

Your Letter From Home

The following ditty, composed by an 84th Div. soldier, expresses the feeling of many a Thunderbolt, to-wit:

"I wish I were a porcupine
For just a week or two,
For then I would have points
enough
To come back home to you."

The Hhunderbolt 83rd Div.,
Passau, Germany

Sent To You With The Best Wishes Of
Royal 400 Oil Company
The Fort Dodge Grocery Co.
The Fort Dodge National Bank
Veterans of Foreign Wars
The Gates Dry Goods Co.
The Fort Dodge Creamery Co.
The Fort Dodge Serum Co.
The Tobin Packing Co.

The Elks Club of Fort Dodge
American Legion and 40 and 8
Iowa-Illinois Gas & Electric Co.
Rialto & Strand Theatres
Brady Transfer & Storage Co.
Becker Florists
Larry Geer Ballrooms
Radio Station K V F D

During combat one of the boys was ordered to clean out an enemy foxhole. It was damned risky business because he was outnumbered. Just before he left, he fired things with the boys:

"Listen, pals," he said,
"I'm going to clean up that dugout. If you see three or four men tearing out of that place just be sure not to shoot the first one."

The Sniper,
90th Division,
Weiden, Germany

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Vol. 3, No. 4

WRITTEN EVERY FRIDAY

November 16, 1945

DEAR JOE: Most folks have their storm windows on now and gas stations are busy winterizing transmissions and rear ends, putting alcohol in radiators. Prestone is scarcer than last year. I managed to wangle a gallon the other day and felt very lucky. . . . We are getting on toward winter. It was twenty-five above by the thermometer on the front of the Gas and Electric office as I walked down this morning. Frost was heavy on the grass and on roofs and the sky was low and gray. . . . The wrestling squad started working out at high school Monday evening of this week under a new mentor, Coach Ben Duca. Basketball will be starting soon. . . . New buildings are popping up everywhere and new store fronts. Goodyear is building an addition on North 12th Street. The Tiersneys have a black glass front on their new Pastime Club. The Singer Sewing Machine store is going into glass across from the postoffice. Karl Zakeer is opening a store next to the Dodge Theatre about the first of the year and the Dodge will reopen soon. Both the Rialto and Strand are being refurbished and we still are awaiting a definite announcement on the new theatre for Fort Dodge. Two bottle gas plants are going in. A new building is being built on the corner of Fourth Street and First Avenue South. Several factory buildings and additions are being built out east on Highway number 20. It isn't any wonder that you can't hire a contractor for love or money. I asked a man the other day what bricklayers were getting now. He said, "If and when you can get them, they make three cents a minute." Doggone! If I'd only taken up bricklaying instead of typewriting. . . . The Junior Chamber of Commerce is having its big spread for the 1945 football champions next Tuesday evening. Eddie Anderson is going to speak and some other well known coach. The ticket sale is limited and instead of the Junior Chamber members buttonholing everyone you have to find out and try to get a ticket from him. These boys on the squad are going to do more dining out in the next month than they have done all the rest of their lives. They were at the Rotary Club Monday and they'll be entertained by all the rest of the clubs too. They should be. They deserve it. . . . The High School Football dinner last Tuesday evening was good and the skits were funny. They hit a new high I thought, or a new low, I don't know which. If Dick Wold does as good a job on the gridiron next year at quarterback as he did in his imitation of Dick Stephen, this year's grid manager in one of the skits, I'm for him. High point in the B squad skit was Karl Burch who stands six feet five. He appeared as the bride in a mock wedding with a groom measuring about five feet two. . . . Merrill Leffler, grid captain for 1946 got a great hand when his election was announced. He played a fine game at full back this year and should make a real leader for next year's team. Something for you to look forward to, Joe. . . .

AROUND THE TOWN. Armistice Day was observed in Fort Dodge with American Legion members conducting ceremonies Monday, Nov. 12, in front of the courthouse at 11:00 a. m. . . . Riverside, Calif., police picked up Frank Grell, Jr., recently. He was one of many who escaped from the boys training school at Eldora. Robert Carter, another local inmate at Eldora was caught at Marshalltown. . . . Iowa U. took it on the nose again Saturday losing to Illinois, 48 to 7. That makes it 5 straight defeats in the Big Ten. . . . The shotgun shortage in Fort Dodge is over. Joe Kautzky has 210 single and double barreled guns. . . . Thomas M. Healy will assist in the defense of former officials of the boys' training school at Eldora when the cases are called to trial here Nov. 23. . . . The city is trying to get some portable housing units to alleviate the critical shortage of dwellings. . . . Dwight G. Rider, former district judge, and Co. Atty., Ralph W. Bastian, have formed a law firm. . . . Lt. N. W. Runge is home and will reopen his dental office in the Snell building. . . . The Webster County Motor Corps of the Red Cross now is on inactive status. . . . Just two days after he and his wife observed their 73rd wedding anniversary, Eli Jensen, 94, died at his Duncombe home. . . . Webster County corn is averaging 45 bushels to an acre. . . . Incorrigibles, 67 in all, at the Eldora school, have been taken to emergency quarters at the Anamosa men's reformatory. . . . Carl C. Haugen is at Lutheran hospital. It was the first time in 59 years serious illness kept him from his barber shop. . . . Mr. and Mrs. C. Kehm, on Nov. 7, observed their 50th wedding anniversary. . . . New cars are being exhibited here. They are Ford, Chevrolet, Buick and Oldsmobile. . . . C. E. Warland has been elected 1946 president of the Webster County Farm Bureau. . . . Grant Henry is opening a small loan and finance company. He was with the ATC. . . . The police now are working on permanent eight hour shifts. It is the first change in schedule for more than 20 years. . . . Hunters still are having a tough time trying to get pheasants. There is too much cover for the birds. . . . Mr. and Mrs. George W. Rockey Monday observed their 50th wedding anniversary. . . . Vincent Bohrink, 13-year-old Rockwell City boy, was fatally injured when caught in a corn picker Tuesday afternoon.

ENJOYING MOM'S COOKING. Lt. John V. Mulholland, with the ATC at Dallas, Texas, is home on leave. . . . Pvt. Robert Quealy is here on a 15 day delay enroute to Greensboro, N. C. . . . Pvt. Raymond N. Johnson is here for 15 days. . . . Lt. (j. g.) Don Eno is home for five days. . . . John H. Dodgen, S 1/c, home for 12 days. . . . Pfc. Dale Fiala back from a year overseas has been visiting his folks at Moorland. Now he is back at Camp Bowie waiting for a discharge.

AROUND JAPAN. Lt. George Burnet, Jr., is stationed in Tokyo. . . . Lt. Jack Foley has arrived at Nagoya. . . . Capt. John F. Sulzbach is scheduled to start for home soon.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Pfc. John R. Dessinger is performing guard duty with the 94th Inf. in Czechoslovakia.

AUSTRIA. Pfc. Ernest L. Ullish now is on duty in the Vienna area.

WE PLAY ALL REQUESTS. Send along the address and telephone number of that certain young lady and we will do the rest. Yes, sir. This service is free.

HIGH CS. Robert D. Edison, S 1/c is on the USS Nassau somewhere out of San Francisco. His brother M/Sgt. Richard L. Edison is enroute to the states and headed for a discharge.

DAS REICH. Pfc. Donald Wahlgren is stationed in Germany about thirty-five miles from Nuremberg. . . . Frozen North S/Sgt. Guy Blaskowich is sweating it out in the Aleutians awaiting transportation to the good old USA. "On the island of Amchitka I ran into Art Ross. We had quite an extensive visit. Art expects to start home in several weeks."

COMING HOME. Pvt. Merle Tague writes from China he expects to be home by Thanksgiving. He is the father of six children. . . . Gerald V. Carroll S 2/c, is due to arrive at Seattle aboard the USS Nevada. . . . Capt. Thomas E. Pederson arrived in U. S. Nov. 6 from Japan and will be discharged soon. . . . Dr. Roy M. Vieg was expected home about Thursday. . . . S/Sgt. Clement M. Rist phoned his folks from Boston on arrival from Europe and expects to be home for good soon. . . . 1/Lt. Willard W. James is enroute to Camp Grant, Ill., for discharge. . . . Paul J. Halligan, EM 2/c, is at Minneapolis for his discharge. . . . Wave D. J. Havens AMM 1/c is on her way out of the Navy at Whiting Field, Milton, Fla. . . . Sgt. Dorothy Schubert arrived recently in Boston from the ETO and will soon be home for good. . . . S/Sgt. Francis Collins of Manson is on his way home. "I plan to spend my first civilian liberty at the Laramar. . . . Cpl. Clarence Hyde is on his way home to 512 North Sixth Street, Fort Dodge and hopes to make it by the last of this month. . . . TS Ernest A. V. Ryden is heading

home from Okinawa after thirty-three months overseas. . . . S/Sgt. Ernest R. Peterson is heading home from Caserta, Italy. . . . Cpl. Duane C. Anderson is on his way home from the ETO. "Four of us Webster County boys have been together since Sept. 4th, 1942, twenty of those months have been in the ETO." Duane's next address will be Mr. Duane Anderson, 1833 41st St., Rock Island, Ill. . . . Pfc. Raymond W. Dixon is at Camp Phillip Morris, La Hayre, France, waiting to take the boat for home. By the way I wonder what tobacco auctioneer named those camps over there? Thanks Ray for those grizzly pictures of the dead at the concentration camp. Ray's next address will be 920 2nd Avenue North. . . . Pvt. Clarence A. Forslund is at Marseille waiting for the boat. "As far as I know it is going to be a liberty ship so I'll probably be hanging over the rail most of the way. I won't mind that though." Clarence's next address will be 1225 6th Avenue North. . . . Lt. Dorothy Anderson Lundquist of Dayton has been on the way home ever since the middle of September and still is at Camp Carlisle, France. "I won't believe I'm home until I see Dayton with my own eyes."

HAWAII. Pfc. Clifford Hahn is stationed at Oahu.

NEW GUINEA. Cpl. Ernest Kockorsky is in New Orleans, but expects to be home by Christmas.

GERMANY. Cpl. Orval Steburg has been transferred to Bamberg, Germany.

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OVER HERE. T/Sgt. LeRoy B. Parsons is back in the U. S. from China. . . . Lt. Bruce Leffer now is at Westover Field, Springfield, Mass. . . . Eugene Sweeney, S 2/c, met Jack Holmquist in San Pedro recently while on liberty. . . . Sgt. Theodore Maier is back in the States from Japan. . . . Pfc. Dale J. Fiala now is stationed at Camp Bowie, Texas. . . . F/O Charles Heringlake has been transferred to Mac Dill Field, Fla. . . . Capt. Charles F. O'Connor has arrived at Fort Leavenworth from the Pacific theatre. . . . Bruce Kenyon RDM 2/c, is at Portland, Ore., having arrived from the South Pacific. . . . Stanley Ecklund, S 2/c is at Great Lakes, "a member of ship's company working for the commissary department, a glamorous name for chow hall workers". . . . Walter S. McGill BM 2/c says hello to all the gang from Bainbridge, Md. . . . S/Sgt. Marvin J. Peterson is stationed at McCaw General Hospital, Walla Walla, Wash. . . . Charles R. Clauss SK 3/c says hello from Cleveland, Ohio to Mickey Castignoli and to all the fellows at the Tobin Packing Company. "If any of them get over this way have 'em look me up." . . . Sgt. Lloyd S. Larson is at Maxwell Field, Ala. . . . Pvt. Richard E. Heinlen is with Co. B, 67th Eng. Tng. Bn. Eng. Tng Section, North Fort Lewis, Washington and apinin' to see and talk to some guys from Calhoun County. . . . Sgt. R. Z. Lloyd is leading the life of Riley at Ashford General Hospital, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. "This is probably the ritziest general hospital Uncle Sam has. It used to be the Greenbrier Hotel. The idle rich used to come here for the mineral baths and to take the water." . . . Pfc. Charles Fritz is at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., issuing discharges to officers. "As for myself, I expect to be here until the last discharge is issued." . . . Harold Holm AMM 1/c of Duncombe is at the Naval Air Station, Alameda, Cal. . . . Raymond E. Ault is at the US Naval Air Station at Corpus Christi, typing discharge papers and wishing he could type one for himself. . . . Pfc. Maurice Peterson is back from overseas and is now at Camp Polk, La. . . . Major C. W. Reece has been home for a while in Gowrie and now back in Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Arkansas.

JUST REWARD. Bronze star to Capt. L. F. Smith. . . . George Smith from Lt. to Lt. Comdr. . . . Charles N. Hamilton, T/5 to Sgt. . . . Purple Heart to Pfc. Richard B. Stell. . . . Bronze star to Capt. Jasper C. Knoll. . . . Robert T. Bird from Pfc. to Cpl. . . . A meritorious service unit plaque has been awarded to the 3,198th Battalion and Fort Dodge members are Sgt. Milo Voss and Pfc. John S. Doud. . . . Kenneth E. Gilbert from Pfc. to T/5. . . . Eugene F. Pingel from Pvt. to Pfc. . . . Chas. L. Fritz, Pvt. to Pfc. . . . Marvin J. Peterson, Pvt. to Pfc. . . . Clifford Hahn, Pvt. to Pfc. . . . Kenneth J. Quinn, T/5 to Sgt. . . . Glenn A. Christians, SM 2/c to 1/c. . . . Maurice V. Peterson, Pvt. to Pfc. . . . Harold G. Powell, 2/Lt. to 1/Lt. He is stationed at Adack in the Aleutians. . . . Howard Anshutz, Pfc. to Cpl. . . . Clyde Caldwell, Cpl. to Sgt. . . . Paul Zierke, Cpl. to T/4. . . . Berwin E. Goodrich, Sgt. to S/Sgt. . . . Edward Crawford, Cpl. to Sgt. . . . Robert G. Wickwire, Pvt. to S/Sgt. . . . Melford Johnson to MM 3/c. He was in South Pacific when typhoon struck around the Yellow Sea. . . . C. B. Baumann, Pvt. to Pfc. . . . Roland G. Wendelken, Pvt. to Pfc.

DOWN THE CENTER AISLE. Doris Wertz to Glen Bowers here Oct. 2. . . . Mrs. Veon Shourek to Glen Merrill at Chicago, Oct. 30. . . . Colleen Atherton to Robert Evans here Oct. 5. . . . Paula Featherling engaged to Ens. K. T. Hinton. . . . Mrs. Claire Faiferlick to Leo Schwinghammer here Nov. 10. . . . Pauline Ondrejka to Edwin Staver here Nov. 17. . . . Gertrude Yeager to Bernard Hall here Nov. 14.

HOME FOR GOOD. Pfc. Emil Heggen of Harcourt received his discharge from the army November 5th. He had been in 45 months, 35 overseas with the 37th Air Depot Group, Medical section. . . . Pfc. Wendell Reed is back from Italy, out of the army and home for good. He's going to help his father sell insurance. . . . Cpl. Earl Umsted is back from Guam, back in Dayton, home for good. Earl was in the south seas 34 months. . . . W. H. Schubert is out of the army and now living at 516 Madison Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama. . . . T/Sgt. Francis Porter is out of the army and living at Monterey, Calif. On Oct. 5th he married Miss Mary Rodriguez. His brother, Lt. Col. Roy Porter is heading home to join his wife and two sons at Cedar Rapids. Sgt. Garland Porter is in Camp Haan, Cal. . . . Lucian Peterson of Callender, is home for good after many months of service in the ETO. He landed on the coast of Normandy on D-Day as a tank driver and carried on until he was wounded in the Battle of the Bulge on Dec. 22, 1944. Since then he has been hospitalized in Paris, England, and finally in the USA. His brother, James Peterson, AMM 3/c, is on the USS Boxer and at the present time is in Taku, China. . . . Harold L. Moen of Rutland, is back from Germany, out of the army and may be reached at Rutland, Iowa, Box No. 72. . . . Clyde Legg of Duncombe, is a civilian once more and home for good. . . . John Tabot received his discharge from the Navy the third of November, and is now at Stanton, California, and may be reached through general delivery. . . . Hubert R. Hood is home for good and is living at 1226 Ave. B, in Fort Dodge. . . . Eddie P. Larson of Dayton, got that discharge on Oct. 31st, and is now back home. Eddie was with the 90th Division. . . . Cpl. Virgil E. Cannon got home for good on the morning of November 14th. . . . Miss Florence Dixon of Gowrie, was discharged from the Marine Corps on the 25th of October, and is home for good. . . . S/Sgt. Cecil Julius, late of Scott Field, is home for good, out of the army, a civilian once more. . . . T/Sgt. Donald R. Kling, late of Camp Robinson, Arkansas, may now be reached at Fort Dodge, RFD 1, and now its Mr. Donald Kling. . . . Robt. E. Engquist is out of the army and is living at 1033 21st Street, Des Moines, Ia. . . . Sgt. Richard Cleveland of Badger, is back from Whitehorse, Canada, after spending three years in the frozen North. He was discharged in St. Louis. . . . Sgt. Ward Anderson of Pomeroy, is out of the army, home for good. Thanks Ward for the patch of the 6th Armored Division. . . . Sgt. Joseph F. McCarville is out and will return to work at Sieg-Fort Dodge Co. . . . Lt. Herbert L. Whited, AMM 2/c. . . . Major W. K. Cooper plans to locate at Cedar Rapids

... Pfc. Floyd E. Worrel... S/Sgt. Dick Wreiman, who was a German POW for 13 months... Cpl. Robert Leiss... Cpl. Raymond Medlin... Thomas N. Powers, CPhM... Herbert Sayre... Cpl. Philip L. Burch... 1/Lt. Justice Becker... T. L. Curvey, out of coast guard... Sgt. Gordon C. Raymond... 1/Sgt. John Burk is back to work at the International Harvester Co... R. E. Cleveland, MM 3/c... Genevieve Frye, PhM 2/c... Pfc. James Elliott has returned to his work with the U. S. Gypsum Co... Pvt. Don Weishaar is again working with the Colonial Furnace Co... Sam E. Cannon, S 1/c... Pvt. Donald R. Peterson... Pfc. Mitchell M. Malloy is back at the Reliable Cleaners... Pfc. Alexander Daniel again with Daniel Tire Co... Pfc. Henry A. McCaffrey... Richard M. Taylor, AM 3/c... Cpl. Joe Youngstrom, Jr... Robert W. Ottoson, CSF... T/5 Chester F. Smith... John E. Hinks, SM 1/c... A/C Deon Gadbury... 1/Lt. Clare McGowan on terminal leave... SPAR Irene Phipps Gunderson and her sister, WAVE Neva Phipps Thompson... Pfc. James Grell is home and is returning to his former job with Certain-teed Products... Pvt. Karl R. Johnson is out of the air corps... John Vanderhoff, MoMM 1/c, after three and a half years... S/Sgt. Lee Hedded... Kenneth Bastian, Chief Specialist... T/Sgt. John Cumming... Stuart Kutz, AMM 2/c... Frank Schnell, EM 1/c... M/Sgt. Richard Edison back from Europe... William Denyes, out of the coast guard... Pvt. John E. Heun of Duncombe... S/Sgt. Raymond E. Stringer... Lt. Harold Cook and his brother, Cpl. Melvin W. Cook... T/Sgt. Judson Adams... Pfc. William H. Williams... S/Sgt. Garth P. Hinkle is home and is working at U. S. Gypsum Co... Howard L. Prime... Richard Rosien, SM 2/c... Cornell Wing, Mus 2/c... Cpl. Raymond Kehm... S/Sgt. Walter Schubert... Gerald Tooley, S 1/c... Dorothy J. Havens, MM 3/c... Raymond H. Grunwald, EM 1/c... Russell Spangler... Sgt. Lawrence J. McCabe... Pfc. Curtis Sanck... Cpl. Bernard Hayden will work with his father until he can get in at Ames, where he will study agriculture... Pfc. Verlyn Langerman... Sgt. Vernon R. Young... Lt. Charles D. Anderson... Cpl. John L. Kapp... Pvt. Charles F. Bailey Cpl. Thos. W. Johnston.

SCOREBOARD, Dodgers 27, Shattuck 0. It was the ninth game, the charity tilt. In their stride the Dodgers had taken Albert Lea, Boone, Sioux City Central, East Waterloo, West Waterloo, East Des Moines, Roosevelt, Des Moines, Mason City and now we were up against a big smart team from Shattuck Military Academy at Fairbault, Minn. The Dodgers were undefeated and untied. They were undisputed Big Seven Champions. So far as Fort Dodge was concerned they were state champions. One more game to go. And go they did. Every man in the Dodger starting backfield scored. Wasem, Constantine, Potter, and Leffler. But the Shads were no pushover. The Shattuck line was big and active. They outweighed the Dodgers about three pounds to the man. And the Shad backfield was a honey with two men there who would make anybody's team. Carleton Magoun, a Sioux City boy, their Captain and backfield triple threat man was as smart and dangerous as anyone the Dodgers met all season. This Shattuck team had lost only one game and they had scored in every game they played, 'till they met the Dodgers. They never quit trying. It was a ballgame from one end to the other. They made nine first downs to our thirteen and gained 155 yards to our 217. But when the chips were down and the Dodgers goal was threatened the Dodgers held. And on the touchdown plays the Dodgers' blocks were sure and the Dodger backs crashed over. Heinie Wasem went around end in the first quarter from the twenty-five yard line for the first touch down. Constantine set up the next touchdown with a long bullet pass to John Fieseler on the five yard line. Leffler drove to the one foot line and George Constantine went around end to score. The next touchdown came as the result of a Shad fumble. The Dodgers got the ball on the twenty-eight. From there Constantine went to the thirteen and from there Leffler plunged over the goal. Magoun got a bad pass from center a little while later and was thrown on the twenty-five where the Dodgers took over. Constantine and Leffler worked the ball down to the three. From there Al Potter went over on a quarter back sneak. Bob Brown, who has been doing a sensational job kicking points after touchdowns got three out of four to make the final score, 27 to 0. In the second and fourth quarters Coach Marquis gave the sophomores and juniors a chance to show what they'll do next year. They look very good.

DREAM TEAM. Coaches and players and fans dream of championship football teams. And with every fall hopes are as bright and too often as brittle and as soon dispersed as autumn leaves. We had held on to our dream a long time. As the years passed we looked back to 1919 and 1918 and 1916. Good teams came and went, great backs, great linemen, teams we loved and were proud of. But each year something happened. The perfect season was denied our best efforts. In 1933 we lost to Mason City 2 to 0. 1943 saw a resurgence in Dodger grid fortunes. There was every reason to believe that a great line and a great backfield sparked by Dick Woodard would win through to a perfect season. No one will ever be able to explain logically why we did not win the East Des Moines game that year. We could have beaten that same team any other day with one hand tied behind us. But that day we were ineffective. It was a heartbreaker but we lost and the perfect season went glimmering, lost by five points. 1944 came. We trusted and believed and it seemed again that our dream might come true as George Knack and Joe Carpenter ran wild against top-flight opponents. But it was not to be. In mid-season the team lost its back field aces and we lost two games and a possible tie for the Big Seven championship by one point. But you can always dream can't you and there's always another year. So on August 31st in YLFH I wrote, "The 1945 edition of the Dodger grid machine is in practice now, big, rugged, fast—potentially another great team—more versatile than 1944, faster than 1943"... This year the dream came true. It was a great team, from end to end, from center to fullback. For the record let's name that first team as we saw it in most of the games. Captain and left end, Fieseler; left tackle, Horn; left guard, Arnold; center, Robinson; right guard, Hutchinson; right tackle, Erickson; right end, Eide; quarterback, Potter; left half, Constantine; right half, Wasem; fullback, Leffler. It had the courage, the confidence, the know how of a great team. Against Sioux City Central and East Waterloo it played such football as you dream of. If ever these sixteen and seventeen year old perfectionists faltered it was against West Waterloo, curiously enough the low man on the totem pole in the Big Seven race. They gave us our only real scare of the season when for one half of the ball game we didn't seem to care whether the dream came true or not. But luck that so often has played us an ill trick was that evening playing with the Dodgers... The so-called experts, the boys that see three or four games a year when the weather suits them will now gather in a smoke filled room and select a mythical all state team. I could save them a lot of trouble. The Dodgers are the state's dream team. They're the best. Pick the whole team, gentlemen. Make it unanimous... One last word, this team is a great team off the gridiron as well as on it, everyone a lad that you'd be proud to know. Above all else they were great because they played football as a team and not as a collection of stars. And now they are a team to remember, an inspiration to the teams that will follow, a great team adding lustre to a great Dodger tradition.

SERVICE PAPERS AND INSIGNIA. The Seabee Journal from Norman L. Rosen, S 2/c, on Samar Island. Thanks, Norman... The Thunderbolt, from Pfc. C. E. Smith, with 83rd Infantry Division in Passau, Germany. Thanks, C. E... The first Thanksgiving greeting and it comes from the India, Burma theatre from T/Sgt. Embert F. Jessen. Thanks, Jay... The Tezgaon Times from Cpl. Floyd Zeka, from Tezgaon, China. Thanks Floyd... The Thunderbolt of the 83rd Division from Pfc. R. R. Harp, Passau, Germany. Thanks, Rosette, and also for the Sniper of the 90th Division, published in Weiden, Germany... The Final Edition of the Boringuen Field Aeronaut, from S/Sgt. Harold E. Campbell. Thanks, Harold.

PACIFIC. R. G. Ditzberger ARM 3/c is somewhere out that way... Basil Brown, S 2/c, when last heard from was on the USS Comet headed for Pearl Harbor... Pfc. Cliff Hahn is in the Hawaiian Islands with the biggest recreation outfit in the world. "And about one of the prettiest places I have ever seen"... Major John R. O'Connell is now with his hospital outfit at Okinawa enroute to Japan... Pfc. Charles Fortney is in the hospital on Okinawa with some kind of tropical fever... T/4 Paul Zierke was at Yonabaru, Okinawa, during the typhoon. Their sections was without tents for awhile after that. "When we saw the Seabees

steel huts torn down we knew our tents couldn't take it. I sure don't want to see another storm like it"... O. J. Anderson, Mo MM 2/c, is on a ship bound for Saipan to pick up some troops there. "And then to the good old states. I am eligible for discharge and should be home around Christmas"... Lt. Edward Keiler is with a mine sweeping outfit at Fukuika, Japan. His brother, Capt. Leo G. Keiler is at Esing-tao, China... Pvt. Dick Sheker is with the 80th General Hospital a couple of miles from Manila. He says hello to Larry Geer and to Fred Cooper... S/Sgt. D. D. Soldow, USMC, stationed in Hawaii, saw the name of WAC Cpl. Pollyanna J. Onnen, Fort Dodge, listed among the dead in a recent air crash, and sent the clipping to YLFH. When the wire report came in we attempted to locate relatives of Miss or Mrs. Onnen, but she was not known in Fort Dodge, Iowa. It is possible that she may have been from Fort Dodge, Kansas. Thanks, Sgt... His fifth time out of San Francisco, Larry Doyle, RM 2/c, is now on the island of Samar. Bob Taylor is stationed there at the air strip and so is Larry's brother. Don Engleman is also there stationed on a floating dry dock out in the bay... Sgt. Edward W. Crawford is on Tinian, where he witnessed the return of the last B29's to bomb Japan. "The sight of 200 planes landing within an hour at night was a sight worth seeing" Ed is doing GCA radar work, a radar system which has to do with the landing of planes in extremely bad weather... John R. Malloy, QM 3/c, has been making trips between Okinawa and Japan and Leyte, Luzon and Japan. He has the required number of points and the Navy willing should be on his way home soon... S/Sgt. Robt. Wickwire of Lehigh, had his folks pretty worried for awhile. They hadn't heard from him in a long time. He was thirty-seven days on a ship going from northern Luzon to Japan. Bob finally was landed at Moriake. He says the weather there is very cold.

FROM THE FIVE CORNERS OF THE WORLD. J. E. Tonsfeldt, Sm. 3/c, USS Robert E. Peary (DE132), New London, Conn. "At present we are in New London, Conn., working on a binocular experiment. Each night we go to sea around 4 P. M. and return in the morning between 2 A. M. and dawn. We are field testing binoculars which have been perfected in the laboratory. Recently we have been discharging between 10 to 15 men every two weeks. As of today, I have 393 days before I leave this outfit. Oh, happy day. I'll be home for Christmas 1946."

M. J. Porter, F 2/c, USS Basilon, A. T. 68, Shanghai, China. "It is sure hard to keep up with the money here in Shanghai. The exchange rate today is \$900.00 to \$1.00 of ours, so if you buy a meal and your check comes for \$1500.00, you don't want to get excited, it is only about \$1.35 in American money and you don't get very much for that, either. I have gone on a couple of educational tours through the city; but as a whole, as I see it, China is pretty destitute. Every one is on the street trying to sell every thing from shoe strings to silk kimonos and don't worry, they know what the American dollar is and they know a service man is the one that has it, too. They charge him twice as much as any one else. It seems unbelievable the way they live. They have about half enough clothing and it is not warm here at this time of the year, especially at night but I have found the conditions about the same everywhere I have been. I think Manila is about the worst I have seen. In Manila you think nothing of paying 75c to a dollar for an egg sandwich and 25c for a cup of coffee. For a serviceman to buy any souvenirs he has to pay a young fortune for them. Take for instance a grass skirt, you pay all the way from \$5 to \$8 for one and when I was here before in peace time you could buy the best one they had for a dollar. Their grass slippers now they get \$2.50 for them and we used to buy them for 40c."

Pvt. R. D. Dickerson, U. S. Marine Corps Depot of Supplies, Barstow, Calif. "This camp is located in the Mojave Desert. It's so dry out here that they have to water the cacti. At night you can hear the twenty-mule teams going into Death Valley for borax. Ha! I've been getting the YLFH right along, and of course I enjoy receiving it—especially so because of the football section. A lot of us former Dodgers, at least me, get a little uneasy when we see the competition we'll be up against in J. C. I may be prejudiced, but I still think if George Knack and Joe Carpenter would have lasted the season out, our '44 team would have finished undefeated."

Max Kanner, 1215 9th St., Sioux City, Iowa. "You are speaking about discontinuing YLFH. I do believe that would be a shame. If conscription comes through and I am sorry to say it looks like it might, the servicemen will in peacetime need something like this letter just as much as in war time. Perhaps more so, since in war time he feels a necessity for serving, which he will never quite feel in peace time. I for one would be all for it and be willing to help all I can to keep it up, as soon as I move back to Fort Dodge, which I trust will be before too long."

Cpl. Howard Anshutz, 17069297, 98th Ord. H. M. Tank Co., Kassel, Germany. "Here is a note of interest on this town of Kassel. It was bombed as a reprisal raid for Coventry, England. The boys didn't miss, either. It is the most beat town I have seen in Germany. Guess I have seen most of Hitler's hangouts. Munich and Nuremberg and Berchtesgaden. When the war ended we were South and East of Lenz, Austria. That is where we ran into the Russians. Ran into Lt. Jack Jones and Capt. Jim Rhodes the other day. They are stationed at Giesson, about 85 miles South of here. Hope we can get together again. Also ran into Elmer Aurand and Jim Caccopio up on the Siegfried Line during combat."

Sgt. C. L. Caldwell, Hq. Sq. XIII Bomb Com., Fort Stotsenburg, Clark Field, Luzon, Philippines. "Have run into and been with many Iowa fellows, but only three from Fort Dodge. Jack Collins, Joe Stapleton and Carl Leiss. Joe Stapleton was with the 321st Medical Supply at Guadacanal. Met in Nov., 1943. He must be back home by now. Jack Collins was with the 398th Signal Company Aviation also at Guadacanal and we have been together all the way here to Luzon. Jack will be on his way home when you get this letter and also Carl Leiss whom I met and worked with at Moratia, Dutch East Indies. Also worked under Major Eugene Smith, command flight surgeon at Guadacanal. He is from Waterloo. Left San Francisco in Sept., 1943, landed at New Caledonia in October. From there to Guadacanal where I was assigned to and have been ever since with the 13th Bomber Command Hq. 13th AAF, better known as "The Jungle Air Force"—and how true. Next went to Los Negros, Admiralty Islands, from there to Moratia, Dutch East Indies, and at last some civilization here."

Pfc. Darrell D. Peterson, Btry C, 167th F. A., Hiro, Japan. "I was up to Hiroshima yesterday with my truck to get supplies and I got to see the place where that atomic bomb hit—and was that ever a sight. For 7 1/2 miles there's not even a blade of grass standing. The bricks and stones that the buildings were made of, were just powder. Boy—I just couldn't believe my eyes. I can see now why they gave up so soon. Ha! I was talking to a Jap soldier that could speak some English and he said that people 40 miles away were knocked down by the blast. Sounds hard to believe doesn't it—but it's true."

Pfc. William Armstrong, Co. A-341st Inf., Luzon, Manila. "Yes, Ed, since I've been in the Army I've really covered territory. Since February of this year when the outfit was in California, we've gone across the states, to France, into Germany and were well into Austria on V-E Day. We pulled out and were the first complete division to return to the states for redeployment. You may remember the publicity the 86th Blackhawk division received last June and July. We left the Golden Gate behind us with the echoes of the pre-mature V-J Day celebration still ringing in San Francisco. What they sent us over here for no one will ever know. We certainly aren't needed and they surely didn't send us 9,000 miles to play ball. We are stationed in a camp just outside Manila. The door is open and the welcome mat out to any and all Dodgers in the area. Tom Dorsey is still in the regiment. We've been together since we enlisted. Bob O'Connor was in the outfit but was wounded in Germany. Heard he had been discharged and is back at the University. That's about all for now. Keep up the good work—there are still Dodgers scattered around this globe even though your "Home for good" column is growing. It won't be too long though. Tell Alan I send my regards wherever he might be now."

And so Joe we come to the end of another letter. The mail, that good mail from everywhere continues to pour in and much of it brings the good news that you are coming home. Boy, it can't come too soon. I hope it may be by Thanksgiving or Christmas or New Years. If worst comes to worst, let's make it a date for the first day of Spring. Be seeing you, Joe.

Your home town correspondent,
Ed Breen.