleton, Va. M/Sgt. Marion Heath, from Camp Ellis, Ill. He's in a medical lab. there. Sgt. John A. Thomas, from Bakersfield, Calif. Pvt. Clyde Largent, from Camp Lee, Va. Gary Babiner, from Greensboro, N. C. He's now an aviation cadet.

SERVICE PAPERS. Gee! fellas! Do you see what I see! "Lace"—a special drawing for the "Journal of 95th Infantry Division" at Indiantown Gap, Pa. I guess you fellows really rate. Thanks, Cpl. Willard Balm. "Drew Field Echoes," from Tampa, Fla., solves income tax problems on page 12, has a Minnesotan writing a column called "In This Corner" and signed "Adam Cedrics" and has the funniest cartoon of the week on page 4. Thanks, Pfc. Robert Rynd. The "Randolph Rookie" translates into English the song of the week. Yep, honest, there it is, as sober as a judge, "Marsey Doats" becomes "Mares eat oats and does eat oats" and on and on. I always wanted to know. Thanks, Cpl. Q. J. Parker

The "Ft. Meade Post" is an uptown paper. Has the full story of Anne Bullitt's marriage to S/Sgt. Townsend. John Brady, Jr., who is at the camp, is a close friend of Townsends. Thanks, Pvt. Earl Murphy. There's just no accounting for tastes. Look at the ignorance we ran across in "The Rattler," from Pyote, Texas. Freda O'Malle, just out of basic training at Fort Des Moines, says she'd rather be digging ditches in Texas than be a goldbrick in Iowa. and she really means it. But look, Fort Dodge to the rescue. Sgt. Mary Welch, whose home is in Fort Dodge, joined in the conversation when she heard that state mentioned. Seems Freda's bunkmate during basic was an old friend of Mary's. Thanks, Pvt. Floyd Zeka. From Lt. M. E. Kearns, A. N. C. at Stockton, Calif. "Wing Tips" and "The Twin Prop"—a couple of very nice sheets done in offset printing. From Chas. Bird at Tacoma, Washington, "The Keel" a ship yard's publication containing a couple of swell pen and ink drawings by a Fort Dodger identified in the publication as "Swede" Hair. I may not be right but I'd say it was our old fellow townsmen, and one time professional mimic and boxer, Goldie O'Haire. Thanks, Chas. Bird. The "Robins Field News" comes from Sgt. H. P. Davidson at Warner Robbins, Georgia. Thanks H. P. From Carl C. Theiss, WT 2/c, in Hawaii, "Tongs Hawaiian Calendar." Thanks, Carl.

OVERSEAS. John F. McHenry, who is a ship fitter 2/c, is still on the island of New Caledonia. He's been there now fifteen months and the place is getting so civilized the boys now have to wear something when they go in swimming. He and T/Sgt. Jim Rodenborn get together about every week. Kenneth Davis, ship fitter 3/c, is on a dry dock repairing ships somewhere in the South Pacific. Cpl. E. P. McDermott, somewhere in England, is in a battalion made up of men from nearly every state in the Union. Because he is from Iowa, he is referred to as "a fugitive from a corn field." Texans, similarly, are referred to as "fugitives from a cactus patch." Sgt. J. A. Hughes, with the engineers, is stationed in the Aleutian Islands. Pvt. Curtis Sanch, with an anti aircraft battalion, is stationed on an island in the Central Pacific. The men have no showers but they can go swimming every afternoon. The weather is warm but the nights are cool. Curtis hasn't seen anyone from home since he left this state. John C. Plotner, of Cowrie, member of last year's basketball team, is now a seaman 1/c, stationed in the Marshall Islands. Sgt. Harold Knudson, of Moorland, has been wounded in action. He's a radio operator with the field artillery in Italy. Larry Doyle, who is a hardy salt somewhere on the high seas, gets YLFH. The whole crew reads it. Sounds like they were ship-wrecked. Pvt. Jim Chingren is in North Ireland now. He says, "It rains quite a bit over here and everything is green. I miss the old Iowa ice and snow." Jim says everyone rides bicycles and that the movies are all American. He saw the "Maltese Falcon" the other night. Pvt. Alan Geiger is in North Africa. He says it's just like the movies. Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Hill forwarded a part of a letter from their son, S/Sgt. Wesley Hill, who is in Iran, in which he refers to YLFH. We thought we'd publish it verbatim but doggone we got the blushes and we just couldn't. Thanks anyway, Wesley. Thanks for all those kind words.

OVER HERE. Cpl. Ambrose B. Lentsch is now in pre-flight training at Santa Ana, Calif. His brother, Cpl. Frank Lentsch, is overseas. Cpl. Milo Johnson is now on maneuvers at Camp Polk, Louisiana. Pvt. Morris Peterson, who was inducted recently, is now with the engineers at Camp Butler in North Carolina. M. M. Brooks, who was formerly with the Highway Patrol and stationed for a number of years in Fort Dodge, is now a specialist 2/c in the Coast Guard and stationed in St. Louis, Missouri. Lt. Howard B. Johnson is training for combat duty with his own crew of three officers and six men on a Liberator at Tonapah, Nevada. They expect to be ready for overseas duty by May 1st. Aviation student Gilbert Strait, now in training with the navy at Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota, is the scribe for the 13th squadron and writes a column which appears in the "Lift," the training detachment's weekly paper. Very good it is, too. Lt. (j. g.) Wallie Rogers is now at Princeton University. James Jr. Kelly and Case Buffington are at Camp Bennon, Farragut, Idaho. S/Sgt. J. L. Simpson is now at the bomber base at Muroc, Calif. Pfc. Leonard Frank is a motorcycle mechanic now at Camp Howze, Texas. He's only six miles from Gainville, which he says "is a typical old western town. It has the narrow streets, narrow sidewalks and canopies in front of every building." In the hospital, but getting better, is Pvt. Raymond Ness at Camp Wolters, Texas. More power to you, fellow. Sgt. Gus Back and Sgt. D. R. Champ- lin are together in Fort Dix, New Jersey. Pvt. George W. Lundgren is at Keesler Field, Miss. Bob Porter, Mus 1/c, who returned recently from the Bahamas, is now with the personnel unit of the air force at Naval Air Station, Norfolk, Va.

⊛ **YOUNG FELLOW.** Ronald Flickinger, of Callender, was in last week on his way to Minneapolis. He enlisted in the navy when he was three days past fifteen. After 18 months' service in the Aleutians and the South Pacific, he has been discharged because of being under age. He is now sixteen and a half.

⊛ **GOOD FELLOWS GET TOGETHER.** Pfc. Robert Parson, who's with an A. S. T. P. unit at the city college of New York, met Francis Brockman and his wife, the former Ruth Day. Bob was at home with his four-months old son when his wife brought the Brockmans in. Francis is located in Boston but just happened to be visiting New York; and the remembrances of "dear old Fort Dodge" surely did fly . . . Fauncey Bemnio, who is on New Guinea Island in the South Pacific, has his brother, Nuncio, who is a gunner in the navy, with him at the present time. They have been together four days. This is the first time they had seen each other since Thanksgiving, 1942. Fauncey was granted a four day leave so they might be together . . . Pfc. John L. Merrill and his brother met a few weeks ago in England in the village of Ipswich. It was the first time they had met in two years . . . Bill Kane and Milton J. Johnson are together at Camp Peterson, Farragut, Idaho, with six other Fort Dodgers. Dick Williams was there for a while too, but he is now at Bremerton, Washington . . . Pfc. Howard Jordan and Capt. Julian Hogan are together in Camp Adair, Ore. All six of Howard's brothers are in service and are getting YLFH . . . Swell Christmas present. Sgt. Pete Yates and his brother found each other over in Italy Christmas Day and now see each other often. Their outfits are only a few yards apart . . . Merlin Rufer and Dave Lundgren got together in Italy February 16th for a welcome chin fest. Dave is based in North Africa with the air force service command, Merlyn is a T/Sgt. with a Headquarters company anti aircraft . . . Don Eichelberger, SF 3/c, and Art Brown are shipmates somewhere in the Pacific . . . Mary Dolliver has seen Gene Johnson again and also Nurse Ella Mae Kusterer and Capt. David C. Alf-tine, from Gowrie.

⊛ **PRISONERS' MAIL.** Mrs. Hill received a letter today from her son Allison Hill who has been a prisoner in Germany for over a year. The letter was dated September 19, 1943. He says that he had just received his first box from home and a number of letters . . . Arthur DuBois, who was captured in November, got the first card through to his wife this week. He's in Germany, well, and asked her to say hello to everyone.

⊛ **MOVED.** William Morrow, Seaman 2/c, is getting his mail now at San Pedro in California. His brother, 2nd Lt. John Morrow, is stationed in Tampa, Florida, and his brother, Bob, is overseas at a station hospital . . . Clayton Stoner, Shipfitter 2/c, has a Fleet Post Office number now out of San Francisco, but his exact whereabouts is as yet unknown . . . Lt. Floyd Stott is now with the Parachute Infantry, stationed in North Carolina. Floyd left Fort Dodge originally with Company G . . . Sgt. Ronald Wheat, who was on furlough from the South Pacific some time ago, is now in Santa Ana, Calif. . . . S/Sgt. E. W. Maly has been moved to Santa Monica, California . . . Ensign Robert C. Larson has been moved to Beaufort, South Carolina . . . Frank Gustafson, ship's cook 2/c, has been transferred from Jacksonville, Florida, to Norman, Oklahoma . . . Lt. Frank Hellsell is now in New York, awaiting sea duty. He has been at Hutchinson, Kansas . . . To Camp San Luis Obispo, Calif., Pfc. Jon W. Culver. His brother, Don, is a Lt. now in England, after having served in North Africa . . . To Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., Lt. Rita D. McCarville, A. N. C. . . . To the Air Service Command, Replacement Depot No. 3, Fresno, Calif., Pfc. Henry Zeka . . . To Indiantown Gap, Cpl. Willard A. Balm . . . Capt. J. H. McPherson is at the army air base at DeRidder, Louisiana . . . Pvt. E. Q. Zuerer is now on the west coast somewhere near San Francisco . . . To Bushnell General Hospital, Brigham, Utah, Pvt. Walter W. Schuh . . . To the Armed Guard Center at Treasure Island, San Francisco, Lt. (j. g.) A. A. Carlson.

⊛ **HAPPY LANDING.** Lt. Col. Ellis Eno, somewhere overseas . . . In England, Lt. John E. Bice . . . Lt. Jim Tucker is winging his way over and the little wife, the former Donna Haring is home. Jim's pilot of a B-24. While they were in Topeka, they used to see the Charlie Cases, formerly with Swaney's. He's at the army air base in Topeka now.

⊛ **HOME TOWN BOYS MAKE GOOD.** He got one. 1st Lt. Jim Lizer, with the Marines, got a Zero over Rabaul . . . Eldon Nilles is a first Lt. now and has been given the air medal and two oak leaf clusters. He's piloting a Fort out of England . . . He's been praised by his commanding officer for his outstanding work on Tarawa, Marine Sgt. Paul J. Van Bank . . . He's an ensign now, and a blimp pilot in the navy, Clayton J. Pilcher. He got his wings at Lakehurst, New Jersey . . . S/Sgt. Robert Lentz is back in the states after having completed 25 missions in the European theatre. A gunner on a Fort, Bob has several notches on his gun. He's been ordered to report on the west coast . . . He's an ace. Lt. Lowell Baueland, of Callender, a Mustang pilot based in England, got a Junkers 88 and an Me-109 on a raid over Berlin recently to bring his total score to six. He's been in England since before Christmas . . . To Capt. Jack Douglas, with army air forces at MacDill Field, Tampa, Florida . . . He's 1st Lt. William Fennessey now. He is an instructor in bombardiering at Roswell, New Mexico . . . 1st Lt. John E. Ryberg, of Gowrie, is through with his 25 missions and is back home. Bombardier on a Fort, he has the air medal, four oak leaf clusters, and a citation for bravery. He is awaiting reassignment . . . By the time you read this, Ralph Ruebel will be wearing wings. He gets his commission at Luke Field, March 12th . . . He's a modest guy but the word has gotten back that Lt. Willard Olson has an air medal and clusters and such. He's completed 15 missions and is on furlough in Palestine.

⊛ **THE ARMY MOTHERS,** God bless 'em, would like to send you guys and gals a lot of stuff, soap and shoe laces and books and what haven't you. The idea is, have some Brass Hat or someone write and request certain things and as we understand it, the A. M.'s will be allowed to ship certain quantities to you or to your camp.

⊛ **FROM THE FIVE CORNERS OF THE WORLD.** Capt. L. N. Larson, Carlisle, Barracks, Pa., "Yesterday, Vaughn Blaine, (1st Lt. MAC and stationed here) handed me a copy of YLFH and I want to express my reaction to the first copy I've had—it's great! You are providing service people, whether they are at home or overseas, with the most welcome bits of news that come their way. Let me make a special appeal to friends of families of service men and women—especially those overseas. Keep YLFH posted on correct address—receiving this letter will provide a bright day among the many drab ones. I know because I never got one. They have assigned me to faculty of MFSS for the present—a little out of my line but am enjoying the new assignment and comforts of home."

K. F. Davis, SF 3/c, FPO San Francisco, "I've been receiving 'Your Letter From Home' for quite some time now. It's really a great morale booster. Hearing about the home town, and the people in the service from one's home town, is something any fellow likes. All the fellows on my ship think it's really a fine idea, and wish they were receiving one. Lot's of them read mine."

Pfc. R. Stephan, ASTP East Lansing, Mich., "As the twilight period of the A. S. T. P. descends, I want to take this opportunity of repeating my thanks to you all for your efforts in composing and mailing the weekly 'YLFH.' It is a continuing delight."

Lt. Frank J. Sims, Italy, "The boys really know their stuff here, both allies and our enemy. You might call it, 'Big League.' Honestly, though, I really enjoy combat. Of course, we have our close ones at times, but there still is that element of surprise and adventure that every man goes for. I've had some good long talks with a boy from Fort Dodge by the name of Don Hauser, a bombardier on a 'Fort.' We spent an enjoyable evening discussing the old Home Town. A Matt Thompson of our fair city is over here as a Colonel. As yet, I haven't been able to look him up."

S/Sgt. William Caine, North Africa, "I've been just tickled pink to receive a few of your most un-excelled letters. They're tops! You know, after being overseas a couple of years, a fellow sometimes gets a little bit "browned off" as the Limeys say. At such times, there's nothing I can think of that brightens things up more than a good letter from some one from home. That's just where YLFH fills the bill! I was surprised, at first, that such a small piece of paper could contain so much news. On second thought, however, it seems to be a purely logical evolution of the times. After all, spuds, eggs, milk, meat and practically everything else is either dehydrated or condensed—so, why not the news from the Old Home Town? Frankly speaking, I'm PROUD of your letters, and haven't seen anything like them from any other locality.

Pour Quoi all this argument about whether or not we G. I.'s should get to vote? I say, let's forget this election business for the present, and concentrate on getting the war off our hands first. There'll be plenty of time afterward to take care of our own petty quarrels. Maybe I'm wrong, but I believe that's the opinion of most of the fellows over here. All the old Fort Dodge boys here are in good health and only waiting for the day they can walk on Central Avenue again. Well, keep up the good work, and some time when you're near the Mike, give my love to Mom and my sisters."

Pvt. Robert Zeka, North Africa, "We are in North Africa getting used to walking on land after a wonderful cruise! I saw two beautiful white girls over here but that was all." (Two! Got a friend, Bob?)

Pfc. David Larson, Camp Cooke, Calif., "I am in the 716th Engineer Depot Co., which re-issues equipment to the Eng. We handle everything from cranes and tractors to thumb tacks and needles. We must know how to operate all kinds of machinery and tools—along with many other types of work." (Wish I could locate those addresses but we don't have them by camps.)

Paul I. Bergstrom, London, England, "The country over here is very beautiful and if one should take a walk during the quiet of an evening through the country side with hedges on both sides of the road which meanders through a village here and there with thatched roofs, white walled homes, 'tis a sight one can never forget or duplicate in its entirety."

And we had other fine letters from everywhere. Some are acknowledged by reference in the columns of the letter. Much of our news is gleaned from them. Other grand letters came from Pvt. Thomas B. Lentsch, India . . . Cpl. Clarence Youngren, England . . . S/Sgt. V. A. Spinharney, England . . . L. W. Scharff, MOMM 2/c, FPO San Francisco . . . A/C Wendell Watts, Corpus Christi, Texas . . . Arthur Raymond Cote, S 1/c, Pacific . . . Sgt. Robert E. Nickless, APO New York . . . Carl Porter, MOMM 1/c, FPO San Francisco, Calif. . . . Don Mailander, EM 3/c, Michigan City, Indiana . . . Pvt. John Brand, Camp Pickett, Va. . . Pfc. Amzie Yoder, England . . . T/Sgt. Clyde M. Lind, England . . . Lt. (j. g.) J. I. Lynch, FPO, New York . . . Frank S. Gustafson, Norman, Okla. . . . Cpl. T. J. Dowd, Dallas, Texas . . . Rena I. Ulm, Washington, D. C. and Sgt. Robert Sherratt, Camp Howze, Texas.

It's goodbye for now and the best of luck. Send us the news when you can. But first, write to Mother and Dad, Sis and Bud, and the Only Girl in the World. We're all waiting for that great day when you'll be coming home.

Your home town correspondent,
Ed Breen