Husband, answering the telephone: "I don't know. Call the weather bureau."

Pretty young wife: "Who was that?"

Husband: "Some sailor, I guess. He asked if the coast was clear."

Your Letter From Home

Sent To You With The Best Wishes Of

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.

Radio

Co.
Bank
S Iowa-Illinois Gas & Electric Co.
Co.
Brady Transfer & Storage Co.
Becker Florists
Larry Geer Ballrooms
Radio Station K V F D

A rich man lying on his death bed called his chauffeur, who had been in his service for years, and said: "Ah, Sykes, I am going on a long and rugged journey, worse than ever you drove me."

"Well, sir," consoled the chauffeur, "there's one comfort—it's all downhill and you won't need any gasoline."

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

Vol. 3, No. 6

WRITTEN EVERY FRIDAY

November 30, 1945

G DEAR JOE: The weather has been beautiful, colder but clear for the most part. We had a little snow, just enough to say we had some. Youngsters got out their sleds and pushed snow shovels around and dogs had a fine time frisking around in it. This is a gay day with the crisp November air full of warm sunshine. It hardly seems possible that Christmas is just around the corner. But it is. Central Avenue is strung with evergreen and the lights that haven't been lit for three or four years seem brighter, more festive than ever. When you go places at night it's good to see so many of your friends, nearly everyone wearing a discharge button. On the air you hear Christmas carols and Santa Claus and the Cinnamon Bear. And beautiful little boys and girls with tiny voices and shining faces and great big wonder-filled eyes are listening intently to hear their letters read or they are coming to the microphone themselves to talk to Santa... The river is frozen over with that smooth blue ice that comes with the first sudden freeze. We were down to Loomis Park the other day testing a new transmitter and receiver for the police radio system. Bill Johnston, city commissioner, was along and the city manager of Webster City and sheriff of Hamilton county. The City is going to shift over to FM for police radio ... The teen agers had another dance at the Laramar Wednesday night, the second of the series that is being sponsored by the City Recreation Commission ... Duncombe has a toy factory now. I'm kinda late with this story. It's been going since last July and is turning out several hundred elaborate toys every week and employs about forty people the year around. Plans are in the making for a new building and more employees ... The hardest thing to buy in Fort Dodge is a white shirt. The newest gift on the market is the wonder pen that sells for \$12.50, has a steel ball bearing in its tip, writes on cloth or under water, makes up to eight carbons and like a camel needs refilling only once every two years. Then you send it the fa

AROUND THE TOWN. Some farmers just don't listen or heed advice when it comes to operating corn picking machines. There have been far too many cases of death or serious injury all fall. The latest victim was Albert Mankelein, Pocahontas, whose left lower arm was amputated . . . About 25 per cent of Webster County corn is still in the fields . . . The trial of Carl Klatt, former guard at the boys' training school at Eldora, is attracting many to the courthouse here. The case was brought here on a change of venue. Klatt is accused of second degree murder in the death of Ronald Miller at the school Aug. 29. State witnesses have testified Miller was badly besten with a harness tug by Klatt. The trial is expected to last three weeks . . . The Community Players put on their first show Tuesday night and it went over big. Next show is planned for February . . Alvin Larson, 10, who was accidentally shot Tuesday with a .22 rifle at the home of his grand-parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Fisher, died last night . . . Sheriff Joe McMahon and Asst. Co. Atty. Horace Melton returned from California late Sunday night with Frank Grell, Jr., 17. Young Grell escaped three times from the Eldora school for boys and now will be tried for robbing the Jackowell grocery store . . . Dr. Harold T. Larsen has resumed his practice of medicine . . Wendell J. Reed is the local agent for the State Farm Insurance companies in Fort Dodge . . . Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Lewis, Thanksgiving Day, observed their 60th wedding anniversary . . Earl Youngstrom, son of Co. Clerk Joe Youngstrom, has been named as an alternate to West Point.

West Point.

3 ALL-STATE DODGERS. Fort Dodge prep gridders were recognized for their prowess on the gridiron by winning places on all-state teams. Foremost were John Fieseler, 1945 Dodger captain, and Irv Robinson. Fieseler won an end position on the Iowa Daily Press Association first team and Robinson was named first team center. These two also were picked for the same positions on the Des Moines Register all-state eleven. Henry Wasem was named on each of the second teams as a back. George Constantine was picked as utility back on the third team by the I. D. P. A. and half back on the Register's sixth team. Register honorable mentions went to Paul Eide, end; Vern Horn and Roy Hutchinson, tackles; Lowell Erickson, guard; Allan Potter, quarter; Merrill Leffler, fullback. The I. D. P. A. honorable mentions were Erickson, Eide, Horn, Joe Arnold as linemen; Potter, Leffler as backs.

Son, Eide, Horn, Joe Arnold as linemen; Potter, Leffler as backs.

3 DOWN THE MIDDLE AISLE. Burnita Suer to Donald W. Seaton at Cedar Rapids, Nov. 22 . . . Maxine A. Schive to Jack Widener here, Nov. 25 . . . Lilyan Wright engaged to Raymond F. Hunt . . Jeanne Bendixen to Maurice Manchester at Lundgren, Nov. 24 . . . Darlene Michehl to Milan Macek at Vincent, Nov. 18 . . . Patricia Crouse to Robert C. Kriete at Kansas City, Nov. 13 . . . Gertrude Holst to Stanley Larson here, Nov. 18 . . . Fern Trost to Glen W. Behrens here, Nov. 18 . . . Elizabeth Kelso to Clark Cummings at Greensburg, Ohio, Oct. 25 . . . Dorothy Smith to Thor Nicodemus at Colfax, Nov. 18 . . . Patricia Fitzgerald to Ens. James A. O'Brien at Dubuque, Nov. 17 . . . Margaret M. Meyer to Joseph Martin here, Nov. 19 . . Olga Rubas to Albert J. Machian here, Nov. 4.

COMING HOME . . . Helen Flaherty, RM2c, is on her way home from San Pedro, Cal. . . . Cpl. Earl H. Ball is on his way home from Japan . . . Cpl. Glen Nordstrom now at Childress, Texas, will be out of the army and home soon . . . Harold D. Fishel, BM1c, is leaving the navy and will soon be home at 417 D Street, Fort Dodge, Iowa . . . Eugene J. McMahon, Cox., is in Shanghai on his way home. "Our ship struck a couple of mines in the Yangtze river a few weeks ago and we are on our way home for repairs. If I don't make it that way I'll have enough points the last of January." . . . Lowell J. Thorsness, CWO, is leaving Annette Island, Alaska, soon for the states. His younger brother is still on Adak and his older brother, Ray, is either out or soon to be out of the Navy . . J. A. Wiley, SK3c, is leaving Farragut, Idaho, and expects to be home by the 10th of December . . . Sgt. Vernon Fiderlick is at Lowry Field and about to be discharged from the army . . Dale S. Rebman, BM 2/c, is on his way home to be discharged . . James K. Roberts, AM 3/c, is being discharged November 27, and then will be coming home . . . Sgt. Carl L. Youngquist is on his way home . . . Lt. (jg) George Schnurr is on his way home from the Pacific theatre . . . Pfc. Donald M. Miller is expected to arrive soon from the west coast . . . T/5 Ralph Butzier has arrived at Wilmington, Calif., and will be home soon . . Lt. Charles D. Anderson and James F. Brehm, RM 2/c, are returning from Hawaii . . . Comdr. H. C. Kluever is enroute to the states from Hawaii . . . Cpl. Richard T. Machovec is on his way home . . . Pfc. Roger Howard is expected home soon.

SERVICE PAPERS AND INSIGNIA. The Stationair of the Naval Air Station, Hilo, Hawaji, T. H., from Harvey C. Weiss, CY, US Navy. Thanks, Harvey . . . The last issue of the "North Star" and a very beautiful one, too, from Sgt. Tom Dowd who is sweating it out with plenty of points but no replacement at Edmonton, Canada. Thanks, Tom.

© COMING UP. Francis E. Hart, Pfc. to Cpl. . . . Verne L. Kinnee, Pvt. to Pfc . . . Merle F. Howard, Pvt. to Cpl. . . . John G. Thobaben, Pfc. to T/5 . . . Fred O. Kelso, of Duncombe, from Capt. to Col. . . Walter J. Anderson up to T/4 . . . Raymond Johnson from F 1/c to EM 3/c . . . Franklin W. Carr, Cpl. to Sgt. . . . Howard C. Elmore, Ensign to Lt. . . . Roger J. Brown, HA 2/c to HA 1/c.

☼ JUST REWARDS. Bronze star to Lt. Blain Asher, Jr., for distinctive service . . . Bronze star to M/Sgt. Cecil C. Cowan.

♦ SMALL WORLD. Cpl. Fred J. Miller and 1st. Lt. Hartman who used to work at the S and O, in Giessen, Germany. A short time later Fred got together with Lt. Jack Jones.

SEASON'S GREETINGS. The season's greetings and a swell letter from T/Sgt. Bob Kurtz who was in the ETO and is now in Nagoya, Japan. Bob says, "The government controlled industry here is advanced and modern. In a recent visit to the Mitsubishi air craft factory I could understand why the Nip was a tough customer." . . . The season's greeting from Pvt. Earl E. Martin. Thanks, Earl.

⚠ WE PLAY ALL REQUESTS. No Fooling. But please send the address and telephone number of that lovely creature. No, it's not what you think. We only want to tell her that you are thinking of her and that we are going to play the song that you've requested and when we are going to have it on the air. Christmas is just around the corner. If there is any little service that our personal shopper can do for you, just drop us a line. And that reminds me, let me be the first to wish you a Merry, Merry Christmas.

SEND US YOUR NEW ADDRESS . . . Yeah, with sugar on it.

G HOME FOR GOOD. T/5 William D. Arnold is back from New Guinea, out of the Army and getting ready to go back to farming near Palmer. . . Ed Chalus is out of the service, back home at Clare . . . He is now Mr. Merwin E. Lyall and is back at his home town, Dayton. Last previous address, Lt. Merwin Lyall, APO 321, San Francisco, Cal. . . Sgt. Abraham Kourey is now home at 2120 4th Avenue North . . Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Thompson are both out of the service and are making their home at 2142 F Street NW, Washington, D. C. . . . He is now Mr. Merle Meyer and back home at Humboldt . . Bertil Carlberg is out of the service and back home at Stratford . . . Helen Peed is out of service and back in the old home town. "The first week of civilian life has been 4.0." . . . Tom Timmons, Jr., of Lehigh, is out of the service and back in the old home town . . W. J. "Fritz" Schrandt who used to work at the Fort Dodge Creamery is now out of the service and back home at Stacyville. There Fritz is working in a bank . . . Cpl. Dale Miller is out of the service and back home in Somers . . . Sgt. Joseph C. Cahill is back at work in the post office . . . David Lundgren again is with the Webster County Abstract Company . . Lawrence Segretto, CPO, from the Pacific, is back in his dad's grocery store . . Sgt. George Hively is back after 34 months . . . Max Whitman will again be with the Iowa-Illinois Gas and Electric as a salesman . . Olaf Larson has a job in Minneapolis . . Lt. Nels Glesne is home on terminal leave . . The four Messersmith brothers, James, Reuben, Virgil and Verne, are home . . . Cpl. Robert F. McGough is back after 46 months . . . Dan Johnson is home from the Marines, at 1110 South 21st Street . . . Bruce Ken-

Nov. 16. No further information was given.

3 JAPAN. Sgt. Don Brand is in Japan sweating it out. He has 66 points . . . R. C. Dowd, S 2/c, who recently took a cook's tour thru Hiroshima, says the Japs there are very bitter and he can understand why, but the children "struggle with their vocal chords to say 'hello' but it usually sounds like 'herro' instead" . . . Otis A. Lindhart, of Lehigh, is now on the USS Rogers and anchored in Tokyo Bay . . Cpl. Robert J. Lentsch is at Sapporo, Japan . . . T/5 John E. Mann has been transferred to Shikoku, Japan . . . T/Sgt. Robert Kurtz has arrived at Nagoya, Japan . . . Bernard Wagner is in Japan . . . Sgt. James Whitehill now is in Japan.

PACIFIC. Emil H. Slotten, S 1/c, is on the USS Pudget Sound. He was at Tokyo for a while and is now on his way to Saipan . . . Pfc. Verne L. Kinne is on Rocky Saipan, where his outfit has run 60,000 men through a casual depot and started them on their way home. . . M. L. Intermill, F 1/c, now in Okinawa, hopes to be home next spring.

© GERMANY. Pfc. James A. Christian recently suffered a fracture of a bone in his neck in a motorcycle accident in Frankfurt, Germany. He will be hospitalized three weeks.

many. He will be hospitalized three weeks.

OVER HERE. Cpl. Lloyd Pohl is now at Sherman Field, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas... Cpl. C. L. Norlin, USMC, is now with the division of Public Relations, News Room, Crocker First National Bank Bldg., San Francisco, Calif... Doris Anderson is now at 119 Trenton Place, SE, Washington 20, D. C. She'll be home for Christmas... Gerald Williamson, HA 1/c is on the staff of the USN Hospital at Oakland, California... Duane R. Tepfer, AM 3/c, is now at San Diego, Calif., Division 8 of the Inspection Department... Walt S. McGill, BM 2/c, stationed at Bainbridge, Md., had Thanksgiving dinner with friends in Philadelphia... Lt. Alan V. Breen is at Camp Pickett, Va., about to go to the ETO... Lt. Alan Geizer is at Camp Lee, Va. He will receive six weeks MG training and go to the ETO... Capt. Richard W. Merryman has arrived on the west coast... T/5 Delbert Hoover, back from Europe... Sgt. Merle E. Enfield has landed at New York City... Maj. Howard Gamper is expected here soon on furlough... Lt. (jg) Lester E. Swanson has arrived at Long Beach, Calif... T/Sgt. John J. Brady, Jr., has reached the states from the Pacific theater and will be out soon... F. W. Crouse, S 1/c, has arrived in Seattle... Cpl. Henry Trost has returned from Japan and expects to be home soon.

© ENJOYING MOM'S COOKING. From Atlanta, Ga., Pvt. Eugene Hair . . . Imogene D. Peterson, PhM 3/c, is home in Lanyon, on a 21 day leave . . . Sgt. Kenneth Quinn is home with his mother for 60 days . . . Lt. Margaret "Peggy" Boland, from the ETO.

60 days . . . Lt. Margaret "Peggy" Boland, from the ETO.

6 FROM THE FIVE CORNERS OF THE WORLD. Mary M. Dolliver, American Red Cross, APO 512, c/o Postmaster, New York. "Just wanted to tell you that I am dreading the day when your "Letter From Home" stops. Yet I realize that as the list of "homefor-good" grows that those of us over here grow fewer and fewer. In the Italian theatre we will have two occupation groups; one division, the 88th, up in the Trieste area and another in the air corps area around Foggia. As of tomorrow, I am going back to the Foggia club. It is such an awful old town that no one likes to go there, but having lived there for nine months I know I can take it again. And it is a place where there really is a job to do. Ask any of the boys from the 12th or 15th Air Forces about Foggia, and I know they will sympathize with me. As your closing time draws near, I just want to tell you what a perfectly elegant job you have done for all of us who have been overseas. Your "Letter From Home" has sort of been the center about which all of us are clustered when we get together over here. Everybody who reads it has gotten many nostalgic twings, but it is all to the good. Just to let you know what has been doing the last four months, I am sending you a sample of the last copy of our club magazine and I am not sure you will know what we are talking about, but we are very proud of it this month because it is the first time it has been printed. It has evolved from a mimeographed sheet to the present form. I really hate to leave the magazine in a way. But my favorite form of diversion overseas always has been and always will be running a club for a bunch of GI Joes. Fort Dodge has really been my friend, with the Wa-tan-ye's and Elsie Will heading the list. Believe me I and many, many hundreds of soldiers over here, as well as many other Red Cross personnel, will always remember Fort Dodge, Iowa, for its friendly, generous spirit in a world where there has been entirely too much hatred and bitterness." Thanks FROM THE FIVE CORNERS OF THE WORLD. Mary M. Dolli-

Sgt. Chuck Mahoney, Co. A, 442 Sig. Bn., APO 503, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco. "Here goes for a short letter thanking you and the sponsors of the "Letter From Home." It's been knocking around

after me for quite a while. I've been overseas twenty-two months and a letter has followed from Milne Bay, Finchaven and Hollandia, New Guinea, to Leyte and Luzon in P. I. and now to Japan. I've been in Japan for a while over a month. I'm in the Tokyo Yokahoma area. I'm now putting up communications for the fourth replacement. The fourth replacement is the staging area for our discharges. I've sixty-nine points and hope to be home to see the New Year come in. This country over here is very damp and cold. I've been in the tropics for so long that I freeze in a little cold spell."

Sgt. Norton Risdall, 949th Ord. M. V. D. Co., Marseille, France, "I've been down here since about V. J. Day and imagine I'll be here until I go home. We live in some old German or Italian barracks up on a big cliff above the Marseille Harbor so we can see the ships come and go. It's never been cold enough to freeze here yet but I think I've seen warmer weather back there when it did freeze."

Sgt. W. B. Johnson, 127th Reinforcement Bn. AAF, APO 652, c/o Postmaster, New York. "My days in Merry England are numbered. Ah! They have been merry, too! During the remaining thirty days here in the U. K. I will help close Washington Hall and sweat out a boat at a staging area. Washington Hall, Lancashire, has been my home for thirty-seven months and I am not boastful when I tell you it's the finest AAF station in England. Of course, we had a nice hotel to start with but the fellows in utilities section did a grand job of keeping it nice and the improvements they made always made our work easier. My work in the personnel section has been enjoyable. Col. Gayle called us his guinea pigs because we were always trying out new ideas. We were not bothered with the WAC's so we had things most our own way. Your eekly "Letter From Home" sure has been interesting. Gosh! Mr. Breen, I don't see how you did it. I kept a complete file of them at the personnel office and every Iowan that passed through glanced at them. Without fail they would remark, "What a swell idea." Thank you a million."

them. Without fail they would remark, "What a swell idea." Thank you a million."

Robert D. Laska, EM 3/c, USS Biloxi, FPO, San Francisco. "I've seen quite a lot of Jap cities now but enjoyable experiences found a climax when I ran across my brother in Buelner Bay. He's on a DE and I hadn't seen him in over three years. Our trails had crossed at times but I always missed him by a couple of days. Hiroshima was the last city I had visited. It is much like the other Japanese cities I have visited since the cessation of hostilities; it is located adjacent to the huge Jap Naval base at Kure, on the southwestern coast of Honshu. The city was about 30 miles from our anchorage in Hiro Wan which is a good two hours and a half ride by motor launch. Just before approaching Hiroshima one passes through the waters of the Jap Kure Naval base, and many sunken, beached and thoroughly bombed Jap warships are seen. I saw at least 4 battleships, a cruiser and 4 carriers, in addition to several smaller ships and numerous merchant vessels. The battleships are unbelieveably, literally torn apart. It is hard to even imagine such powerful looking ships being bombed into a mass of burned twisted steel. Finally, after a long, but nevertheless interesting trip, the docks of Hiroshima are sighted. The waterfront is like you'd expect a sea port to look, and it does not prepare you for the sight that's later to greet your eyes. About one block up from the dock area one begins to see the results of the atomic bomb. Occasional, more flimsy looking buildings are caved-in piles of wood and tile. Each progressive step reveals more and more destruction until finally about one mile inland, an appalling and truly unbelievable sight unveils itself. Here, for almost as far as the eye can see, there is total and absolute destruction. It might be a preview of what one might expect when the end of the world comes to pass. The only thing that is whole and unscratched are the two bridges spanning the river which runs down through the bombed out area. The

Pvt. James Whittemore, Hokodate, Hokaiddo, Japan. "Last night we took a sick Jap up to the Jap hospital and we had quite a time explaining to them what was wrong. The doctor could speak a little English so we finally made him understand. All the time we were doing this, ten or twelve Jap nurses were standing around. Some of them were quite pretty and if you would wink at them they'd just hide behind another. They're all very short but we asked them how old they were and they were all about 18, 19, or 20. We got that out of them anyway. Hokadate is quite a dirty city but the scenery around it is quite beautiful. We have mountains in back of us covered with forest and on the other side of the town they have snow capped mountains. The town is right on the edge of the ocean and when I'm on guard at night I can hear the surf even though we are way up on the back of the town. Our company is kind of separate from the rest of the task force. We are the medical unit assigned to the 306th Inf. Reg."

Pfc. Richard Black, Med. Det., Matsuyama, Japan. "Most of this place is bombed out. They only hit it twice I guess. The homes and places that are left however are very nice, clean, spotless is a better word for it. The places that were bombed are even cleaned up. All the pieces of tile, from the roofs, are stacked up in piles and raked up clean. The women here are quite pretty, too, and some of them are very attractive in their sort of way. I guess what gets most of it, our attraction, is the bright kimonos, silk flags—when they can be found and of course, other small trinkets. Time for sick call so that means back to the sweat shop for me. Every one and his brother have colds, coming from Mindanao up here was quite a change—too much in fact. Now we can't get warm; down there we couldn't get cool."

And now your Christmas greetings are coming in, the first of them from those far lands where still you are busy winding up the affairs of World War II. I wish everyone of those greetings was a one way ticket home. We read about the men who are on their way and the number that have been discharged here and there. That's fine and its wonderful that so many are home. But we just can't join the brass hats in any long round of applause as long as so many still are away. Our Christmas wish is for faster returns, more boats made available, speedier demobilization. We have some ideas about some New Years resolutions that the Army and Navy and Marine Corps might solemnly adopt and they wouldn't have to wait until New Years either. So long, Joe. I gotta send my Congressman a Christmas card. I'll remember you to him. My slog:n for him for the New Year is, "Keep'em separating". Merry Christmas.