Whiskers come in many colors,

Often on one chin. If you find the blond ones numerous, Your beard may look quite

From the "Willie Bee" of the U. S. S. Wilkes Barre

## Your Letter From Home Sent To You With The Best Wishes of

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 & 8

Radio Station K V F D

The Fort Dodge National Bank
The Clinic Pharmacy and Supply
Iowa-Illinois Gas & Electric Co.
Fort Dodge Tent & Awning Co.
Rialto & Strand Theatres
Dr. Macdonald's Vitamized Feed Co.
Brady Transfer & Storage Co.
The Becker Florists
Larry Geer Ballrooms

Radio Station K V F D

"Your Letter From Home" heard over KVED 1-11 To 15

Oh little whiskers on a Chin, That foolish places you What fo You cover one man's rosy cheek And leave another's smooth and sleek.

From the "Willie Bee" of the U. S. S. Wilkes Barre

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

Vol. 2. No. 22

WRITTEN EVERY FRIDAY

March 23, 1945

DEAR JOE: This afternoon, struck with the spirit of spring housecleaning, I was going through the old files of this little sheet. You know I'd have sworn, bet money on it that these missives had always started "Dear Joe." But I'd have been wrong Number 1 of Volume 1, printed October 29th, 1943, began "Happy Hallowe'en Everyone." It talked about the hunting season and a follow over Everyone." It talked about the hunting season and a fellow over at Manson advertising shot gun shells at \$5.00 a box. Of course, today everybody would know that was a gag. Another paragraph noted the fact that Bill Cadwell, former mayor, was pulling up stakes and going to Houston, Texas. Now Bill is back and running for mayor again . . There is an underground movement, a grass roots movement, a ground swell or something, to write in Bob Rankin's name for mayor in next Monday's city election. Bob denies his availability but G-2 reports that the campaign is well organized and well supported. Bob is just out of the hospital . . Getting back to those early letters, the second one began "Good Morning Soldier." There wasn't a line on the back of the first two letters as bare as Mother Hubbard's cupboard. Down in the right hand corner of each one, we'd written a kind of personal note which began "Dear Joe." Everyone says G. I. Joe today but that was before Clare Boothe Luce and many cartoons and movies and songs and Joe came to us from the expression, "a good Joe." On Dec. 17th, letter Number 8, "Dear Joe" moved to the upper left that was before Clare Boothe Luce and many cartoons and movies and songs and Joe came to us from the expression, "a good Joe." On Dec. 17th, letter Number 8, "Dear Joe" moved to the upper left hand corner and there's where we've been meeting ever since. In those first days the letterhead had the names of only six sponsors. One of them was the station KVFD. Of the other five, three still are there. I'd like to do a very special bow for them this lovely afternoon in March. I shall never forget them. I'm sure you won't either, The Gates Dry Goods Company, the Tobin Packing Company and the Fort Dodge Creamery. After them came many others who generously contributed their share toward making this weekly visit with the old home town possible. There's hardly a letter reaches my desk that does not say, "Please thank all the sponsors and tell them how much YLFH means to us out here." And so for all of you, as I look back to that first issue of October 29th, 1943, I say to all our sponsors, "Our sincerest and most heart-felt thanks, gentlemen, to you who have contributed so generously, aided so greatly in making YLFH possible."

© ENJOYING MOM'S COCKING. Capt. Eldon G. Mills from England. He's completed his missions... Home for good with an honorable discharge is Ernest Welch from Iran... Sgt. George Adcock from Lubock, Texas... Lt. Herb Lefler from Washington, D. C... T/Sgt. Lee Peterson, of Gowrie, from Sioux City air base... Richard Carlon, PhM 1/c, of Gowrie, from the South Pacific

... T/Sgt. Tom Swartz, of Gowrie, from North Camp Hood, Texas
... Cpl. Allen Swartz is also home enroute to Florida ... Pvt. Clifford Lawson, of Gowrie, from Camp Shelby, Miss. .. Pvt. Francis Otto, of Gowrie, and Pvt. Eric Nelson, from Camp Gordon, Ga... Pvt. Donald Johnson, of Gowrie, from Camp Wolters, Tex. .. Russell Zenor, RdM 3/c, from Hartford, N. C. .. Curtis Anderson, of Gowrie, is home from the Marine hospital in Chicago ... Pfc. Joe Di Noto, after 13 months in the Pacific ... Sgt. Clare B. Smith, from Tallahassee, Fla. .. Darrell Wayne Bailey, AMM 1/c, from the Pacific ... Pvt. Robert Rice, from Ft. Knox ... Cpl. William R. Jones, from the Pacific ... Pvt. Robert Rice, from Ft. Knox ... Cpl. William R. Jones, from the Pacific ... S/Sgt. Dean "Pat" Saigh, from the Aleutians ... Nielan F. Wille, G. M. 2/c, and his wife from Washington, D. C., enroute to Great Lakes ... Peter Lang, Cox., from the Pacific. On leaving here, he goes to Jacksonville ... T/4 Herman Kail, from Ft. Dix, New Jersey.

Two Hearts that Go Pitty-Pat. Norma M. Filby, of London, England, and Sgt. Gerald Willoughby, of Rockwell City, in London, April 7th . . . Ethel Otto and Kenneth Ryerson, of Emmetsburg, in San Francisco, March 1st. Ken is in the Navy . . . Elizabeth Ann McKinnion, of Longview, Texas, and Capt. Lewis D. Baughman, in Williamsburg, Va., Feb. 24th . . . Beulah Lehman and Cpl. Kenneth Clamo, of Chicago, March 3rd in Seattle, Washington . . . Florence Holst and Petty Officer Leo Loots, March 22nd, in the Deercreek Trinity Lutheran Church . . . Florine Johnson and Kenneth G. Bowers, March 4th, in Long Beach, Cal. . Loretta Carroll and Leo J. Delamore, PhM 1/c, of Clare, April 2nd, in Fort Dodge . . . L. Joan Genco and Petty Officer Dale Wise, of Manson, in Fort Dodge, Sunday, March 11th . . . Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Sandquist, of Dayton. They were married 50 years ago on March 15th. This year on Sunday, March 18th, they held open house for all their friends and relatives.

house for all their friends and relatives.

Chome Town Boys Make Good. He is now Major C. Bernard Hamilton and stationed in the New Georgia islands . . . To 1/Lt., in the Marines, Robert J. Hogan. He is operations officer with an aircraft group . . The Bronze Star to Pfc. Don Sullivan . . . The Bronze and Silver stars to Sgt. Marshall E. Bickford . . . Bronze stars to Sgt. Joe Nemecheck in Germany. To Major, L. K. Brueland, P-47 fighter ace in England . . Bronze star to Sgt. V. L. Smith on Guam . . The Silver star to Pfc. C. A. LaCaille on Leyte. To Lt., Miss Frances Knutson in the ANC . . The Silver star to Pvt. Earl Messerly for saving the life of a Dutch child at the risk of his own . . Wings and a commission to Joe E. W. Segar at Waco, Texas, last week. . The Silver star to Sgt. Harold Knudson with the 3rd Division in Italy.

son with the 3rd Division in Italy.

\*\*OVER HERE. Geo. B. Sweeney, S 2/c, is in engineering school at Great Lakes . . . C. P. O. Ray A. Brown is at Camp Endicott, Rhode Island . . . Mrs. R. C. Sharp, S 1/c, says a couple of "hellos" from Chicago to her sister, Cleo Beck, H. A. 1/c, in Gullport, Miss., and to her brother, S/Sgt. Paul Beck, in Southern Italy, and to Margaret Laurent in San Diego. Mrs. Sharp is at 87th and Anthony Avenue, and is pinin' to see other Dodgers in Chicago . . . S/Sgt. John D. Suer is in the hospital at Salina, Kansas . . . M. H. Charley Chase, Ph. M 3/c, is at the U. S. N. Hospital in San Francisco . . . Lt. (j. g.) H. E. Freyer is at the Naval Training Station at Newport, R. I. . . Lee Hagen, S 1/c, AOM, is in training at Jacksonville, Fla., hoping some day to be part of a combat team on a PB 4-Y . . . . Faye Jurisin, S 2/c, is in the hospital in Washington, D. C., with "cat fever and also a bad case of tonsilitis. They really treat us super here. Two girls to a room with private bath and radio." . . . Pvt. Earl Martin is in Camp Croft, S. C. Thanks, Earl, for "The Spartan" . . . A sympathy chit from Pvt. Geo. L. Brehm, Kinston, North Carolina. Thanks, Geo. . . Scott Pfaff is now in O. C. S., Fort Benning, Ga. . . Pefe Nilles, TM 3/c, is at Arlington, Wash.

Wash.

G PACIFIC. Sgt. Eric C. Dangelowsky, formerly of Tobins, is on Iwo Jima with the 5th Marine Division. As of March 6th "everything is well in hand." . . . Sgt. Major Arthur Gallentine, U. S. M. C., is in the Pacific with Service Squadron 44 . . . Servia Thomas Vandi, AMM 2/c, is somewhere in the Pacific. The censor cut out the rest. "There's something about a censor." . . . Don E. Bruntlett, S 1/c, of Gowrie, is in the Admiralty Islands . . . Don J. Stedman, S 1/c, is in Oahu. "Honolulu is a bust, very much on the carnival side, and the native villages are native villages. Don't trade Webster County for Oahu; you'd get a terrible trimming." . . . Lloyd W. Garrod, EM 3/c, is on a very hot island in the Pacific. It was 125 there the other day . . . Pvt. Warren Slawson is in the Palau Islands . . . Lt. (j. g.) Frank Barry is in the Pacific and—Attention Dodgers—if you see the AKA-24, come aboard.

GOOD FELLOWS GET TOGETHER. WAC Lillian Vit and Sgt. Enfrid Johnson at Indiantown Gap Hospital. Enfrid came there from Hammond Gen. Hospital at Modesta, California. "This is my fifth trip across the states since I came back in May"... Lorraine Becker and Helen Carlson, C. N., are at Jefferson Barracks, Mo... S/Sgt. Robert Knudson and Sgt. Strom at Ft. Meyers, Fla. Back from overseas, Bob is being trained for central fire control on a B-29... S/Sgt. Bernard Ferden, Bob Larson, Jimmy Spencer, Leo Tierman, all of Rolfe, and are all in the 6th Division in the Philippines.

CLA BELLE FRANCE. Pfc. Robert Sherratt is in France with the fighting 103rd Division. For a while his C. O. was Dodger Capt. Acher now Major Acher. With a new address Bob we'll see what we can do to getting YLFH through to you . . . Stan Ulrich is back out of Germany, and a candidate in O. C. S. in France. "In town we have a Red Cross Canteen and it surely is swell. These madamoiselles do a very good job of jitter-bugging" . . . T/4 C. W. Graffunder, of Webster City, spent four months in Nice, "a really swell place." Now he's moved farther north in France . . . Cpl. Rex Moore is somewhere in France . . . . Pfc. Richard Stell, somewhere in France, says "hello" to everyone at home. He's longing for the day when he can go back to work at good old Tobin Packing Company. Thanks, Dick, for the French money . . . Pfc. R. J. "Bob" Paulin is somewhere in France . . . Pfc. R. B. Schwieger and Earl Knutson, somewhere in France. and Earl Knutson, somewhere in France.

and Earl Knutson, somewhere in France.

MERRY ENGLAND. Harold R. Yeoman, PhM 2/c, is somewhere in England... Sgt. Stan Sestak, over in England, is dispatcher of gear-jammers in the base motor pool... Sgt. Robert and Pfc. Gilbert Zabrosky, of Humboldt, twin brothers, have been together in the army ever since they enlisted in 1940. They are now in England.

HIGH C'S. Leon A. Liljegren, S 1/c, of Gowrie, is on the U. S. S. Alaska. Thanks, Leon, for the "North Star."... Mel Allan, SC 1/c, is somewhere out that way on the U. S. S. Wilkes Barre. Thanks, Mel, for the "Willie Bee"... Ronald Wearmouth, Cox., is somewhere out that way on the U. S. S. Hyman.

SUNNY ITALY. Pfc. Devine DeSmidt is with the 827th Bomb Squadron in Italy.

O DAS REICH. Sgt. John E. Scully is somewhere in Germany. MOTHER INDIA. Somewhere along the Ledo road in Burma, T/5 Stan Widlund is looking for boys from Manson and Fort Dodge. The APO is 218.

The APO is 218.

SERVICE PAPERS AND INSIGNIA. From somewhere in India, a picture of Hawrah Station from Lt. Col. Fred O. Kelso, with the India Burma Air Transport . . . A brochure of Treasure Island from Neal V. Irvine, G. M. 2/c. Thanks, Neal . . . "The Hump Express" from Pfc. Floyd Zeka, somewhere in the C. B. I. Thanks, Floyd . . . "The Crow's Nest" from F. S. Gustafson, S 1/c, San Clemente Island, California. Thanks, F. S. . . The "Aieran" from Phil Dorweiler, S 2/c, Hawaii. Thanks, Phil . . . Vol. 1, No. 1 of N-A-D, Air Transport Command, from Lt. Eugene Soppeland. Thanks, Lt. N. A. D. stands for North Atlantic Division. The paper will have a name soon—one description of the vast extent of shoreline this command embraces, from Bermuda to the Arctic . . . The Eastern Defense Command Patch from Cpl. Ray Finck. Thanks, Ray . . . A map of the Pacific and the good old U. S. A. from Pvt. Melvin V. Wehrheim. "O marks the spot where I am (The Marianas) and X marks the spot where I'd like to be." X could be Iowa, could be Fort Dodge. Could Be . . . A swell picture from John C. Wiley, SK 3/c, who is in the Commissary store at Farragut. Thanks, John . . . A snapshot of the mountains in Italy, also a photo of a home made Italian binder being driven by Sgt. Jim Stapleton, of Co. G., from Pfc. Ray Peed. The binder is being drawn by what looks to me like a water buffalo. Thanks, Ray. We think that's a good idea and we are working on it . . . R. C. Freed, S 2/c, sends us the Commissioning issue of the U. S. S. Gilbert Islands, Navy's new aircraft carrier. new aircraft carrier.

PANAMA. Lt. L. G. Sampson has been in Panama since March of 1943. "As far from the war as you at home." His brother, Pvt. Walter Sampson, is with the infantry in Belgium.

G FROZEN NORTH. Pfc. Earl H. Ball is in the Aleutians.

PHILIPPINES. S/Sgt. Milton Cottrell is a sea going soldier. "I'm in the Philippines. My job is on a boat. I've only been on land once since we came out here." Thanks, Milt, for the Jap money... Cpl. V. L. Anderson is out of New Guinea and up to the Philippines. "Where the people pride themselves on keeping clean. It's the first time my clothes have been ironed since I left home better than two years ago.",,, T/4 Russell Brewer is in the Philippines, "and it sure is heaven compared to New Guinea." it sure is heaven compared to New Guinea.

G FROM THE FIVE CORNERS OF THE WORLD. Pvt. Walter F. Brown, APO 562, New York. "I just received my October 27th issue of Y. L. F. H. and was very surprised to find a letter from my little cousin, Matthew Lingreen, who wrote the letter in Jr. High School. Quite a co-incidence, eh, Ed! I give my YLFH to a M/Sgt. Fitzgerald in my outfit, who is a former Fort Dodger, and he says he surely enjoys them. This is my second trip to France and I hope it's the last. I don't want to see any more of the world, I just want to come home. The mail is quite "snafu" over here, and a M. P. outfit, which I'm in now, doesn't have much of a priority." (Thanks, Walt, for the Ranger patch, first I've seen.)

(Thanks, Walt, for the Ranger patch, first I've seen.)

Cpl. L. R. Folvag, New Caledonia. "I have been receiving the YLFH and have enjoyed it immensely. Now, however, I am mad. You mentioned in the Feb. 23rd issue that you hadn't heard from a G. I. who would care to live in Texas. You'll have to retract that statement, 'cause here's one that does and will. I was stationed at Camp Welters for almost a year, and while there I was married to a Fort Worth girl, and we will make our home in Fort Worth after the war. Now, aren't you sorry? I have lived at Badger for years and also Eagle Grove. I haven't gone back on Iowa, but can't a man have two loves? I've been stationed on this rock for almost 21 months now. It will be a lovely day when I leave it." (Just goes to show what 22 months in New Caledonia will do to one.)

Pfc. Jee Ritts, APO 98, San Francisco. "My compliance with your request for data concerning the individual G. I. will be delayed for months to come. As yet, I have not been found worthy to wear decorations which would make me a life member in the ranks of the battle-worn and wounded veterans. None wish to become members of those ranks, for deep within we are not heros, but pieces of humanity struggling to survive, in order that we may return to our own little worlds, which we, fighting for democracy's sake, are in the process of saving from the hands of the crazed and most sensuous and materialistically minded. War's Grim Toll always sensuous are warded to the control of the crazed and most sensuous and materialistically minded. sensuous and materialistically minded. War's Grim Toll always meets my eyes with hesitancy, for I know some wonderful mother is amidst a veil of sorrow, washed by tears, in that her loved son has died for this cause. Each week the column is decorated with new names, but little attention is paid in tribulation to those from which life has been drawn. At night just before I lapse into restless slumber, I see the millions of Tonys, Bobs, and Bills who won't be with us when the victory is won. To these flies nightly a humble gesture of beyish devotion, they have died so that I may live." live.

Pic. Vacilli P. Vannoni, APO 34, New York. "I got back from Rome several weeks ago. I was very fortunate in getting to spend my rest period there at the U. S. Army Rest Center. I had a wonderful time, swimming, dancing and enjoying the sights of the eternal city for six days. It surely was a relief from the old grind on the front lines." front lines.

T/4 Willard Carlson, Oahu Island, Hawaii. "We are now in the middle of nowhere with pineapples on all sides. Pineapples everywhere and I might add, we eat our share. In fact they are beginning to look like cactus."

ning to look like cactus."

Jehn F. Estlund, EM 3/c, Newport, R. I. "You've no doubt heard of Pier 92 in New York City as being very similar to a concentration camp—well this place has it beat! With all the regulations and stuff they've got here it will be a pleasure to go to sea again—maybe that's the idea! I read in one of your letters I received recently that Lt. Frye is here too. But I'm quite sure he doesn't have anything to do with all this misery the enlisted men have to put up with here. (Iowans don't do things like that!) By the way, while on the other side I met a fellow in one of the P. T. squadrons, who used to live in Fort Dodge and now has his home in New York. He said he and Chester Smith (of the Fort Dodge Messenger) used to play together when they were kids. His name is Mike Murray. Maybe some other Fort Dodger remembers him."

W. C. Nowlin, CM 2/c, San Diego, Calif. "Since getting in the navy W. C. Nowlin, CM 2/c, San Diego, Calif. "Since getting in the navy I have spent twenty-two months in San Diego at the Training Center teaching recruits chemical warfare. But that got awfully center teaching recruits chemical warfare. But that got awfully tiresome so I requested sea duty. I'm now thirteen miles from San Diego—out in the middle of the sage brush. Which way is the Pacific? I met one boy here from Palmer, Iowa. I don't know his name, as all he had on his shirt was 'Iowa Kid.' Too bad you can't have pictures in the letter. I know a lot of the names, but I can't remember what they look like."

Major W. G. Arneld Roading De "It Vice Too Both and De Company De "It Vice Too Both and De Company De Too Both and De Too Both

Major W. G. Arnold, Reading, Pa. "Lt. Vyva Kerr came to Philadelphia enroute to her new station, Cherry Point, N. C., and is spending 3 days with us here in Reading. Lt. Kerr is doing the high spots of Reading and Vicinity, both military and otherwise. Many interesting historical sights from "George Washington Slept Here," to why Reading is the pretzel and hosiery center of the world."

Cpl. Harold Carl, APO 659, New York. "Oh yes, another question on G'loans. I want to rent a farm on a 50-50 basis after the war. Can I get a loan to buy farm equipment? The answer is "Yes.")

viewed by him and he asked me about you and Charlie Rubenstein.

Capt. W. C. Thatcher, APO 464, New York. "I would like to send you a copy of our unit paper 'The Scalpel,' but the censor says no at the present time. I cannot see why because the drivel published in it would surely not be of value to the enemy, but it is very amusing to us. A recent issue carried a 'Profile' a la New Yorker and the title was 'A Woman's Doctor in this Man's Army.' Yes, you guessed it, the danged thing was about me. We are located in a very beautiful city, one famed for its art and culture, fine old buildings and its one remaining bridge. It has famous towers but they are all straight, don't lean a bit. We haven't been very busy this winter and have had lots of time to visit art galleries, famous places and go to the operas. This is quite a different life than we lived a year ago on the Anzio beachhead. Today is a red letter day for me because today I did my 1000th operation. In two years and fourteen days overseas that's quite a bit of surgery. About what I would expect to do in ten years at home. In this group of 1000 patients there were two boys from Fort Dodge and thirtyone from Northwest Iowa."

There were lots of wonderful letters this week from everywhere. Most of them we've acknowledged on way or another. There were others from Pvt. Cecil C. Markley, Hunters Point, San Francisco, Calif.; S/Sgt. Chas. A. Garlock, APO 8, New York; W. M. Skophammer, HA 1/c, FPO, San Francisco, Calif.; R. D. Teichert, Monmouth, Illinois; Chaplain H. G. Belsheim, APO 411, New York; and Lt. Edwin C. Degner, APO 528, New York.

Wonder how it will feel when Peace comes. Wonder how it will seem that day when I can sign the last letter, write the last line. Wonder how you'll feel and where you'll be and what you'll do. Here at home we're making plans. We're going to try to stay in bounds. But when that glad day comes, it's going to be pretty hard to stay sane and sober. This horror of war has been with us so long, we're apt to act pretty silly when we are once free again. But the great day is coming. We won't have to wait long. Good luck, pal. Wonder how it will feel when Peace comes. Wonder how it will

Your home town correspondent,