

THE WEATHER: Regardless of what the temperature is outside—or regardless of the condition of the sky—the weather and everything else is 100% PERFECT since the great news came. For the past week nobody has paid any attention to the weather or to anything else except the one thing everybody was wanting to hear!! Now that it HAS come, everything, in every way, is jake!!

Here's Your Letter From Home

SENT TO YOU WITH THE BEST WISHES OF

Hoke L. Vandigriff
Union Bank & Trust Co.
Coca-Cola Bottling Co.
Grimes Motor Co.
John Danziger, Inc.
Fannin's

Radio Station WSFA
Paterson's Rosemont Gardens
Brown Printing Co.
Young Ice Cream Co.
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Durr Drug Co.

SPONSORS OF THE "LETTER FROM HOME" PROGRAM

STORY OF THE WEEK: Montgomerians, like all other people, have had their ears glued to the radio for the better part of a week. When the BIG NEWS came excitement broke with a bang. Everyone had his or her own personal comment on his or her own feelings at the moment. One young man, turned down several times by the army, remarked: "For three years I've been a 4-F." At last I'm a man again!"

NO. 107

LETTERS LEAVE MONTGOMERY EVERY FRIDAY

AUGUST 17, 1945

DEAR GANG: Now that the big moment has come ... Now that the shooting is over ... Now that the Axis is dead and interred ... Now that the bloodshed and suffering has ended ... Now that peace has returned to a torn and anguished world ... one word keeps pounding and roaring through our minds and hearts back here at home ... That word is:

THANKS ... THANKS ... THANKS ... AND THANKS!

Thanks to Almighty God for being on our side all the way ... Thanks to every one of you men and women of the armed forces of the United States ... Thanks to our splendid Allies ... Thanks to you all.

Your job has been done gloriously ... magnificently ... perfectly ... Sacrifices and suffering have been borne and even laughed off ... Hardships upon hardships have been endured by many of you with a shrug of the shoulders and a wry grin ... What you have done is appreciated sincerely, deeply, and whole-heartedly by those of us at home ... Don't think it isn't.

Nor are we forgetful of those of your friends and buddies who will not be coming home ... For them we all—you, us, and everyone else in America,—must put our shoulders to the wheel so that THEIR youngsters and yours shall never have to go off to war ... shall never have to conquer some future Axis ... For our part, we here at home, pledge ourselves whole-heartedly to that end!

"MONTGOMERY WELCOME" to ... Major John R. Farris ... S/Sgt. Fred Oliver ... Capt. Lawrence R. Thomas ... Capt. Alex Marks ... Joseph D. Harris, S 1/c ... S/Sgt. Henry L. Hattemer, Jr. ... Pfc. Clifton E. Cooner, Jr. ... Lt. Ralph S. Davis ... Sgt. Vernon Moseley ... Pfc. William C. Melvin ... Capt. Charles Craig ... T/Sgt. Carl E. Young ... Sgt. E. K. Stevens.

AROUND THE TOWN ... Here's a proposition from your Carnegie Library ... Won't be long now till many of you will be coming home and Mrs. S. R. Damon, librarian at Carnegie wants to be sure to have the very books you want, especially for those of you who are interested in new professions or new (for you) line of business ... It doesn't make any difference whether you are interested in raising foxes in Alaska, bread fruit in the tropics or children at home, just write Mrs. S. R. Damon, librarian Carnegie Library, telling her what book you want, and she guarantees to have it here, with your name on it, when you get home ... Green Motor Court has just announced the building of another modern motor court of 34 units to be located on Mobile Road ... The Miller G. Williams Company, distributors and retailers of farm equipment of every type, are building a big sales building and distributing warehouse, also on the Mobile Road ... The State's Building Program, with Dr. John M. Gallalee, professor of mechanical engineering at University of Alabama as full time technical director, is already working on some \$25,000,000 of state building projects for the next five years ... State Finance Director Hayse Tucker announces that a \$75,000 project is under way to make an overall research study of the state's iron and steel industry with a view of determining what steps will be necessary to supplement its abundant source of raw materials making finished products ... Beautiful new brick church is rising from the ruins of Montgomery's tornado last spring to replace the Chisholm Methodist Church which was destroyed at that time ... EAL adds two more flights from your home town to New York and Miami which now gives us better than a plane an hour ... north, south, east and west ... First Cotton Bale of the year, raised by Charlie Brown, Jr., a Mt. Meigs negro, sells to Luther Skinner for \$195 at the rate of 62½c a pound ... Montgomery's Wartime Directory of 828 pages is the largest in its history; listing only those over 18 years of age, it has 50,016 names ... Maxwell Field is again calling on Montgomerians for more rooms and apartments, this time for the overflow contingent of Chinese flying cadets soon to begin training at the air-base ... 4-H Club members became so anxious to get 24, grass-clover fattened produced by the Black Belt Substation recently offered at Demopolis auction that they paid, according to authorities, more than was consistent so the substation is making a refund to every purchaser of 7c a pound ... Elizabeth Smith, of LaPine, a graduate of the 1945

class of Montgomery County High, wins the Montgomery Salesmen's Club \$500 college scholarship and will enter Alabama College in Montevallo in September ... At last Birmingham is getting newspapers again, the newspaper strike there being ended ... James F. Kirk, principal of Catoma School and his wife as teacher in the primary grades, have resigned to join the Pickens County school system ... Death has claimed R. G. Arrington, former solicitor, and C. A. Fonville, Western Union Veteran.

"FOR WHOM THE BELLS CHIME" ... Sgt. E. W. Robinson and Wac Estefie Lopez ... Cpl. Riley J. Jeffcoat and Jewell Jackson ... M. P. McClellan, S 1/c, and Dorothy Jewell ... S/Sgt. Joseph Edward Marshall and Dorothy Madison ... Lt. Thomas Moore Nicholson and Andrea Josephine Pratt ... Lt. Holton Gilreath, Jr. and Jimmie Formby ... Sgt. William Ewart Glegg, Jr. and Nell Moore ... Thomas Harris Collier and Dorothy Marie Murphy ... Cpl. Ezra Cade and Ernestine Williams.

MEDALS, PROMOTIONS, GOOD NEWS ... Pfc. Robert G. Weafer has been awarded the Purple Heart. He is a veteran of the France, Belgium, and Germany campaigns, serving with the Ninth Air Force ... T/Sgt. Henry M. Raley is non-com in charge of aerial radio operators at a Ninth Air Force Service Command unit in Germany ... Assigned to the Fifth Air Force's famed 417th Bomb Group "Sky Lancers," is Sgt. Earnest H. Bentley, turret gunner ... We hear that Cpl. Luther McWorter is serving his second tour of duty in the Pacific theater with the 313th General Hospital in Manila ... Homer Holcomb, S 1/c, George Cole, F 1/c and Felder A. Miller, S 2/c, have returned on leave from a tour of duty aboard the USS Hornet ... Paul B. Fussell, S 1/c, was aboard the USS Atlanta which participated in the bombardment of the Jap coastline ... Merrell E. Wilson, PhM 1/c, is now assigned to independent duty aboard his ship, meaning duty without a doctor ... also has a promotion to first class ... Henry Hopson, Ptr 3/c, and his brother, staged a reunion in Guam recently ... Henry went over to visit W. E. and they had a wonderful time ... Henry bids all his friends, "Hello" ... Pfc. Fred Beach and his brother Sgt. John Beach met in Germany ... The two boys can now visit each other ... They stopped by Bamburg to see their cousin Pfc. Thomas Beach, and missed him by six days ... Thomas, with 116 points, is awaiting his return to the States ... Understand Thomas made quite a record in his outfit and is well-loved by his comrades ... One of the most interesting histories of a unit's work that we have seen is that of the 16th General Hospital, written by Sgt. E. O. Bowling ... Wish we had space to quote it ... Makes an interesting addition to our souvenir collection, and will make informative reading to our radio audience ... Thanks, Sgt. Bowling ... Pfc. J. W. Basham was recently awarded the Bronze Campaign Star ... Sgt. W. M. Chappell in England writes an excellent description of customs and people ... also tells us he has made us an ash tray from the piston of a Spitfire motor ... A million thanks to you, Sgt. ... We'll be anxiously awaiting the gift's arrival ... Lt. James R. Ballard was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in Germany ... Lt. John F. Gannon has been retired under the demobilization plan and is now back in business ... Also receiving the Bronze Star Medal is Pfc. Curtis Bazzell, who was given the award for heroic achievement in action in Italy ... For outstanding service while serving as control officer of a heavy automatic machine gun battery on an aircraft carrier, Lt. Comdr. Frank Moseley, USNR, was awarded a Commendation Ribbon at a ceremony at Long Beach, Calif. ... A Silver Star was given S/Sgt. John T. Dorsey for gallantry in leading a raiding party in France back in February ... T/5 Eugene Smith arrived recently in the U. S. from a hospital in France ... Sunday paper carried a picture of Coast Guardsmen aboard LST on lookout for Jap planes, and Terrell L. Best, S 1/c, is in the group ... Getting supplies to our Chinese allies is the job of T/5 Herbert M. Price, who is serving with a unit of the military railway service in India ... Lt. Col. Lawrence G. Hill, who holds the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with eight Oak Leaf Clusters, is now assigned to Pampa, Texas as a member of the advanced flying school ... Lt. William D. Bridges, veteran of the ETO,

is now stationed in the Pacific area ... S/Sgt. Johnnie Lowe is with a medical detachment in the Pacific area ... Lawrence W. Street has been promoted to the rank of Lt. Col. at Headquarters Army Air Force in India ... Lionel W. Cranmore, MM 3/c, and Clarence L. Petty, S 1/c, are serving aboard the USS Suwanee ... Serving aboard the USS Ingraham which survived the fury of a suicide plane attack off Okinawa, was George Jones, SM 1/c ... Among survivors of the ill-fated USS Drexler, which was sunk by Jap suicide bombers, was William H. King, RdM 1/c ... John H. Boles, personnel administrative specialist of the 391st "Black Death" A-26 Invader Group, has been promoted to Staff Sergeant in France ... As we were writing this column, in walked Sgt. R. R. Hataway, USMC, back from overseas and now assigned at Quantico, Va. ... Glad to see him again ... We are also informed that ex-Sgt. E. K. Stevens has been discharged and is back at work in Montgomery ... Promotions we have noted recently are: J. F. Stough and Albert L. Roemer are captains ... It's Lt. (jg) for Edward H. Lindley ... Cedric W. Parsons is now S/Sgt. ... and Lewis L. Bomar is Sgt. ... Victor Mooneyham has upped to T/5, and Gordon W. Burke to Cpl. ... Marion H. Scott is Pfc. Scott now ... and our Navy lads are on the up also ... Paul B. Fussell has advanced to S 1/c, and so has M. P. McClellan ... We note that title too for Malcolm Horrell, Jr., currently assigned at Gulfport, Miss. ... Congratulations, fellows ... We know those advances represent work ... and we are proud of you.

"BABY ROSTER" ... Lt. and Mrs. Arthur Maxer, a daughter ... Sgt. and Mrs. Otis Gullede, a son ... Lt. and Mrs. Clayton H. Powell, a daughter ... Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Knotts, a son ... Cpl. and Mrs. Alan Kane, a son ... M/Sgt. and Mrs. Horace C. Cleckley, a daughter ... Cpl. and Mrs. Gerald R. Buchanan, a son.

QUOTES

CPL. GLENN L. POLLARD (Erlangen, Germany)—"Bastille Day, July 14, I was in Paris and I have never seen such a celebration ... While there I saw a city with lights for the first time in 20 months."

CPL. JOE DUCK (Pacific Area)—"Have been out of the States about 31 months and expect to see the end of the show."

PFC. JAMES B. HILL (MONDANAO)—"Have just come down 'heart-break trail'. We fellows from the Third Battalion think it's appropriately named."

PFC. LUTHER M. BERRY (Northern Italy)—"We were always front line artillery. We had a few shells dropped too close for comfort."

T/SGT. THOMAS H. MOODY (Istres, France)—"I flew on combat missions before the war was over and now am flying troops from France to Casablanca."

M/SGT. CARTER B. OLIVE (At Sea)—"I am Sgt. Major aboard a large Navy transport. The work is interesting. The only draw-back is the weather—too hot."

EDWARD E. THORNELL, S 1/c (Pacific Area)—"I am attached to a submarine base on Midway Islands. It has done a magnificent job in the destruction of the Japanese fleet."

RICHARD C. SMILIE, PhM 2/c (Aleutians)—"After several months of being hospitalized with a tropical disease I was transferred to my present address, an Aleutian base. It seems as if hot weather doesn't agree with me any more."

CLINTON P. COLLIER, JR., RM 3/c (Pacific)—"My work is that of a radio operator. Tell the boys hello and to write to me."

SGT. JOHN L. PINCKNEY (Ft. Oglethorpe, Ga.)—"I still am connected with Public Relations, and very interesting work it is too."

T/5 T. E. SCHUFFERT (China)—"I crossed the Pacific by boat, India by train. I rode over the Ledo Road to Myitkyina, Burma by truck and I flew the Hump into China. I am back with my original unit now and we are doing some fine work ... So are the mosquitoes."

PFC. FRED CHAMBLISS (Mindanao)—"When the fighting was going on, my letters came right to the front lines, thanks to our mail service over here ... I now have five battle stars and hope to return home soon."

W. T. CROWDER, Ph M 2/c (Guam)—"The funny part about the heat over here is that you will burn up during the day and perspire like a hard working boiler stoker, but at night you will have to sleep under a blanket."

CPL. G. F. TIDWELL (W. Pacific)—"I am on a floating air depot which is helping the ground crews of the B-29's and helping to keep them in flying shape."

W. GLENN HARRISON (W. Pacific)—"Living conditions here are far better than anyone had expected and there is no room for complaint about the food, although nothing will ever take the place of Montgomery and real Southern home-cooked meals."

Others checking in include: Jesse A. Darby, Montgomery ... Lt. Alexander C. Hannon, Rockville, Md. ... Cpl. William Shannon, Ft. Sill, Okla. ... Lt. J. R. Thornbury, Dallas, Texas ... Pvt. William M. Vann, Ft. Ord, Calif. ... Ernest W. McKibben, EM 3/c, Bremerton, Wash. ... Willie C. Duncan, AMM 3/c, Jacksonville, Fla. ... Sgt. Robert M. Hardwick, McClellan Field, Calif. ... M. B. Horrell, Jr., S 1/c, Gulfport, Miss. ... Lawrence M. Dickinson, MM 3/c, Montgomery ... Sgt. Eric Johnson, Camp Claiborne, La. ... Pvt. Frank L. Riley, Camp Crowder, Mo. ... Cpl. Nathan D. Payne, Hondo, Texas ... Cpl. Riley J. Jeffcoat, Camp Lejeune, N. C. ... Cpl. Gordon W. Burke, Miami Beach, Fla. ... M. P. McClellan, S 1/c, Pensacola, Fla.

Through APO, San Francisco: Capt. Houston Y. McPherson ... S/Sgt. Cedric W. Parsons ... T/5 David F. Hopper ... Pfc. Billie M. Solomon ... Lt. K. B. LeCroy ... Sgt. L. B. Boyd ... Sgt. Lewis L. Bomar ... Pfc. Willie Clayton ... 1st Lt. James B. Hoffman.

Via FPO, same city: J. W. Davis, SF 2/c ... Leon D. Neese, MoM 2/c ... Edward M. Chambless, S 1/c (RDM) ... Alton B. Cumbus, RT 2/c ... Paul B. Fussell, S 1/c ... Pfc. Ted H. Martin ... Chester P. Spinks, EM 1/c ... Pvt. Thomas M. Jones ... C. R. Crowder, PhM 2/c ... Henry F. Hopson, Ptr. 3/c ... R. E. Manley ... Merrell E. Wilson, PhM 1/c.

Ryukyus Islands: Capt. Paul J. Mertins ... Sgt. Griffin S. Hendrix. Philippines: J. C. Booth, Jr., MaM 2/c ... Cpl. Dempsey Bullock (Manila).

Saipan: Sgt. Lewe B. Mizelle, Jr. ... Cpl. Russell B. Sheehan.

Luzon: Pvt. A. C. Bullock ... Sgt. James O. Berry.

Guam: Pfc. J. W. Basham.

FPO, New York: J. T. Spencer, AM 3/c.

APO, N. Y.: Cpl. John W. Hartley ... Pfc. Marion H. Scott, Sr. ... T/5 Victor L. Mooneyham ... Capt. John T. Carr, Jr. ... S/Sgt. Jack Frazer ... M/Sgt. James H. Gardner ... S/Sgt. Carl V. McLeod ... Lt. Helton G. Hudgens ... Pfc. J. E. Franklin.

Tripoli: Pfc. Walker D. Baird, Jr.

France: Sgt. H. B. Loeb ... Sgt. E. O. Bowling (Charlon).

Germany: T/5 James R. Pelham (Bremerhauen) ... Cpl. George A. Compton (Nurnberg) ... Sgt. Patrick McGlynn (Landau) ... Pvt. C. L. Metcalf, Jr. (Lamerden) ... T/Sgt. Alfred J. Dickinson (Stuttgart) ... Sgt. John W. Beach.

Czechoslovakia: Pvt. Robert Perry (Bomalice).

England: S/Sgt. W. M. Chappell ... Lt. Glennville D. Cook, Jr.

Italy: Cpl. W. Herd.

And more interesting publications are received for the collection ... Our hearty thanks a million to S/Sgt. Jack Frazer for the attractive and highly interesting booklet of the 273rd INFANTRY ... Frazer's company made the first attack of the Division we understand, and Lt. Kotze, who made the historic meeting with the Russians, was also in the company ... to James W. Davis, SF 2/c, for the SEA BEE, entertaining reading, it is too ... From T/5 David F. Hopper on Luzon, comes the BASE TIMES and DAILY PACIFICAN ... the anniversary edition of BIOPSY, sent in by T/5 T. E. Schuffert ... MUNDA TIMES, from Sgt. L. B. Boyd ... and a news sheet from Biak, Netherlands East Indies from Pfc. Willie Clayton ... all very interesting and greatly appreciated, boys ... Lt. Glennville D. Cook, Jr., encloses a copy of SHAEF which he tells us is printed in four different languages ... Copies were distributed from the bomb rays of our Fortresses in large cans on parachutes all over Europe, he tells, particularly in Germany ... The publication has been discontinued since Supreme Headquarters has been dissolved ... Many thanks to all you fellows ... Pfc. Julian Hall mails us a beautiful picture of the Cathedral at Rouen and Capt. Charlie Ball sends some excellent pictures of Hitler's home (ruins) ... Splendid photography, Capt. Ball and our thanks for the snaps ... Cpl. Dempsey Bullock in Manila wants to say hello to his brothers, Albert in Siberia; Dan in England; Clarence in Germany and Zemor in France ... Incidentally, there are six of the seven Bullock boys in the service ... And we've just stopped chatting with you to say "hello" to D. L. Crutcher, Fireman, Merchant Marines, who is at home on leave and dropped by the shop ... D. L. was assigned to a Liberty ship and came from the Philippines ... His brother, J. T., is buried on Leyte ... Other visitors include S/Sgt. Sherman Hickman, formerly prisoner-of-war, who wanted back issues of the LFH to catch up on reading about you fellows ... Amos A. Beasley, MM 1/c, paid us a visit and Major Clayton Dowe, back from the ETO, telephoned and we enjoyed a pleasant chat ... Welcome home also goes for Capt. Oscar Dahlene, Jr., at home after two years overseas ... He is busy getting acquainted with his 16-month-old daughter ... Another father-new-daughter meeting is that of S/Sgt. William H. Hubbard, Jr. (Ex-S/Sgt. to be correct) and baby Florrie Ann ... It is now MR. Hubbard, thanks to the point system ... Also MR. for James M. Jones and Lawrence M. Dickinson ... Jesse Darby drops us a card to let us know he is at home on a 30-day furlough after serving overseas ... Sgt. William Poole is also a visiting veteran ... Pfc. Robert McDonald has arrived at a Pacific destination to join the famous Wildcats ... Jack is at home from the ETO on furlough and is busy, we hear, oiling and polishing Luger and SS pistols he brought home ... It's good news, too, that Lt. Ernest Lindley has returned home from overseas ... A visitor on our radio program was T/Sgt. Davenport Smith, home for 30 days ... He is stationed in Trinidad, where he operates the radio station ... It's really great welcoming you guys home, and we hope it won't be long before we can be saying it to all of you ... Meanwhile, keep on writing to us, and we will be wishing you the best of luck ... Until next week.

YOUR GANG AT HOME.