

Your Letter From Home

Here lies the body of Casey,
A bullet turned him to clay.
He was leading the life of
Riley,
While Riley was away.

"The Sky Writer",
Pasca, Washington

Sent To You With The Best Wishes of
Veterans of Foreign Wars
The Gates Dry Goods Co.
The Fort Dodge Creamery Co.
The Fort Dodge Serum Co.
The Tobin Packing Co.
The Elks Club of Fort Dodge
The Loyal Order of Moose
American Legion and 40 & 8
The Clinic Pharmacy and Supply
Larry Geer Ballrooms
Iowa-Illinois Gas & Electric Co.
Fort Dodge Tent & Awning Co.
Bialto & Strand Theatres
Dr. Macdonald's Vitamized Feed Co.
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The Becker Florists

Radio Station K V F D

Sponsors of "Your Letter From Home" heard over KVFD daily 12:45 p. m., Monday through Friday.

"Between you and me,
how do you like my new
girl?"

"Between you and me,
not so good, but alone —
oh boy!"

"The Sky Writer",
Pasca, Washington

Vol. 2, No. 12

WRITTEN EVERY FRIDAY

January 12, 1945

✪ **DEAR JOE:** This is your report from little America. We miss the penguins and Admiral Byrd and the igloos but we have lots of the quick frozen weather that they and he love so much. This morning one of the bureaus in Washington found out about it and said everybody get their houses down to 68 degrees or else we are going to run out of coal. Which just goes to show, no matter what you do, you're wrong. All week long we've been throwing in cobs and coal and coal and cobs trying to get our house up to 68 degrees. Not all the sad sacks are in the army. . . . Before I forget it, let me set down the fact that Sgt. Roy Carlson, somewhere in France, played Santa Claus on Christmas Eve—white whiskers, red suit and all. This morning, I read the program of that Christmas Eve show—a program sent to one of his relatives. More than ever before I realized, a little, the loneliness of your Christmas Eve in a far country. Perhaps next year and next year and next year we'll be able to make it up to you, fellow. Perhaps, someday, it'll be just a story to tell your children as you sit with your family of a Christmas Eve and wait for Santa Claus.

✪ **AROUND THE TOWN.** Bill Clark, C. of C. Secretary and Major Elmer Apt are off to Detroit and North Tonawanda, New York to see head men about moving Wartburg College to Fort Dodge. They represent the Fort Dodge Retailers. . . . O. D. T. ruling on Conventions caused Northwestern Mutual Insurance Company, represented by Frank and Denny McTigue, to cancel a meeting in Fort Dodge, Jan. 22 and 23. O. D. T. says no more Conventions after February 1st. We are short on travel accommodations. . . . The Fort Dodge Appliance store selling G. E. gadgets and farm machinery opens in the Demos building on Central Avenue right across from the Court House, January 25th. Nohn Nicely, formerly of Omaha, is owner and manager. . . . Joe Tierney, well-loved Fort Dodge restaurateur is dead. Joe died of a heart attack. He was 60. . . . John Mitchell has been appointed to the school board to take the place of Congressman Jim Dolliver. Art Brooks has been upped to vice president of the board. . . . Farmers in Webster County are being asked to plant more corn this year, less soybeans. . . . Final figures on the 6th War Loan Drive show Webster County over the top by a margin of \$792,179.78. Quota was \$2,518,000. Sales were \$3,310,179.78. . . . Monday morning started out mild 18 above zero. By noon the mercury had fallen to 5 degrees above zero. . . . The Men's Civic Glee Club is heard every Monday evening now at 7:30 over KVFD sponsored by the Tobin Packing Company. . . . Mrs. W. W. Haire is dead. She died last Friday. . . . Don Lindstrom and Ebbe Ostblom are opening a clothing store in Gowrie, March 1st. . . . Failure of the heating plant in the Gowrie Consolidated school is giving the youngsters another vacation. The entire plant will have to be rebuilt. In the meantime classes are being held in the city hall and in the Methodist and Zion Lutheran Churches. . . . Tom Gody, Jr., disabled war veteran, wounded in Sicily is now a Waukonsa Twp. constable. He was appointed by the board of supervisors to take the place of Maurice Collins who is ill. . . . E. C. Zempke has purchased the New Public Market at 16 South Seventh Street. . . . R. D. Mitchell is the new president of Kiwanis. . . . The Sportsmen's Club had buffalo meat for dinner Monday evening at the Warden.

✪ **TWO HEARTS THAT BEAT AS ONE**—Mary Ann Bailey of Hollywood, Fla., and Ens. Willis Staton at Vero Beach, Fla., recently. . . . Evelyn Hansen and Howard Gembler, Q 1/c, Jan. 7th in Fort Dodge. Howard is back from the Pacific after 20 months overseas. He was wounded in the Philippines. . . . Marilyn Green and Lt. Robert Durian, Jan. 14th in Fort Dodge. . . . Yvonne Armstrong and Pvt. T. W. Vernon of Puyallup, Wash. No date set. . . . Aljean Holm, of Duncombe, and Robert Hawlett of Kanawha, Dec. 30th in Duncombe. . . . Kathryn Anderson, of Lanyon, and Pfc. Omar Burkgren, of Dayton, in Berkeley, Calif., Christmas eve. . . . Mildred Miller of Atlanta, Ga., and Capt. Richard Gadd in Atlanta, Dec. 28th. . . . Dorothy Jensen and Lt. Carl Bahls in Ft. Dodge, Jan. 4th. . . . Helen Springer and Edward N. Pfaff, Dec. 30th, in Ft. Dodge. . . . Isabel Coughlan, of Clare, and Elmer Krebs, of Manson, at Clare Jan. 9th.

✪ **ENJOYING MOM'S COOKING**—Capt. and Mrs. J. G. Knoll and son Ronald from McCook, Nebr. . . . Cpl. John J. McDermott of Clare, from the 34th division in Italy. . . . Lt. John Crilly, of Clare, from San Francisco. . . . Arthur Hoeflin, S 2/c, from Navy Pier, Chicago. . . . Pfc. Marvin McCoy from Ft. Jackson, S. C. . . . Allan Johnson, S 2/c, from Bethesda, Maryland. . . . Sgt. Delmar Dayton from Clovis, N. M. . . . Pfc. Randall Schumacher of Duncombe from Italy. . . . John Estlund, EM 3/c, after eight months P. T. boat service in England. . . . Pvt. Roy Dencklau from Ft. Geo. Meade, Md. . . . Pvt. Harry J. Barber enroute to Ft. Geo. Meade, Md. . . . Paul J. Halligan, EM 3/c, of Moorland, from the Pacific. . . . A/C Chas. Freed, of Burnside, from Bakersfield, Cal. . . . Geo. Hadjes, S 2/c, from Camp Shoemaker, Cal.

✪ **SCOREBOARD.** The Dodgers took on West and East Waterloo in that order last week end and gave 'em the works. The score in the West game, which was rough and tough all the way, was 27 to 23, with Merle Davidson of the Dodgers making up 13 points. The Dodgers have a new addition to the team, LaVern Lockert who came here from Bemidji, Minnesota. Six feet two, he plays a nice game and added seven points to the Dodgers total. Saturday evening, the Dodgers had a romp with East, defeating them 31 to 16. This second victory over the week end put the Dodgers in second place in the Big Seven Conference. We haven't lost a game since that first gift to North High of Des Moines. Janssen got 11 points in the East game and Woodard, 10. Tonight we play Mason City. It'll be the last appearance for George Knack and Merle Davidson. Mid-year men, their high school days are over. . . . Sacred Heart Alumni defeated the Irish 23 to 15. Huebsch, for the Alumni was high scorer with 12 points. . . . Sacred Heart of Poca-hontas took Corpus Christi 26 to 18. . . . West Waterloo took the Dodger matmen 22 to 14. . . . Sacred Heart defeated Barnum 31 to 13.

✪ **WAR'S GRIM TOLL**—S/Sgt. Maurice Fevold is reported missing in action over Germany since Dec. 23rd. He had completed 50 missions as tail gunner on a B-26. . . . Pfc. Jerry Coughlan of Clare was seriously wounded in Europe Dec. 22. He is with an anti-tank unit. . . . Robert Fitzgerald, MM 3/c, of Duncombe, is now presumed to be dead. His ship, the destroyer Leary, was torpedoed and sunk in the Northeast Atlantic, Dec. 24, 1943. . . . Sgt. Clyde Carroll is a prisoner in Germany. He was first reported missing in Italy, Oct. 17th.

✪ **HOLLAND.** Sgt. John E. Scully is in Holland. Because of the holiday delay in mail, your letter was a little late getting here, John, but we'll do that number and express that wish anyway.

✪ **CHRISTMAS CARDS.** A Christmas card from Pfc. Fred Nordgren with the 90th Division somewhere in Germany. The card reads, "No flowery words, no fancy design; with us, one thought—be home next time". And to that, Fred has added his own verse. "Dear Sponsors: This card is not the regular kind, but it tells just what is on my mind. I hope the things it tells come true, so I can spend next Christmas with you". Thanks, Fred. . . . from Sgt. Pete Yates somewhere over there. . . . from S/Sgt. Francis Schwendemann with the 534 AAA (AW) Bn., somewhere in France. . . . From Lt. John Bice somewhere in Holland.

✪ **FROZEN NORTH.** W. W. Skophammer, HA 1/c, celebrated his second Christmas in the Aleutians "by drooling over my pin-ups for a half hour extra. What a life!" Yes sir, Bill, we'll play that number.

✪ **Personal to Dorothy Flinn**—I couldn't figure out a good spot this week but next week I have reserved the box for you at the right hand corner of the letter.

✪ **THIS PAST WEEK YLFH** received a very welcome, though unsolicited, contribution from the Waukonsa Lodge No. 96. It was to help, said Mrs. Anna Collingsworth, in a small way on Your Letter From Home. Home Town Mothers doing their part to help you. Pretty swell.

✪ **PHILIPPINES.** Pvt. Harold L. Bass is in the Philippines.

✪ **LA BELLE FRANCE.** At least one G. I., Pvt. Arthur Rosendahl, is all for the new combat sleeping bags. "We like them fine for being warm but they are not as easy to get out of as the picture

in 'Stars and Stripes' shows them to be—at least on a dark wet night'. Art is APO 758, New York, with Btry. D, 436th AAA Bn., somewhere in France . . . Pvt. Eugene Taylor is somewhere in France.

☉ **MERRY ENGLAND.** Lt. Dewey F. Edwards is coming home from England. He has completed his 35 missions and will be here soon.

☉ **"TIME MAGAZINE'S PONY EDITION"** comes from Cpl. Art Ross, APO 986, Seattle, located, I presume, in Alaska or Canada or thereabouts. Art says, "I wonder if you would like to start collecting "pony" editions of overseas magazines?" Would I! Brother, it must be the squirrel in me. I can hardly wait. Sure, send 'em. It's a wonderful idea. Start sending, brothers, start sending. This is the first one I've seen. Thanks a lot, Art, we'll play that number for Jeanne and Micky.

☉ **HIGH C'S.** Somewhere on the seven seas, Dean C. Campbell, S 1/c, is a member of the crew of the submarine, U. S. S. Sennett . . . Joe Whittington, EM 1/c, somewhere on the U. S. S. Martin says hello to Glen Musselman.

☉ **OVER SEAS.** Pvt. Meinhard Hollman somewhere in the ETO is in U. S. Army 4112 Hospital Plant, APO 316, with trench foot.

☉ **INDIA.** Cpl. Bob Zeka has 375 coolies working for him or under his supervision somewhere in India. Bob says Cpl. Thie was through his base recently but he missed him . . . Pvt. Carol A. Sorlie is in Assam, India.

☉ **PACIFIC.** Ens. Harold W. Hampston is with Air Rescue Sqdn. 3 on Saipan . . . Jack Jones, MoMM 2/c, who left the states in April is on Saipan now and is the chauffeur for the commanding officer of the Naval Station there. He saw Dodger Griz Gross and had a good talk about old times in F. D. "If there are any other Dodgers here, I wish they'd make themselves known". We'll play that number, Jack. I'm still writing YLFH from "Dear Joe" down to the right hand corner of the opposite page. Thanks for those kind words . . . Pfc. Dale Miller is in the Russell Islands . . . Ellis Hughes, ground mechanic somewhere in the Pacific, expects to be home about February 1st. He's been overseas two and a half years . . . Joe Doyle, S 1/c, located on a rock in the Pacific says hello to everyone and wants Dodgers to be on the lookout for A. R. O. U. No. 2. "When you spot it, look me up" . . . A cartoon from W. A. Morrow, SK 3/c, on a rock in the Pacific. The artist gives the curves of the South Sea Island maiden as Hollywood sees her—and then as the boys out there see her. On the way out W. A. met Jack Rohr. Jack had Ft. Dodge printed in large letters on the back of his jacket. Thanks, W. A. . . . Sgt. Harry E. McBride is somewhere in the Pacific. Recently he saw Jimmy Haring, Coxn.

☉ **SERVICE PAPERS AND INSIGNIAS.** "The Masthead" from Lavern R. Sinclair, Ph. M 2/c, U. S. Naval Hospital Staff, Treasure Island, California. Thanks, Lavern . . . The History of the 634th Tank Destroyer Battalion from Capt. Max S. Wortman, somewhere in Belgium. Thanks, Max . . . The patch of the 3rd Amphibious Marine Corps from Pfc. Francis G. DeHart. Francis is in the Naval Hospital at San Diego, Unit 3, Bldg. 335, recovering from injuries received during a bombing raid. Thanks, Francis and a speedy recovery . . . "The Christmas Command Post" from Cpl. Robert Zeka somewhere in the C. B. I. Theater. Thanks, Bob . . . The patch of the 15th Air Corps from Rudi Anderson somewhere in Italy and a long account from "Stars and Stripes" of Pvt. Edwin Lemke of Webster City, the one man army with the 34th Division. Thanks, Rudi, we'll do that number . . . The patch of the F. B. I. (Free Belgium of the Invader) from Cpl. Henry T. Haroldson from somewhere in Germany. "This patch was worn on the left shoulder with a miraculous medal underneath it. The uniform of the F. B. I. was a tan coverall. We really got the best welcome in Belgium". Henry has been in Germany since September 15th. Thanks, Cpl. . . . "The Beachhead" from C. D. Mailander, EM 3/c, Oceanside, California. Thanks, C. D. . . . The Southern Defense Command insignia from T/5 Raymond Finck, now home on leave. This defense command extends from Brownsville to Florida. Thanks, Ray . . . "The Super Fort" from Ch. William T. Paden, somewhere overseas. Thanks, Bill . . . "Walla Walla Eagle" from Sgt. Mervin J. Peterson, Walla Walla, Washington . . . "The Ford Island" from McClellan (Rusty) Long, Pearl Harbor. Thanks, Rusty. And an earlier copy of the same magazine from Kenneth O. Wertz, HA 1/c, Thanks, Ken.

☉ **OVER HERE.** Rodney Black, Coxn., is at Port Hueneme, California . . . Pfc. Irene Miller is in the station hospital at Camp Stoneman, California . . . Pvt. James Saigh is at Camp Bowie, Texas . . . W. R. Tuvell, AMM 1/c, is a land sailor at Hutchinson, Kansas, training flight crews for B-24's. Mrs. Tuvell is with him. Gene is an old subscriber now . . . H. L. Culver, MoMEM 1/c, is passing ammunition "on the double" at Hawthorne, Nevada. "From the amount of ammunition leaving this depot we must be giving the Japs a bad time". Could be, could be. We'll play that number, H. L. . . . Ensign and Mrs. John Markey are at the U. S. Naval Air Station, Beaufort, So. Carolina . . . Chaplain E. J. Quinn at the Naval Air Training Center at Jacksonville, Florida, says he'd go for a game of gin rummy if Moe Tierney would care to drop in. How about it, Moe? . . . Pvt. Mary C. Anglin, USMC, is coming home for good, honorably discharged from the Marines . . .

He is now Pfc. Earl Murphy and is stationed at Ft. Storey, Virginia, 1st cook at officers' mess. He and his wife, the former Olive Fish, were just home . . . T/Sgt. Edmond Gochee, of Clare, is in the convalescent hospital at Ft. Thomas, Kentucky. He was wounded in the hand on a flight over Yugoslavia . . . K. Kelly, S 1/c, now at Chicago, spent two and a half weeks in the dispensary recently. Chicken-pox! We'll send that paper, Kenneth . . . Pvt. Bernard Oakland is at Camp White, Oregon . . . Johnny Ault, AMMH 2/c, now at Hottville, California, went to Pasadena for the Rose Bowl game on New Years but didn't see it. Sold out. No seats, no standing room . . . A. L. Osmond, jr., S 1/c, has been in Washington studying micro-filming. While there he saw both the Gormally girls and Charlotte Wiche. His new address is Naval Records, Management Center, Los Angeles, California . . . Robert E. Johnson, S 2/c, my former Sunday paper boy, no less, is now at Sampson, New York . . . A/C Joe Brown is at Iowa City.

☉ **FROM THE FIVE CORNERS OF THE WORLD.** Pfc. Carl Leiss, Netherland Indies. "Here, in the Netherland Indies, life isn't too bad for the G. I.'s. Just rain, insects, heat and sleepless nights. All accepted as part of this life now; quite confusing at first, though. The country, or rather island, is very tropical with almost everything that goes with the tropics. Blue sea, colorful birds, tropical plants, and very warm days, beats the 110 ones of a Fort Dodge summer day. Often, evenings are cool with a nice breeze blowing in from the sea. I can't tell much about the natives as I have only seen a few. I can say that the further North I am getting, the lighter they are getting. On one of the Islands I was on I saw, at close hand, a red headed native woman. Being a "pill roller" I am on duty in the dispensary which is a follow up of the days when I was selling you-all soap, pills or what-have-you over the Ford Hopkins counter. We use lots of the bandages the Red Cross Women are spending those evenings making, or the blood plasma that you all are giving. Keep up the good work!"

Lt. Frank J. Sims, P. O. W., Germany. "Still out of circulation. Hope it doesn't last too much longer. I'm eager to get back in radio—with flying as a hobby. I've been trying to keep up a little here. Don't imagine it would take long to get back in the swing of announcing. Tell all hello".

Sgt. Jerome V. Lundblad, France. "Have seen a lot of interesting and famous places in England and now in France. Have seen nothing, however, that compares in beauty with an Iowa corn field".

Cpl. Joe F. Krivohlav, Eagle Pass, Texas. "In case you didn't know, Eagle Pass is situated right on the border of Mexico. Where they got the name of Eagle Pass, I don't know. I surely haven't seen any so far. As for Mexico, I'm sure many of the Home Town Ladies would like to visit there, for all things dear to a lady's heart are there. They have real silk stockings for 3 bucks a throw. Also tires, shoes, gasoline ration free. Besides most American brands of whiskey, imported, of course. They also have a liquid red pepper they call tequilla. We turn out future pilots for Uncle Samuel; this being their first phase of training here. So, instead of carrying a gun and pack like the infantry, all we do is carry some tools and spark plugs in our back pockets. The weather is nice here and the coldest it has gotten is 28 above. The day it was 16 below at Fort Dodge it was 75 above here, but I'll still take the good old Iowa weather." (We'll play that request, Joe.)

Pvt. Gordon A. Samuelson, 9th Army, Holland. "Hi, Neighbor: The last Fort Dodger I saw was Joe Segreto back in France. Since then I have been in Belgium and Holland. I had a very good Christmas and, of course, I had turkey with all the trimmings—peach pie, cake, ice cream and some white wine. I'd sure like to get back to ride up the old main drag at Christmas time and see all the lights again and be able to say 'Peace on earth, good will to men', and be assured that there was Peace on Earth."

Lt. Col. John C. Shrader, somewhere in France. "I have seen quite a little of France and it is a pretty country where not showing the damage of war. Just now weather is cold and clear. Christmas dinner last night was great. Some famous champagne from Rheims at the same price as you quoted in the Letter and it was good; then turkey with all the rest to go with it—mince pie and cheese." (Thanks, John. I'll be looking for that copy of "Stars and Stripes".)

And there were other swell letters, not otherwise acknowledged, from Pfc. K. E. Gilbert, APO 955, San Francisco; Lou Jaroslovsky, RM 1/c, FPO, San Francisco; Sgt. D. P. Gochee, APO 133, New York; T/5 Robert C. Lacina, APO 345, New York; Jack Cooklin, S 2/c, FPO, San Francisco; Pvt. Ferris L. Malcolm, APO 331, San Francisco; Floyd W. Long, AMM 3/c, FPO, San Francisco; and Pfc. Cleo Hanson, APO 629, New York . . . Thanks, all you wonderful people. We were a little rushed this week in spots. Our printer is moving, and he begged us, just this once, not to go all out . . . In a letter a week or so ago, a G. I. writing in a fox hole from some bloody sector wrote, "I need all your prayers". Our unworthy prayers. Makes us feel very small. Feeble and uncertain, I know they are, candles in the wind. But they are yours, Joe. May God bless you.

Your Home Town Correspondent,
Ed Breen.