

# Wounded Bellefonte Man Writes of His Experiences



Pvt. Miles K. Nelson

A letter written from a general hospital in France or England by Pvt. Miles K. Nelson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nelson, of East Lamb street, Bellefonte, indicates that he is recovering from a wound believed to have been received in the fighting in Germany.

Pvt. Nelson says that because of his injury he will not be sent back into action and expresses a belief that he will be sent home in the not too distant future. He has been awarded a Purple Heart which he reports he will send home.

The Bellefonte soldier entered the service in July, 1943, while he was a member of the junior class at the Bellefonte High School, and received training at Ft. Eustis, Va., and Ft. Meade, Md., before being sent overseas early this year. He has two brothers in service, Pvt. Edward Nelson, of Greenboro, N. C., and Pvt. Russell Nelson, of Ft. Jackson, S. C.

Excerpts from Pvt. Nelson's letter follow:

"It is quiet now very quiet and I am here in the surgery office using my typewriter. It is dark outside and my duties are done for the day. Oh, yes, indeed, I have a new job doing a bit of clerical work for the surgeon specialist. It is very interesting to observe the various injuries that patients have brought back from the war. The longer I am here, the more I thank God for bringing me back safely with a minor injury.

"I received your telegram around the 30th of August. I was getting ready to feed a patient. My first thought was that some one had died, then many other sorts of imaginations clouded my mind. Conclusion: I did not feed the patient. Moral of the story: kindly never send any more telegrams unless absolutely necessary. I received a ballot from Harrisburg giving me voting privileges.

"Last week I went on pass to see some friends with whom I had become acquainted at the last hospital. I didn't see them all because they had gotten well and were ship-

ped to other hospitals. Things change very fast in the E. T. T.

"I hope dad is getting much better. It will be good to see you all again when this blasted war is over, which, I hope, won't be long.

The nerve in my foot is repairing itself slowly. I am glad an operation won't be necessary. It is much better than it was.

"Today I received the package you had sent me sometime in June, which contained Readers Digest, candy, scissors and other items. It took a long time because it followed me so many different places.

"My sincerest regards for not writing more often and sooner. I had a hard time getting air mail envelopes and have been so very busy typing out records for the busy specialist. I am learning much and it is very interesting. Medical terms are becoming quite common. I expect to call on the people who have written letters sometime next spring, when the green blades of grass are just pushing their way through the frozen ground and those flowers that you planted in the flower bed—the flowers that I sent you—will bloom the same as when they arrived at the house some time last May or July. I will love them too like you did when they first came.

Next Saturday I will send the Purple Heart and some other articles that I have bought in town.

"This is a fine hospital and I enjoy every minute being here, but possibly I will not remain so fortunate. However I do know that I will not see any more Germans, at least until after the war.

"Yesterday I saw a major operation on a patient I know quite well. I had asked the surgeon quite a few times and finally he permitted me to see it. You should have seen me in a white coat, white robe and mask. It was all very realistic and dramatic, and very interesting. When the operation was first started, one of the fellows in the operating room asked me: "Are you getting weak seeing something like this for the first time?" I laughed and said "Heck no, let us proceed, I am not going to faint."

"We are only 5 hours ahead of you now instead of 6 hours. The clocks were set back one hour three days ago.

"I went to town the other day and saw the movie "For Whom the Bells Toll." It was very good but I didn't like the ending. It cost \$4.60 a little more than 70c. balcony price.

"No doubt you are tired reading by now for this is an exceptionally long letter. I hope it is interesting and that I have covered the high points.

"I read in the Stars & Stripes that you have had quite a strong wind over that way. I hope it hasn't touched Bellefonte, but no doubt you felt some of it.

"Everyone (almost) has a cold around here and I am certainly no exception. I have a pile of napkins here and my nose is sore. Outside of that, I am quite happy with it all.

"Will go to bed now for it is past midnight and my eyes are heavy.

"My fondest love and devotion to you all.

"PERK"

# HONOR ROLL

In Alabama



Pvt. Donald Hoover

Private Hoover, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Hoover of Pine Glen, was inducted into the Army, December 15, 1943. From the New Cumberland induction center he was sent to Camp Walters, Texas, where he received 17 weeks' basic training in the infantry. At the end of that period he was sent to Fort George G. Meade, Md., and is now at Camp Rucker, Ala. He was recently transferred to the 4th Service Command in Alabama.

Private Hoover is a graduate of the Snow Shoe High School class of 1940. He is married to the former Catherine McCloskey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles McCloskey of Clarence. He has a five-month-old daughter, Donna Lee.

In Foreign Service



H. Jack Guiswite, S 2/c

Seaman Guiswite, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Guiswite, of East Bishop street, Bellefonte, is a survivor of the recent hurricane which swept up the Atlantic seacoast entailing a heavy loss in life and property. It is presumed he was aboard one of the warships in the hurricane area, although no details could be obtained.

Seaman Guiswite has been in the service about a year and prior to entering the Navy was manager of a Woolworth store in Philadelphia. His wife and young daughter reside in Bethlehem.

Serving in Army



Pvt. George O. Auman

Pvt. Auman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry F. Auman, of Woodward, was inducted into the Army in August 1943 and was sent to Camp Meade, Md., for basic training. From there he went to Camp Wolters, Texas, then to Fort Devens, Mass., and after that to a camp in Virginia. He now is stationed at Camp Frederick, Md.

Pvt. Auman, who is 23 years old, is a brother of Mrs. Albert Boob of Rebersburg, and prior to being called into service was employed by the O. W. Houts Lumber Company at State College.

On Italian Front



Cpl. Anthony J. Righin

Corporal Righin is the 29-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Righin, of Coleville, near Bellefonte. He was called for service January 2, 1943. After reporting at New Cumberland he was assigned to the Army Ordnance and sent to Pomona City, Cal., for initial training. After several weeks' training at that base he was transferred to Camp Jackson, Miss., where he remained for a long period. He was next sent to Raritan Arsenal, Metuchen, N. J., where he remained until assigned to overseas duty in Italy. In one of the recent letters received by his parents the son reported that he had been awarded the good conduct medal.

In May of this year Cpl. Righin was home on a seven-day furlough before his embarkation for foreign service. Before entering the Army he was employed for 14 years by the Universal Match Company at Bellefonte.

Expert Gunner



Pfc. John D. Scull

Private First Class Scull, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Scull of North Thomas street, Bellefonte, and husband of the former Laura Bell Long of Howard, was graduated recently from the Army Air Forces Flexible Gunnery School, Laredo Army Air Field, Laredo, Texas, a member of the AAF Training Command. He is now qualified to take his place as a member of a bomber combat crew.

Along with his diploma he received a pair of Aerial Gunner's silver wings and a promotion in grade at brief graduation exercises.

He was prepared for his place in America's stepped-up air offensive by a comprehensive six-weeks' course in every phase of aerial gunnery warfare. Besides learning to fire every type of weapon from camera guns to the deadly 50-caliber Brownings, he studied turret manipulation, aircraft identification, stripping and reassembling of machine guns while blindfolded. He climaxed his course by air firing of machine guns.

Pvt. Scull left Sunday, October 1, for California following a brief furlough in Bellefonte.

In New Guinea



S 1/c Frank Houser

Seaman Houser was inducted into the Navy May 14, 1943. He spent eight weeks training at Sampson Naval Station, N. Y., and was then granted seven days' leave which he spent with his wife, Christine Houser, of Snow Shoe. Upon his return to duty, Seaman Houser was sent to Lakehurst, N. J., for six months, then to Shoemaker, Calif. He is now stationed somewhere in New Guinea. Both Seaman Houser's parents are dead.

With Navy in Va.

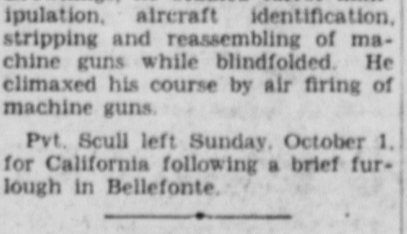


Seaman Leroy Boob

Seaman Boob, son of Mrs. W. F. Boob of Woodward, entered the Navy in November 1943 and received boot training at Sampson, N. Y. Since then he has been assigned as a cook at Norfolk, Virginia.

Seaman Boob is 28 years old and is married to the former Gladys Coble of Spring Mills. There are three children in the family. Before entering the armed forces he was employed in Milton.

Mackeyville Man Killed In France



Infantry Pfc. Ivan S. Wetzel

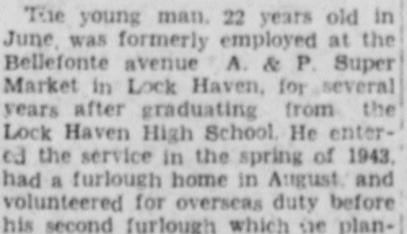
Infantry Pfc. Ivan S. Wetzel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Irvin H. Wetzel of Mackeyville, was killed in France on Sept. 19.

The young man, 22 years old in June, was formerly employed at the Bellefonte avenue A. & P. Super Market in Lock Haven, for several years after graduating from the Lock Haven High School. He entered the service in the spring of 1943, had a furlough home in August, and volunteered for overseas duty before his second furlough which he planned for Christmas.

After going abroad, he was stationed in Ireland until he moved into action in France with the invasion forces. His last letter to his family was dated September 11.

In addition to his parents, Wetzel is survived by two brothers and three sisters: Virgil Wetzel and Mrs. Eueland Green, Cleveland, O.; Mrs. Lloyd Haffey, Mill Hall; Mrs. Arlington Gonsalus, Lock Haven, and Pvt. Stanley Wetzel, Camp Wheeler, Ga.

N. Philipsburg Man Missing In Action



John Wadosky, of North Philipsburg

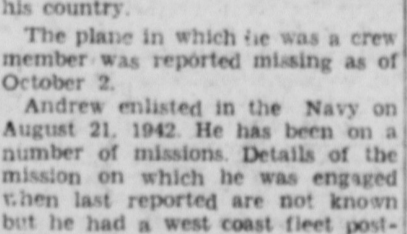
John Wadosky, of North Philipsburg, has received word that his son, Andrew A. Wadosky, 24, an Aviation Radioman 2-c, is listed as missing in action while in the service of his country.

The plane in which he was a crew member was reported missing on October 2.

Andrew enlisted in the Navy on August 21, 1942. He has been on a number of missions. Details of the mission on which he was engaged when last reported are not known but he had a west coast fleet post-office address.

A letter has since been received from him which was written on October 1, the day before he became missing. He was soon to have been sent back to take a refresher course. In his letter he stated that he had attended mass on the preceding Sunday.

Observer Sees War From Many Angles



Cpl. Joe Smith of Abbeville, La.

The following interesting letter was received from Wm. Earl Dale, of Lancaster, Pa.

"I do not happen to subscribe to your paper but have read it many times when I visited my mother and folks at Pleasant Gap, and before that, at Bellefonte. I am, therefore, quite familiar with your paper and I immediately felt that you might be interested in the observations of a soldier who is from Pleasant Gap. The soldier, a sergeant with the U. S. Third Army in France, is my half-brother, Robert H. Brown. Here is what he wrote in a letter from France, dated Sept. 30, 1944:

"This is a funny war. The other day, while eating chow and listening to recordings from a Red Cross 'Clubmobile,' we watched our Air Corps bomb the Germans. We could even see the bombs dropping. Can you beat that, music, food, and war at the same time?"

"Those four sentences seem very casual but they seem to me to cover a lot of territory in a very few words. Don't you agree?"

Completes Basic Training



Miss Louise Kresovich, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Kresovich

Miss Louise Kresovich, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Kresovich of Coleville, who enlisted in the WAVES several weeks ago, recently completed basic training at Hunter College, N. Y., and was given the rank of seaman, second class. Seaman Kresovich was transferred last week to the Naval Air Base at Vero Beach, Fla.

# Bellefonte Radioman Gets Distinguished Flying Cross

For an unassisted and unescorted torpedo plane attack on a Japanese carrier task group and for other raids on the Palau Islands, the Caroline Islands, Dutch New Guinea, Truk, and Guam, Philip Edward Whiting, aviation radioman, first class, (ARM1c) USNR, of Bellefonte, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Aviation Radioman Whiting is the son of Mrs. Adelia Whiting, 46 Pine street, Bellefonte.

The award made in the name of the President by Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, U.S.N., Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific fleet, is accompanied by the following citation:

"For distinguishing himself by heroism while participating in period flights as radioman-gunner in a carrier based torpedo plane. Between the dates of 30 March 1944 and 12 June 1944 in the vicinity of the Palau Islands, the Western Caroline Islands, Western Dutch New Guinea, Truk, the Eastern Caroline Islands, and Guam, he participated in bombing attacks on enemy ground installations and shipping which resulted in the sinking of the construction of airfields and installations, grounded aircraft, buildings and warehouses, and enemy shipping. On June 20, 1944, he also participated in an unassisted, unescorted four-plane torpedo attack on a carrier task group of the enemy fleet. In spite of the fact that aircraft fire of this enemy carrier task group was concentrated on these planes, the attacks were driven home to close range and into were scored on a large enemy carrier which resulted in the sinking of the carrier. These attacks were pressed home with skill and determination despite the fact that they were executed in the face of heavy enemy anti-aircraft fire and his skill and courage were at all times in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

# Poets' Corner

POEM BY A BOY.

Stand up, my boy,  
And dry up your tears.  
For Uncle Sam needs you  
For several years.

Hello, my Uncle Dear,  
How I wish you were here,  
And I hope you return  
In a very few years.

Written by Master Donald Olin Butt, at the age of 5 years.

# STRICKER AT THE WHEEL

(The following verses were written for Pfc. Ebon B. Stricker, of Spring Mills, in a spirit of fun by his commanding officer.)

While walking down the road one day  
I heard a mighty roar,  
I looked around and there I found  
Some fellow in a swoon.  
And then a jeep came flying by,  
I knew right off the reel,  
There was no doubt now in my mind  
'Twas Stricker at the wheel.

He bounced and rolled along the road  
As in a drunken reel,  
The B. O. shouted "slow her down"  
'Twas Stricker at the wheel.

'Twas first the road and then the ditch,  
At last the open field;  
Now if you love your wife,  
Run for your life, for  
'Twas Stricker at the wheel.

He cut her sharply to the right,  
And pressed the throttle down,  
He smiled and shouted hold your  
hate,  
We're on our way to town,  
He hit the beach and then the walk,  
The water was so real,  
He shouted "swim, my friends,  
Really you will drown, for old  
Stricker's at the wheel.

Anchors high and trim your main,  
I heard him sternly say,  
As down the street he maddly drives  
on his merry way,  
Oh, for the feeling in the sky  
That air cadets must have,  
But still they never took a ride  
With Stricker at the wheel.

But all good things on earth  
Must end, so the M. P.'s say,  
So they picked our pilot up and  
Took his wings away,  
Now he's slinging hash, they say  
Kokenjies on his heels;  
And we no more shall feel the thrill  
Of Stricker at the wheel.

# OUR BOYS IN THE SERVICE



EDITOR'S NOTE:

You aren't seeing that familiar red and green package on your dealer's counters these days because all Wrigley's Spearmint Gum is being shipped overseas only to our Armed Forces. The Wrigley people are sorry that their limited production makes it impossible to supply the folks at home. They appreciated your business and hope that it won't be too long before there will be enough Wrigley's Spearmint to go around. Until then, they trust you'll enjoy this Service column they are sponsoring.

# In Aleutian Islands

Harry Hassinger, S 2/c, of Phillipsburg, is now located in the Aleutian Islands on the island of Adak. "Sam" as he is better known to his friends, is married and has two children, Donna and Jackie. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Commodore Hassinger.

We all know that H-Hour is the moment that marks the launching of an attack, but only our combat forces can understand its true meaning. To them it means nervous strain, the jitters and parched throats. That's why to men in the thick of it Wrigley's Spearmint has become an on-duty requirement. It relieves the jitters and eases the craving for a drink or a smoke.

# Arrives in Germany

Mr. and Mrs. John Gearhart of Phillipsburg, have received word from their son, Pfc. John Gearhart, that he has arrived in Germany. He writes that they met stiff resistance, mostly pill boxes, but are gradually blowing them up.

All of the limited production of Wrigley's Spearmint Gum is going to our Service Men overseas only. The Army and Navy are getting it to where it's needed most and the makers of Wrigley's Spearmint are seeing to it that it is the same high quality and long lasting flavor that our boys enjoyed at home.

# Slightly Wounded in Action

Pvt. Samuel A. Page, husband of Mrs. Ethel M. Page, of Mackeyville, was slightly wounded September 25 in France, his wife learned last week from the War Department.

Send your letters and news to the Wrigley Editor, care of The Centre Democrat. (Advertisement.)

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PARRISH DRUG STORE

# Bellefonte Soldier Tells of Being Wounded in France

A U. S. ARMY GENERAL HOSPITAL, ENGLAND.—Sergeant Earl W. Powell, 28, of Bellefonte, fought in the outskirts of St. Lo with his infantry unit before he was hit by machine gun bullets. He has received the Purple Heart at this United States Army general hospital in England where he is recovering.

Lieutenant R. D. Vachen, of Sanford, Maine, his ward officer, said "Sergeant Powell is doing fine and well on the road to recovery."

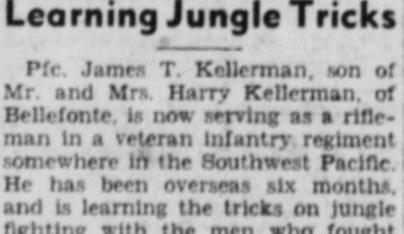
Some time after the Normandy landing Sergeant Powell's unit reached a hill near St. Lo and dug in to wait for orders to attack.

"Our orders came to attack at dawn but Jerry beat us to it by at-

tacking shortly after midnight," said Sergeant Powell. "My gun was firing across a field as Germans came in on our flanks, advancing up the sunken road. We jerked the machine gun down to fire at Nazi coming up the road. They were throwing magnesium grenades and before we could get into action, I was hit by a blast of fire and wounded by bullets from their guns."

Sergeant Powell entered the Army in May, 1941, and received his training at Fort Meade, Md., and at Camp Blanding, Florida. His wife, Mrs. Mary Ann Powell, lives in Bellefonte. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Powell, 2841 Grandview Ave., Shadyside, Ohio.

# Bellefonte Private Is Learning Jungle Tricks



Pfc. James T. Kellerman

Pfc. James T. Kellerman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kellerman, of Bellefonte, is now serving as a rifleman in a veteran infantry regiment somewhere in the Southwest Pacific. He has been overseas six months, and is learning the tricks on jungle fighting with the men who fought on Bougainville Island in the Solomons.

After his induction in December, 1942, Pfc. Kellerman was sent to Camp Hale, Colo., for basic training, and spent five months in the Aleutians. Before putting on the army uniform, he clerked at the Weis Pure Food Store. He attended the Bellefonte High School for three years.

Pfc. Kellerman is one of five brothers serving for Uncle Sam. Brothers Paul, Fred, and Guy are in the European theater, while Carl is in Washington, D. C.

After his daily routine, he relaxes in his roomy tent, and awaits the mail call. His favorite hobby is writing letters.

# TWO COUNTIANS ARE AWARDED PURPLE HEART

Purple Hearts were awarded to two Centre county soldiers for wounds suffered on the battlefields of France, it was learned this week.

One was presented to T 5 Bud Lee Hoy, 24, son of Henry Hoy of Pleasant Gap, who was slightly injured the latter part of August, and the other awarded posthumously to Pfc. Andrew Harold Dean, 33, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse W. Dean, of Pine Grove Mills, who was killed in action on July 5.

Pfc. Dean was inducted into the service in November 1942, and sent overseas in April, 1943. He attended the Pine Grove Mills school and was employed as a plasterer for John Gilliland and later at the College, where he was working at the time of induction.

T 5 Hoy, who entered the service in February, 1942, and was sent overseas the following September, was graduated from the Bellefonte High School and was employed in Bellefonte at the time of induction into the Army.

# Awarded Purple Heart

Mrs. Edward Prisk has received word that her husband, Sgt. Edward Prisk, who has been awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in France, although hospitalized for awhile, Sgt. Prisk, whose home is at Mackeyville, is now back in action with his tank destroyer battalion. Mrs. Prisk is the former Ruth Custard, of Onondela Mills.

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