

SERVICE BRIEFS



Penetrating the German lines under the protection of a white flag on V-E Day to bring back French, Polish and Belgium prisoners held by the Nazis, was Corp. Arthur A. Meyer's assignment after the war's end had come. He made several trips to bring back prisoners whom

the Nazis were compelled to release. "We could see the German soldiers walking up and down the streets with guns still slung on their backs as we walked along," he wrote his mother, Mrs. Madeline Meyer, 415 Park Ave., and "they waved to us as if nothing had happened." The territory, which formerly had been under control of the Germans, had been taken over by the Russians and he and a pal were the first in that sector to meet the Russians. He made a trip to the Riviera and Nice after hostilities ceased. Assigned to an Armored Field Artillery Division of General Patton's Third Army, Arthur has been overseas since March, 1944, and his tour of duty has included England, France, Luxembourg, Belgium and Germany. He enlisted April 24, 1941, shortly after his 18th birthday and trained at Fort Bragg, N. C., Fort Sill, Okla., and Fort Jackson, S. C.

Lieut. Joseph L. Blotner, AAF, bombardier, who was liberator from a German prisoner of war camp in May and returned to the States for a 60-day leave, reported late in July to the AAF Redistribution Center at Atlantic City for reassignment.

Cpl. Robert Hacquer, of Park Ave., was honorably discharged at Fort Dix on July 18th. He entered the service December 29, 1942.



Captain George Scherff has two claims on that rank, one as the former Captain of the Scotch Plains Auxiliary Police, and the other as Master of a Merchant Marine vessel. George was a lieutenant in the U. S. Navy in World War I and returned to sea in October, 1943 as Captain.

In this capacity he has crossed the Atlantic many times since then and says that The Scotch Plainsman follows him faithfully.

Pfc. Charles M. Rausch of Rahway Road is now attached to Co. B of the 716 MP Bn., at Eastview, N.Y. Prior to the fall of Germany, his main activity had been transporting prisoners of war. Writes that if it were not for The Scotch Plainsman, he would almost have forgotten the fellows he knew back home.

Lt. Bob Campbell, who fought with the 15th Air Force in Italy, is now stationed at the Romulus Air Base at Romulus, Mich., just outside of Detroit. His wife, Mrs. Marion Brucher Campbell and their infant son, William Robert, will join Bob at Romulus as soon as Daddy Bob digs up an apartment there. Marge Heinz, Mrs. Campbell's sister, will drive with them to Romulus and has her fingers crossed about the return trip, rail travel being what it is.



Pvt. Homer J. Stocker, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Stocker of Farley Ave., was home on furlough from Camp Shelby, Miss. in June. He has been stationed there several months with an Infantry unit. He was transferred to an ordnance unit and reported to Camp Polk, La. at the end of

his furlough. He entered the service in January, 1943 and trained at Camp Hood, Texas, and Fort Benning, Ga. and was assigned to a railroad unit as a signal supervisor before going to the Aleutian Islands in September 1944. He returned to the States in March, 1945, and was detached at Camp Gruber, Okla. His brother, Harry E. Stocker, USN, was Scotch Plains' first war casualty, killed in action in August, 1942, while serving at Guadalcanal.

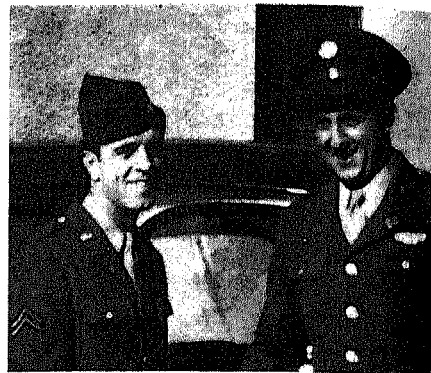
Charles P. Bond Jr., is a sergeant, attached to the 187th Para-Glider Inf., of the 11th Air Borne Div., APO 468, c/o PM, San Francisco, Calif. He reported for service at Camp Dix on March 3, 1943 and was later assigned to glider training at Camp Mackall, N. C. Arriving in New Guinea in May 1944, he volunteered for the paratrooper division and was promoted to sergeant. He was in the invasion of Leyte and fought with the 11th Air borne Division in Manila.

Corp. Al Fantini has changed his address from Camp Beale, Calif., to Casual Co. 70, c/o PM, San Francisco.



John C. Dineen, S lc, USN, has been promoted to that rank following completion of a naval aviation gunnery course at the U.S. Naval Air Gunnery School at Purcell, Okla. He will remain at the school for the next several months as an instructor in gunnery. Jack

entered the service in November, 1944, and received his recruit training at the U. S. Naval Aviation Technical Training Center at Memphis, Tenn., later being transferred to Norman, Okla., for ordnance training.



Sgt. John DiFace S/Sgt Alex A DiFace

Staff Sgt. Alex A. DiFace, a waist gunner on a B-24 Liberator assigned to the 15th Army Air Force in Italy, has been home on a 30-day furlough at the termination of which he will report to Greensboro, N. C., for reassignment.

Overseas since November, 1944, Alex completed 22 missions over enemy targets and has been awarded the Air Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters for "meritorious achievement in aerial flight while participating in sustained operational activities against the enemy." He also holds a Presidential Unit Citation with one Oak Leaf Cluster awarded his group.

A graduate of SPHS, where he was active in athletics, Alex entered the service in February, 1943, and trained at Miami Beach, Fla., Glendale, Calif., Salt Lake City, Utah, Boise, Idaho and Harlingen, Texas.

His brother, Sgt. John DiFace, assigned to the technical engineers of the Army Air Force, is now stationed in New Guinea and expects shortly to be transferred to the Philippines. He entered the service in July, 1942, and has been overseas since July, 1944.



S/Sgt. George R McCray, 82918338 is attached to the 573rd Ord. Amm. Co., APO 403, c/o PM, NY. He entered the service on May 4, 1943, receiving basic training at Camp Rucker, Ala. His training as a mechanic in Furhman's Garage prepared him for his Army career for in that capacity,

he has earned his present stripes. In February of this year he was awarded the Good Mechanic's Badge. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest McCray Sr., of 51 Plainfield Avenue, he attended SPHS.

A new arrival at Manila is Corp. Joe C. Delnegro of 425 Cook Avenue.

Our SERVICE MAILING LIST has expanded to man-size proportions since our first issue sixteen months ago. From a modest beginning with 458 names our list has grown to 789. Of these, 14 have died in service, 74 have been discharged and 701 remain on our active list.