

OUR FIGHTING MEN



Andrew Loeffler Sr., Army Exchange Service, HQ, TSFET, APO 887, c/o PM, NY writes:

"I am very sorry that I have not had the time to write you sooner to thank you for sending The Scotch Plainsman monthly for it has helped me to locate some of the S P boys who are stationed here in Paris.

Andrew Loeffler Sr.

I had been looking for several months for Bud Muir and I was surprised to learn thru The Scotch Plainsman that he was stationed in Paris and more surprised to learn upon investigation that his office was located next to the building in which I reside.

I have met Bud Muir, Lou Ochse, Frank Delnero and my son here in Paris and have had the pleasure of dining with all of them at Frank Delnero's mess, where Frank is Mess Sergeant.

Last week I met my son Andrew for the second time since my arrival here last November. He and I dined at Frank's mess last week and he and Frank enjoyed a swim in a beautiful swimming pool built in the batt'n grounds.

My son and I then visited the Eiffel Tower and took some snapshots from the second level open for visitors. We then made a tour of Paris before he returned to Checkoslovakia where he is stationed.

Bud Muir was not at the reunion at Frank's battalion this month as he was on furlough in England but I do hope that in the near future, we can all meet again, including Lou Ochse, who is now stationed in Frankfurt, Germany.

My best regards to my friends in Scotch Plains and let me close this letter with a hope and a prayer that all the boys here will soon return there. Sincerely, Andrew Loeffler Sr.

(A postcard from Mr. Loeffler received late in October indicates that he will leave Paris and arrive in New York about November first. Frank Delnero was scheduled to go at the same time.)

The easing of the censorship restrictions is evidenced in the flow of letters from all theatres of operation and of their revealing contents. Letters from Japan, from the Philippines, Okinawa, Hawaii, from Belgium, Germany, Italy, India and other places too numerous to mention are so interesting that we have devoted the major portion of this edition to their publication.

Under a September fifth dateline Sgt. Warren Beach, Jr., writes from Japan where he is stationed with H Q Co., 3rd Bn., 187 Paraglider Infantry, APO 468, c/o P.M., San Francisco, Calif.

"Dear Plainsman:

"I have been receiving the paper regularly and can't express my appreciation in words. The people responsible for it should be given some kind of an award. Through the Plainsman, the finest little town in the world is brought to all the boys overseas. Many of my buddies read and enjoy it very much.

"I spent some time with my half brother, Major Frank R. Kaspareen, on Okinawa. We managed to meet many times from New Guinea, Philippines and Okinawa. He is in the 58th Fighter Group under the 5th AirForce. He received a letter of commendation personally from General Kenney. I have two other brothers in the E T O. One of them has returned to the U S.

"In Manila I met "Chic" Cichone, Ralph Caruso, and Johnny Short with whom my brother, Major Kaspareen, played on the S P Field Club.

"Censorship has been lifted so I can tell you some of my past experiences. I have been in Oro Bay, Finchafen, Hollandia, Biak, Pellilieu, Leyte, Mindoro, Luzon, Okinawa and Japan. At the present time I am in Honshu Island near the Atsugi airstrip. It isn't far from Tokyo. I saw Mount Fujiyama from 13,000 feet. We flew up here in new C-54 four motored transports.

"The Japs are very friendly. They bow of salute every time we pass them. In general all is well.

"The climate here is similar to that at home. It gets very cold in the evenings. I will tell you more in my next letter.

"I'm proud to be part of an outstanding unit like the 11th Airborne Division. We were the first division in the Jap homeland.

"I'll close now with luck to, all the home-town folks. Thanks a million for a swell paper.

Our young pal, Billy Nichols, is pretty close to Tokyo with H.Q. Co., 3d Bn., 8th Marines, 2nd Marine Div. P O Co., San Francisco, Calif., from where he writes:

"Dear Folks:

"I have been receiving the Scotch Plainsman regularly ever since the original issue. I think and I certainly feel I'm in debt to all of you.

"In my last news the address was a little fouled up even tho I got it O.K. The Regimental P.O. informed me to advise my correspondents as to

my correct address. I explained it was a typographical error but he couldn't see it that way. As I was outnumbered in stripes, six to one, I decided to secure the detail. So, my correct address is Hdq. Co., 3rd Bn., 8th Marines, 2nd Marine Division c/o FPO, San Francisco, Calif.

"I got the scoop from home that my brother is back and as near as I can understand is doing his best to drain the state of available beer. Fine pastime if you like beer.

"I hear from John Lansing pretty often. He is in the Philippines and as that isn't too near where I am, it doesn't look as tho we'll get together until we both arrive home.

"I have been observing the Navy's new point system, which I assume takes in the Marines, with arched eye brows. What I can't figure out is just who is going to get out. At least it's nice to know you will definitely get out in a mere matter of 25 to 30 years.

"I've had the pleasure of knowing the Garbes who are an important cog in the Scotch Plainsman. So to them and the rest of the staff, many thanks for your efforts in putting out such a swell paper. I know you must know it is appreciated by all of us."

Here we are with some letters from the Philippines with T/3 John F Short Jr., 3018 Co., 141st OBAM Bn., APO 75 c/o PM, San Francisco, Calif. taking over:

"Hello Folks:

"This is a duty that should have been taken care of some time ago. Since I last wrote to you many things have happened, but yesterday was the pay-off, so to speak.

"The first event was my being moved to the Philippines. I am now stationed just outside Manila. My previous station was Finchhafen, New Guinea, but this piece of information could not be divulged until recently. While there I found out that a fellow Scotch Plainsman whom I had met on the boat coming overseas, Sgt. Ralph Caruso, was at APO 75. So the first thing I did on my arrival at Manila was to look up Ralph and sure enough he was almost in my back yard. I walked into his shop and he was really surprised to see me and I was sure glad to see him. Cpl. Broadwell and Eric Ericson from the big woods were also there. It was a little Scotch Plains gathering at the 517th Ord. Co. shop in Manila.

"One evening I went with Ralph to play some basketball and after the game we stopped in to see Cpl. Emil Hoffman and S/Sgt. Cichone. These two boys were with me in my outfit but we got broken up at Finchhafen. The four of us had a swell time that night. It wasn't more than a week or so later that Warren Beach dropped in to see me and then 1st Sgt. Joe Donatelli came over. That still was not all. Ralph and I looked all over the place for Tech/Sgt. Nick Di Quollo and after a day or so we found him. The best was yet to come. I had heard from Ralph that Major Frank Kaspareen was nearby and I de-

This column sponsored by

POLING OIL COMPANY
South Ave. Scotch Plains

This column sponsored by

SONOCO PRODUCTS CO.
Garwood, N. J.

This column sponsored by

EARL HEINZ - CONFECTIONERY
Park Ave. Scotch Plains