





Volume 2

Number 52

# Reveille on the Jordan

Just a little message to the boys in the service from the folks back home. Sponsored by the East Jordan Community Service Club.

**Friends:**

No doubt by the time this reaches you, you will already have heard from other of your correspondents of the tragedy that happened here last Friday afternoon. Although this will be covered elsewhere in this paper nevertheless, being the first fatality of any of the servicemen and women on our mailing list since our writing Reveille, we feel that we should cover some of the details as known.

Last Friday afternoon the town was stunned by the sudden news of the drowning in the Jordan River of Pfc. Harold Bates and his cousin, Betty Palmateer, of Flint, Harold, who has been in the service approximately a year and a half, was at the time spending a furlough from Camp Maxie, Texas, where he was taking training with the 125th Infantry, having previously taken training at Camp Hood, Texas, and was walking through the Sportsman Park together with his wife and cousin when she fell through a hole in the walk of one of the foot bridges near the cabin; Harold, in his attempt to rescue her, apparently was stunned by the impact with the water, and floundered before drowning.

Flags in East Jordan were flown at half-mast Tuesday when the funeral services, which were conducted as near to a military funeral as possible considering the distance from the nearest military camp, were held in the afternoon at 2:00 from the Methodist Church and 2:45 at Sunset Hill. All servicemen from this locality who were home on furloughs or leaves

were in attendance, the bearers being: Lt. Carlton Smith, Corp. Teddy Kotowich, Corp. Don. Zoulek, Pvt. Thomas Hitchcock, Cadet Donald Shepard, all of East Jordan, and Pvt. Clyde McPherson of Ellsworth. Also attending were: Harold Moore, formerly with the Seabees, and Maynard Fielstra S 2-c of Ellsworth as color bearers, and Pvt. Henry Durant and sailor Russell Riegling as color guard. Interment at Sunset Hill was under the auspices of the American Legion with military rites observed.

This death brings to a total of six names on our service board that now are printed in gold on black preceded by the gold star. As representatives of the Community Club, and fellow servicemen, our sincerest sympathy is extended to the bereaved family.

### SERVICE NOTES

Only one letter came our way this week from an overseas location, this one being from LT. GILBERT JOYNT who is keeping busy with the marine air force in the vicinity of Tokyo. The last paper that Gil received, when he wrote the letter on July 1st, was the May 19th issue in which mention was made of the air port which is to be located near East Jordan. We quote his reaction to this bit of news: "I am curious as to just where its location might be. Being not even interested in the air while around East Jordan, I never gave it much thought. Now if I were to look around it would be with that possibility in mind." We are certain that this air minded marine would like to hear more on this subject so for the benefit of his correspondents, we ask that they try and give him more of a low down on this new project.

This week we were reminded of a coincidence concerning soldier BRYCE VANCE and his father. It so happens that twenty-seven years ago on December 17th, Bryce's father entered military service with the army at Fort Sheridan, Illinois. His next transfer from Fort Sheridan was to Camp J. T. Robinson, Arkansas, where his son is now taking training with the infantry after having been inducted into the service on June 17th at Fort Sheridan. This is the first time since our writing Reveille that a happening of this nature was brought to our attention. We made mention in a past issue that JOHNNY LAISURE would soon be spending a pass in our nation's capital. He now post cards in that this five day pass is over and that his plans to go to Washington, D. C., did not materialize all because of a greater calling in West Virginia; your guess is as good as ours. It is quite unusual that two East Jordan representatives in the service have the same APO number when they are sent overseas in different outfits but that seems to be the case with MARY KOTOWICH and ROBERT TROJANEK. Bob and Mary are both with the medical corps and are serving with the 103rd and 101st Hospital units. We hope that this similarity in address will mean that they may be able to meet when they arrive at their overseas location. For those of you who may be on the lookout for JOHN SMITH in Italy, please note that his address is now Co. L, 15th Infantry, APO No. 3. Many of you will remember reading in last week's issue that John was one of the American forces to march through Rome. We learn that BASIL SWEET is now taking final training with a photo unit at Buckley Field, Denver, Colorado, before going overseas. He expects that this training will last about four weeks. His brother, LAWRENCE, has a change of APO number to 143; he is located in England but thinks that before very long he will be assigned to duty on the fighting front. RONALD RUSSELL is looking forward to a five day hike of 120 miles from Indiantown Gap in Pennsylvania, to Fort Dix, New Jersey, where he is stationed at the present time. The hike is just part of their training before they will embark for overseas. Ronald still has expectations of a furlough but rather thinks it will come after his final overseas training is done. Also preparing for overseas is JOHN LENOSKY who has moved back to Camp Ellis, Illinois, from Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana. John can now be found at this camp with Co. C, 28 Med. Training Regiment in Barracks 4602. Entertaining himself at Great Lakes Naval Training Station with KP duty is one of our sailors MARLIN GALLS. Marlin claims that this task is the pride and joy of most servicemen but after he gets sent to basic engineering school, this job will be over and we don't think it will be to his sorrow. He tells us that he kept on the lookout for ED REULING after he returned from a recent leave but believes Ed must have already shipped out for California before he could look him up. The addresses you asked for are: Sgt. ALBERT JACKSON (36,163,721) Hq. Co., 128th Inf., APO 32 in care of Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif; ROBERT CROWELL'S new address is Robert Crowell GM 1-c, USS Woonsocket PF 32, care of US Coast Guard Rep., Pre-Commissionary Detail Bldg. No. 10, US Naval Station, Algiers, New

Orleans, La. Bob and Albert are former classmates of Marlin's and therefore he is anxious to begin corresponding with them. New Guinea seems to be the location of many of our East Jordan service men and this week we learn of a meeting there of ARCHIE NEMCEK and JOHN TER AVEST. John and Archie for a time were working at the same place and therefore they were able to locate each other. ORLANDO BLAIR has now the APO number of 322 which indicates that he is in this same location. WILLIAM H. CLARK who is also stationed there has a change in address to that of K Co., 3rd Bn, 21st Infantry, APO 24. Apparently TOM THACKER is following the troops in Italy as we have a change of address this week giving APO number of 520, but still with the 52nd Fighter Group. Some of the address changes this week remind us of a game of tag. MERLE POLLITT moves from Camp Swift, Texas, to Fort Dix and DON ZULEK and TED MALPASS are just a jump behind him in moving from Camp Hale, Colorado, to Camp Swift while CLEMENT STANEK leaves Camp Crowder, Missouri, for Camp Hale. This week brought letters from the GEE brothers, GLEN and VALE. Vale, the sailor, writes from Great Lakes training station where he is beginning boot training, and Glen reports in from Camp Blanding, Florida, where his army training is in progress. Vale mentions having seen Bob Lockman from Boyne City, Jack Crawford of Central Lake, and a Chambes from Charlevoix and tells us that they had a nice talk about home. He also is privileged to have three other Jordanites with him in the same company and barracks. As far as having hometown servicemen at the same camp, Glen also fares well as there are now nine soldiers training at Camp Blanding, three of which are in the same battalion. He finds that when a northern Michigan resident is sent south for the summer it's more than hard to figure out why people trot to Florida for the winter. Cheer up Glen, maybe the army's got their seasons mixed and you'll get sent north for the winter. The past week we noticed that DON ZULEK, TOM HITCHCOCK, and TEDDY KOTOWICH were once more enjoying themselves in the home town. CARLTON SMITH also arrived home and has been enjoying his furlough with his wife and parents. Carlton is the first of our local men to return home as a member of the Red Arrow division who made history in New Guinea a year or so ago. He is in the best of health and has many interesting experiences to relate, also was able to bring back a large collection of souvenirs. When he left East Jordan after the completion of his furlough, he reported to Fort Sam Houston, Texas, where he was to await an assignment. His wife accompanied him and plans to make her home with him while he is serving in the states. We are wondering if TINY CHIAK will be one who will soon return home as he too served with the 126th Infantry. One who is doing plenty of moving around with the army is HARRY FYAN who now finds himself assigned to the 600th Signal Repair Company at Camp Polk, Louisiana. Harry spent much of his army career in Texas, and had the move he was scheduled to make to Camp Howze developed, he would have been able to contact his brother who is stationed there, however, the army saw otherwise so Harry missed out on this eager expectation. Life isn't too restricted for him at Polk, as he is able to obtain a pass nearly every night besides being allowed week end passes. He was looking forward to spending a week end in New Orleans at the time he wrote the letter, and in case this issue should reach him before he has made this trip, we are wondering if he would not like to try and contact Robert Crowell whose address appears elsewhere in this column. Last week we told how CLIFF DENNIS had found it impossible thus far to locate ABE COHN but this week we received word that he found Abe umpiring a ball game. We can imagine that there wasn't a dull moment when these two hometowners got together. New on the mailing list this week is WILLIS RUDE. Bill is one of the nine Jordanites training at Camp Blanding. LEVI MCPHERSON has now left the combat zone in the South Pacific and is at a rest camp. His address, has also changed slightly in that it is now Btry G, 3rd AA Bn., USMC. The army also makes mistakes as we are told that GALE BRINTNALL was sent to Roswell, New Mexico, by mistake so was only able to spend one day there. He is now located at Midland, Texas, with the 2528th Base Unit, Class 44-45B, where he expects to take advanced bombardier training. Gale probably would be quite surprised if he should happen to meet a blond home-towner by the name of BRUCE BARTLETT who is also stationed there with the same base unit in the 1st Platoon, Section C. The paper goes out again this week to LEON PETERSON who has now been assigned to a casual company at Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, California. Leon informs us that he is taking life real easy at the present time so maybe if he has some extra time will try and contact DAVE PRAY and CYRIL DOLEZEL who are also stationed there. Twenty-seven hours at home isn't hardly long enough to say you've even been there according to BARTON VANCE, who is now stationed at the University College in Boulder, Colorado. Barton recently completed

a course at Gyro School in California, after which this short furlough was given. MARTIN RUHLING has left Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky, with a tank destroyer battalion and is now on his way overseas on the New York side. As you have probably noticed at the beginning of this issue, the last "Reveille on the Jordan" has been written for Volume II as number fifty-two has been reached. As we hope to begin Volume III next week, we will at that time try to give you a brief summary of Volume II. Until then it's so long and greetings to all. Your friends of the East Jordan Community Service Club, by Henry Drenth.

### How Your Sailor Gets His Mail

With the United States Fleet (Delayed)—Speedy mail delivery to Uncle Sam's great Pacific fleet depends largely on chance. Chance—his first name is Earle, he's a lieutenant commander and he hails from Los Angeles, Calif—is head postman in this vast theater of war where mail distribution once was so slow it was the prime gripe of fighting men. Today all that has been changed. The mail is coming through and often letters reach the men in forward battle areas five or six days after mailing from as far away as New York.

Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, commander-in-chief of the Pacific fleet, realized the importance of letters to morale and insisted on rapid delivery. But fast mail service in the Pacific as easy to talk about than to accomplish. It was a matter of starting from scratch for the navy never before had such growing pains. In the first days of the war word from home sometimes was weeks even months, catching up with the armed services.

The mail problem was Vice Adm. William C. Calhoun's, As commander of the service force in the Pacific, he decided it was a job for men experienced in handling and dispatching mail. He called in Chance, who had been in the postal department since 1919. Chance gathered about him assistants also experienced in the postal field. Most of them, like Chance, were older men who volunteered for the assignment.

Only ammunition, food and fuel for the war hold transportation priority over letters. Sixty percent of the mail is flown to front line zones.

An example of the mail volume may be seen in the fact that in one month more than 200,000 pounds of correspondence was flown into central Pacific advanced areas. The postal system moves always at the heels of the fleet and often before a battle is many days old it is ready to begin distributing the mail to the fighting men. At Kwajalein mail was delivered three days after D-day to ships supporting the attack and four days later to troops on the island who still were under enemy fire.

A single naval dispatch may change the course of warships, and mail already on the way to them at their previous destination must be rerouted to their new port of call. **KEEP ON . . . . .**  
*Backing the Attack!*  
**WITH WAR BONDS**  
**. . . . .**

## An Appreciation--

I wish to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the voters of Charlevoix County for their generous support at the recent Primary Election.

**Frank F. Bird**  
Register of Deeds

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**Pass the Pickles, Mate!**

"Out on the rough Atlantic . . . or away on the vast Pacific . . . or down on the blue waters of the Gulf . . . the Navy ships run into some pretty rough weather. And it's not an unusual thing for both officers and men to stop by a large tin can that's brought out of the galley at the sign of very bad weather. What's in it? It's full of . . . yes . . . pickles . . . pickles for the sailors to keep them from getting seasick. Ask any seasoned sailor and he'll tell you it's a true story."  
Excerpt from Navy's radio salute to H. J. Heinz Company

**YES, the boys on the world's fighting fronts—on land and at sea—are asking for Pickles.**  
They can't be "passed" unless the folks back home make them available.  
**Our growers need pickers and we must have help at our stations and factories to meet an emergency demand for Heinz Pickles.**  
The farmers of this district are making every effort to supply us with cucumbers, but their crops must be picked, received and processed to make Pickles available to the fighting men.  
The season is short—August and half of September—and Pickles must be banded promptly to avoid spoilage.  
Here is emergency work for men and women and boys and girls, who can work afternoons or evenings.  
If you can work full-time or part-time—a few hours a day—telephone our factory, call in person, or fill in and mail the following form:

H. J. Heinz Company  
District Office  
Charlevoix, Michigan  
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