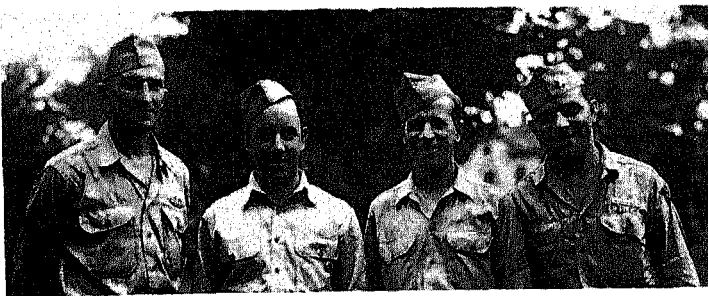


SERVICE BRIEFS



1st. Sgt. Michael Rice Staff Sgt. Joseph Denitzio Sgt. William (MUSH) Gellner Corp. Philip Fazio
N Y City Scotch Plains Albany, N.Y.

BRAVING THE STORMS which recently drowned Scotch Plains and vicinity, three veterans of the 4th Division staged a reunion at The West Side House. 1st. Sgt. Michael Rice, of New York City, Corp. Philip Fazio, of Albany N. Y., and our own Sgt. William (Mush) Gellner, calling themselves THE THREE MUSKETEERS, have been together throughout their Army careers since basic training in May, 1942; through the D-Day landings in Normandy, through the battles in France and Germany. Cpl. Fazio, yearning for a bull session with his old comrade in arms, recently trekked to Scotch Plains for an unplanned visit with "Mush" Gellner. As he walked along Park Avenue, a familiar gait appeared ahead of him. "Gee Cripes", he said, "that looks like Mike Rice." "Jeeps, it IS Rice. HEY RICEY!" With much back slapping he learned that Rice too was on his way for an unplanned bull-session with "Mush". After a visit at the Gellner home, they adjourned to The West Side House and there the triumvirate blossomed into a four-some with the addition of a fellow G I, Joe Denitzio. In time, the foursome blossomed to a quintet when Picture Sleuth Bruce Hall, of The Scotch Plainsman staff, entered for some Vitamins. One beer followed another until the lads were as drenched inside as the outside was outside. In spite of the pouring rain and the lateness of the day (6:00 P M) Photographer Bruce posed the boys in the above group picture - and a swell job he did, - rain, beer and all. Rice and Fazio say Mush and Joe live in a swell town.



HOME ON FURLOUGH

Pfc. Edwin D. Stephens, AAF, has wound up his 30-day furlough after 27 months' overseas service and has reported to Greensboro, N. C., for reassignment. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Stephens of 1500 E. Second Street.

Assigned to the Seventh Bombardment Group of the 10th Air Force in the China-Burma-India theater of operations as a photography technician, he formerly served with a mal-

aria control unit of the Medical Corps in Australia before being transferred to India.

Albert G. Caruso, radioman third-class, USN, arrived home late in July on a 30-day leave following 18 months service in the Pacific. Entering the service in April, 1943 and following recruit training at Newport, R.I. he was assigned to a destroyer stationed in the Atlantic. The ship later was among the warships that escorted the late President Roosevelt to the Yalta Conference.

Al saw action in the Pacific theater in the battles of the Marshall Islands, Carolinas, Marianas, the Philippines, Iwo Jima and Okinawa. At the end of his leave he will re-

port to his ship at Terminal Island, Calif. He wears the American Theater of Operations Campaign Ribbon, the European Ribbon, the Asiatic-Pacific Ribbon with four battle stars and the Philippines Liberation Ribbon with one star.

Alvin F. Bender, S 1c, USN, is home on a 30-day leave following a year's duty in the Caribbean aboard a destroyer. At the end of his leave he will report to the Philadelphia Navy Yard for further assignment.

Visiting his aunt, Mrs. Elizabeth Lee, of 420 Forest Road, is Pfc. John Fitzgerald who is assigned to a Military Police unit at Camp Gruber, Oklahoma. He's home on a 12-day furlough.

Another 12-day visitor is Pfc. Peter Triano, attached to a Military Police unit at the Norfolk, Va., Army Base. He lives at 416 Flanders Ave.

Anthony DiProspero, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph DiProspero of Forest Rd. recently returned from Pearl Harbor, T.H., where he was engaged in government work in a civilian capacity. Previously he had been discharged from the Army because of a physical disability after 15 months service.

Pfc. Robert J. Liana, of 1740 E. Front St., is home on a 30-day recuperation furlough following six months service in the ETO. He will report to Fort Dix on August 24th for deployment to the Pacific area.

As a member of the 103rd Infantry, Bob served in France, Germany

and Austria and wears the European Theater of Operations campaign ribbon with three battle stars representing his participation in the crossing of the Rhine River, the battle of Germany and the entry into Austria. He was also awarded the Good Conduct Medal and a Meritorious Service Unit Plaque was awarded to his group for superior performance of duty.

Also home on a 30-day recuperation furlough after service in the ETO with the 103rd Infantry is Pfc. Joseph J. Masperi of Nichols Ave.

In combat less than two weeks after his arrival in France, Joe also saw action in Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia. He wears the ETO ribbon with four battle stars for participation in the battles of France, Ardennes and the east and west campaigns of the Rhine.

At the end of his furlough he will rejoin his unit at Camp Campbell, Ky., in preparation for deployment to the Pacific theatre.

S/Sgt. Henry L. Jesperson 3rd, of Fanwood, assigned to the Engineers Corps of the Ninth Army, arrived home on an emergency leave because of the illness of his father. He was flown by plane from England and landed at the Army Air Base at Wilmington unaware that his dad had died two weeks earlier. At the end of his furlough he will report to Fort Belvoir, Va., for reassignment.

Cyril W. ("Bud") Poling was home on leave recently after completing boot training at Sampson, N.Y. We'd like to have his new address so that The Scotch Plainsman may follow him.

Pfc. Mike Perrette, with two years service in Alaska behind him, is at home at 529 Hunter Avenue, on a 14-day furlough. Mike has been serving as a cook with the Fourth Infantry in Alaska. Entering the service on March 3, 1943, he trained at Camp Wheeler, Ga. His brother, Pfc. Chas. Perrette, is with the 88th Field Hospital on Okinawa.

PERTINENT PARAGRAPHS

A Tokio broadcast enthusiastically urges the Japanese people to think of the amount of much-needed scrap steel that the B-29s are delivering day after day. It is always a pleasure to hear from satisfied customers.

It is now planned to try the big German war criminals in Nuremberg. The Allies feel that it is only sporting to play the Nazis on the home grounds.

Johnny Jones of Willow Avenue, discharged Army veteran, has applied to the Township Committee for permission to operate a taxi service.

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SCRAP PAPER
—SEND IT TO WAR!**

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