



MR. HAM GOES TO WAR

Trimmings



MR. HAM GOES TO TOWN

FOR AND ABOUT OUR FORMER
EMPLOYEES IN SERVICE

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"Oaks" Says:

Apparently you fellows approved of this column which I initiated last month. Thanks for your many nice letters and comments—and suggestions. As time goes along we may be able to make improvements.

First of all, thanks to the hundred and hundreds of you who took time from a busy day to send Christmas greetings. They were appreciated.

Secondly, about my idea on the shoulder patches. Apparently some of you fellows think it a pretty good idea and would like to see me follow through. Well, I am going to. This is a report covering patches received to date: from Cpl. O. J. Bussolari, former East Cambridge employee, patch for the 10th Armored Regiment; from Sgt. Wm. Houk, Ottumwa, patch for the 90th Division; and from Pvt. Forrest Smith, Ottumwa, patch for the 86th Division. Glad you fellows also took the time to explain what the design stood for. Will the rest of you do the same? This should really make a splendid display—for today and tomorrow.

Just one more thought before I get into the real message of this column. When you're in Ottumwa, won't you drop in and see me. I'm on the third floor of the General Office building. All you have to do is ask the girl at the Information Desk for me; I'll have you come upstairs; we'll talk, have a cigarette, and get to know one another better. Lots of you have called on me, but I want to meet and talk with the rest of you.

Well, here we go. On December 17 I went up to Des Moines and visited the First WAC Training Center. Purpose—just to get a story on our lady soldiers for The Morrell Magazine. I am frank to say that visit was an eye-opener. These lady soldiers are doing one grand job. And they are not in this war to replace men for active duty; they are in this war because a fellow named "Adolph" wanted to be the king pin. They are giving the best days of their life, just as you are, to see that he doesn't. Ninety per cent of the girls in the WAC have signed up for overseas service. Doesn't that mean something? To me it does! And it was something that I didn't know before. I have been rather hard on the WACs in the past, but I will never be again—and folks should be careful when they say something against them within my hearing.

I don't want to give away the Magazine story of my visit. I just give you this much so that you will look forward to the story which will be carried in the January or February issue. But I did want you to have my reaction.

Your letters are coming in fine—we have more than enough to get into these four pages. But we will get items from 90 to 95% of all the letters received each month. Received a good bunch of photographs this month. Keep them coming; they'll be used in The Morrell Magazine as space permits.

Also if you want to get the Magazine and haven't received a subscription card, let me know and I'll get one on the way right now. I did that this month and several of you will be reading the Magazine soon for the first time since you left for the service.

How'd that Christmas turkey taste? You lucky dog! Everytime I eat turkey or chicken my temperature pops right out of the thermometer and I have to go to bed for a few hours until my tummy cools down. Therefore, the wife and daughter have fowl only when I am out of town or not home for a meal. Well, that's neither here nor there.

Cordially,
"Oak" Cheever.

D.J.F. C. TO DUREE

"Bill" Duree, formerly employed in the Ottumwa General Offices, has been awarded the Army Distinguished Flying Cross. He already has received the Air Medal and three Oak Leaf clusters.

"Bill" is a second lieutenant with the Army Air Corps. He is a bombardier and just recently completed his 25th bombing mission over Germany and enemy-occupied lands of Europe.

"Bill" has released his Fort's bombs on most of the major targets attacked by the Eighth Bomber Command during the past several months.

Good bombing, and we will be looking for you home on a furlough soon.

TOPEKA'S BRAVERY NOTED

Back in the old days, Rollin Lock-er used to work in the Topeka Savory Foods department. But now he is a staff sergeant in Uncle Sam's Army Air Corps and is stationed in England. Just recently he has received the Purple Heart medal, the Distinguished Flying Cross, and the

Air Medal with two Oak Leaf clusters for acts of bravery. It isn't necessary to say that everyone at Topeka is mighty proud of Rollin.

RECEIVES PURPLE HEART

Pvt. Charles F. Niles, Ottumwa plant employee, has been awarded the Purple Heart medal for wounds suffered in battle. Pvt. Niles received his wounds while fighting with the Fifth Army in Italy on November 3. He is now receiving treatment at a base hospital in Italy.

SHORT SHOTS

S1/c Ivan Shaw, Ottumwa, is now at the Naval Hospital at Great Lakes, Ill. Ivan saw action in the south Pacific.

S2/c Everett D. Cushing, Topeka, is stationed at the Naval Station at Astoria, Ore.

Pvt. Orlin Skrondah, Sioux Falls, is training in the California desert, where it is hot during the day and cold at night. Training is very hard, he says.

Pvt. Raymond McGee, Ottumwa, is now stationed in Australia. He likes the country fine.

Pfc. Everett W. Melharry, Topeka, is now stationed with the Quartermaster Corps at Camp Pickett, Va.

Pvt. Norman Olson, Sioux Falls, has been transferred to the Army Specialized Training Program at the University of Illinois, Champaign, Ill.

Cpl. Clarence Engle, Ottumwa, is a crew chief on a B-24-J bomber, otherwise better known as the Liberator. He is stationed at Gowen Field, Boise, Ida. Pfc. Harold George, Ottumwa, is also serving as a crew chief on a B-24; he is stationed at the Army Air Base at Salt Lake City, Utah.

Donald E. Smith, from Topeka, writes from somewhere in Iran that he is on his feet again.

or an apple to offer in exchange. They haven't had any cigarettes in a long time; if you want to see a real fight, just toss a couple of cigarettes into a bunch of kids.

"This country is very, very mountainous and a tough one to crack. We all thought the hills in Africa were tough but here it's nothing but mountains. The country is thickly populated and the towns are close together. In Africa we could go for miles without seeing a town. So it's a lot more interesting here. As I look out of my tent now I can see Vesuvius. It is a pretty sight at night and is visible for miles. I have been to Naples but, of course, it isn't as nice as it would be in peace times. It is really a wonderful town and it is a shame that it had to take the punishment it received. "Well, I've come this far so I am going whole hog now. It was my good fortune to lead the victory parade into Tunis, so I am looking forward to Rome which isn't very far away, or better yet, Berlin. It looks like the Russians might beat us there, but we are doing our best to beat them."

PROMOTIONS

John Hansel (Ottumwa) Gunners Mate
1st Class
Harold W. Johns (Ottumwa) Private
1st Class
J. F. Keppel (Brooklyn) Machinist Mate
1st Class
John C. Short (Ottumwa) Electrician's
Mate 2nd Class
Merl A. Daugherty (Ottumwa) Coxswain
Russell E. Brooks (Ottumwa) Storekeeper
2nd Class
Dolores C. Mosher (Ottumwa) Pharmacist Mate 3rd Class
"Jack" P. Thomas (Ottumwa) Private
1st Class
John L. Woodward (Syracuse) Lieutenant
William F. Rickert (Ottumwa) Sergeant
Harold Jacobsen (Gansevoort) Yeoman
2nd Class
Everett Foxx (Ottumwa) Sergeant
Franz E. Moody (Minneapolis) Storekeeper 2nd Class
Damon E. Walke (Los Angeles) Sergeant
R. S. Milton (Brooklyn) Sergeant
Corwin Overton (Peoria, Ill.) Ships Cook
3rd Class
Arthur W. Bell (Los Angeles) Chief Warrant Officer
Dean Currie (Topeka) Sergeant
"Jim" Vaskie (Sioux Falls) Corporal
Lawrence G. Gooch (Ottumwa) Warrant Officer
Edward W. Collier (Ottumwa) Private
1st Class
Andrew P. Nielson (Sioux Falls) Lieutenant
Gordon B. Gulbranson (Sioux Falls) Fireman 3rd Class
Elwood B. Gerrits (Sioux Falls) Hospital Apprentice 1st Class
James L. Hitchens (Ottumwa) Private
1st Class
Lewis H. Jones (Sioux Falls) Petty Officer
2nd Class
W. A. Clark (Sioux Falls) Corporal
"Don" Schultze (Sioux Falls) Private
1st Class
James A. DeWitt (Ottumwa) Private 1st
Class
E. R. Schipper (Sioux Falls) Corporal
James R. Rooker (Ottumwa) Private 1st
Class
Henry Sandberg (Sioux Falls) Sergeant
J. M. Brubwiler (Topeka) Private 1st
Class
Virgil E. Gay (Ottumwa) Corporal
James Glenn (Topeka) Corporal
Gerald G. Kohrt (Duluth) Pharmacist
Mate 3rd Class
Lee W. McFarren (Topeka) Sergeant
Don F. Richards (Ottumwa) Sergeant

Don Short (Ottumwa) Private 1st Class
Francis E. Carr (Ottumwa) Corporal
E. J. McDermott (Ottumwa) Shipfitter
3rd Class
Leo L. Wood (Sioux Falls) Private 1st
Class

FROM THE CAMPS

From F1 /c William McKinney, Ottumwa, now stationed with the Navy Seabees at Camp Rousseau, Port Hueneue, Calif.:

"Since I left the Company last spring I have been around a bit; from the east coast to the west coast. I find the people out here pretty nice, but not like those in the east. I am now at Camp Rousseau. It is an A. B. D. We will ship out soon. I would like to get it over with. "Just where we are going no one knows for sure. Some think it might be China. I don't care just so we get it over with."

From T /Sgt. Wilbur O. Lokken, Sioux Falls, now with a photo mapping squadron of the Army Air Forces at Reading, Pa.:

"I have just received *Trimmings*—a really much appreciated paper. Hope the boys overseas will continue writing in more and more as all of us want to hear about them. Hope to meet a lot of you boys in letters in the months ahead."

From A /c Paul Finninger, Topeka, now stationed at Phoenix, Ariz.:

"At present my home is in Paradise Valley, Thunderbird Field, Phoenix, Ariz. Each month *The Morrell Magazine* and *Trimmings* reach me; both are very interesting. It displeases me, however, when there is no news from the Smoked Meat department of the Topeka plant."

From S2 /c Leslie V. Ingles, Ottumwa, stationed with the Seabees at Camp Parks, Calif.:

"We aren't so busy anymore because of our moving. It seems we never get settled down. That's the Seabees for you, I guess."

"After I left Ottumwa, I went to Camp Peary, Va., for my boot training. From there I went to Camp Endicott, R. I. Now I am at Camp Parks, Calif., about 35 miles from San Francisco."

From Lt. H. H. Bowring, Sioux Falls, now stationed at Goodfellow Field, San Angelo, Tex.:

"I was formerly employed at the Sioux Falls plant in the Traffic department under H. W. Roberts. Left Morrell's in November of 1942, just a year and a week ago, to join the Air Corps as a cadet. My class was 43-4 and we graduated in August of this year. At present I'm stationed here at Goodfellow Field as a basic training instructor."

From Pvt. Roy Groves, Jr., Topeka, now stationed at Camp Pickett, Va.:

"I am proud to say that I am not the only one who enjoys *The Morrell Magazine*; I pass it around to my friends who read and enjoy it. I want my buddies to know that the Company I worked for, and expect to work for again, is doing all it can in producing food products for the Army and Navy, and for civilians all over the world."

From Arthur C. Knox, Ottumwa, with a tank battalion at Pine Camp, N. Y.:

"I have covered quite a bit of continental U. S. since entering the Army, but haven't managed to get into action as yet. From Iowa to Camp Cooke, Calif., the desert, Tennessee maneuvers, and finally Pine Camp, N. Y. It doesn't really seem like I have been in for twenty

months. So much has happened that the time has passed quickly.

From BMI /c "Al" Lehman, Sioux Falls, now with a naval repair base at San Diego, Calif.:

"Never realized what a famous Company I was working for. You can find our products all over the world—and it tastes just as good here as it does back home."

From Cpl. Glen W. Smith, Jr., Topeka, now stationed at Fort Clark, Tex.:

"This camp is about 124 miles from San Antonio, and 30 miles from the Mexican border. We have the opportunity of going to one or the other every now and then. I had the chance to visit Austin once since I've been here. Austin is really a nice town, but it can't beat Topeka, though, as the best place to be from."

From A /S Allen A. McGregor, Ottumwa, with a W. T. S. detachment at Youngstown College, Youngstown, Ohio:

"This is our fourth course in flying. Everything is done by instruments except take-offs and landings. The course consists of 20 hours of Link Trainer instruction; it is simulated flying in a trainer that never leaves the ground. However it is full of tricks; every move is recorded. We have now finished the first phase and are at the airport taking actual "hood" blind flying."

"They place a "hood" or tent-like affair over our heads so that we see nothing but the instruments. Then we do stalls, spins, and other tests. When we finish this we will do radio orientation and "beam bracketing" which means locating and flying to our station by radio signals.

"It is all very interesting but radically different from anything that we have had up to now. We are on what is known as the Cadet System and the gigs come up rather easy if we don't watch out. We are allowed out on Saturday nights until 2 A. M., providing we haven't received in excess of five gigs.

"Our next course will be at Wichita Falls, Tex., or Chanute, Kans. It will be the instructor refresher course. We will be evaluated at Brooks Field, Tex., after that to see if we go to Randolph Field as instructors or elsewhere in some other capacity."

From OM3 /c Lincoln P. Rice, Sioux Falls, now with the Navy at New London, Conn.:

"You may be interested to know that I am now in New London, Conn., training for the submarine service. I have just recently been promoted to quartermaster third class. This course will run until the latter part of January and from here I will probably go directly to sea."

From S2 /c Jacob J. Desch, Topeka, now in the hospital at Great Lakes, Ill.:

"Since enlisting in the Navy, June 25, 1943, I have spent nine weeks in San Diego, Calif., where I took my boot training. I was then transferred to Great Lakes, where I went to school until I was taken ill. I am now in the Naval Hospital here waiting to get well enough to go back to duty."

From Sgt. F. D. Miller, Sioux Falls, now stationed at Orlando, Fla.:

"I am now with a night fighter squadron. We fly both day and night so don't have to much spare time. My regular job is aircraft inspector. I like my job fine."