

Life Aboard Superbattleship - Kids Awed, Captain Lonely

(By Elton C. Fay, aboard the superbattleship, U.S.S. Missouri)

The captain is a lonely man. He stands on the bridge of this greatest of battleships with more than 2,500 men around him—but not close to him. He is the manager of a hundred million dollar concern, responsible for both the lives and money in his ship. On his decisions may rest the outcome of a battle, a campaign or a war.

His loneliness is something he doesn't choose. It comes to him through navy regulations, custom and a burdening responsibility. Regulations say that he has "full command, authority and precedence over all officers and persons, of whatever rank," aboard his ship and that he must display "personal dignity."

His responsibilities are covered in page after page of the regulations. They mean that he must accept blame for whatever goes wrong aboard his ship, from the engine room to the sky control; he alone

must answer to the navy department.

It is no wonder, therefore, that he stands so silently on the bridge, consulting with his officers in low tones, going to his cabin to eat alone. His voice rarely is heard on the ship's public address system; he speaks through the voice of his executive officer.

But the captain is not the only lonely man. Down there in the crew's quarters are some youngsters at sea for the first time. This is a strange world, where they sleep in folding bunks hung from the steel walls of a machine in a maze of compartments, bulkheads, companions, pipes and wires.

The youngsters who came from Brooklyn, the Tennessee hills, the wheat country, the northwest woodlands are becoming familiar with their surroundings. It is their shake-down cruise as well as that of the ship. Tomorrow they will recognize the eerie, shrill scream of the bosun's pipe, the clamor of the bugles. They won't notice that indefinable smell of a ship, a medley of colors from paint, lubricating oils and hot metal.

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Out on deck a boy stares goggle-eyed over the rail, exclaiming: "Look at them sharks!" to which an older hand, with the tone of Ebbett's field in his voice, replies: "They ain't sharks, they're dolphins."

Chow is plentiful aboard this ship—the navy feeds well whenever battle conditions do not interfere—but the boys don't have a menu to pick from. Remembering showers and an always ready drinking water tap at home, they may grouse about water limitations, but are informed that the 20 to 25 gallons allowed each man a day compares with five gallons on ships of only a few years ago.

The vastness of this ship's interior and exterior—418,000 square feet of decks, 844 doors, 852 manholes—confuses the new hand. Listen to the lad squinting through a passageway with an assignment to locate another muttering to himself: "This is like looking for a needle in a hay stack."

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.

Arrives in New Guinea.

Mr. and Mrs. Clem Watson, of Phillipsburg, received word from their son-in-law, Cpl. H. O. Schraishuh, that he has arrived safely in New Guinea. He was inducted into the service on October 12, 1943. He took his basic training at Fort Ord, Calif., and at Camp Phillips, Kansas.

Chewing gum has proved a welcome relief from battle weary nerves, seems to ease the tension when the boys are under continuous strain. It does another thing that's equally important. It helps keep a fellow alert and awake during a full in battle when he still must be on guard.

Enrolls in Merchant Marine

Alfred Hurwitz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Hurwitz, of Phillipsburg, has enrolled in the Merchant Marine radio officers course conducted by the Radio Communications Department of the Williamsport Technical Institute. While in high school, Hurwitz was a member of the Rifle Club for three years.

On watch at sea requires a man to be constantly on the alert. Chewing gum helps to keep him awake and eases the tension of waiting for his watch to end. Wrigley's Spearmint is an on duty requirement to him just as it is to the boy in the thick of battle. That's why all the limited production of Wrigley's Spearmint is going only to our Armed Forces overseas.

Oyster Supper for Son

An oyster supper was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fount J. Haines, of Howard, R. D. 1, Wednesday night, October 19, 1944, for their son, Sgt. Harry J. Haines, of the U. S. Army. Those present were: Howard Andrey, Harry Haagen, of Snydertown, Alex Hataksi, Mr. and Mrs. Harold D. Haines, Lock Haven; June, Trix and Fred McKean, of Howard, R. D. Mrs. Ralph Falls, Jane, Ruth, and Clair Heverly, also of Howard; Max Phillips, Gerald Weaver and Dick Falls, of Marsh Creek; Mr. and Mrs. Fount Haines and daughters, Dora, Bea, and Sgt. Haines, wife, and Mrs. Harry J. Haines of Snydertown. Sgt. Haines enjoyed the occasion very much and his friends all wish him a happy return to his community again. Sgt. Haines left October 19, 1944, for a camp at Puerto Rico. He has spent three months in Puerto Rico, and before that was stationed almost 33 months in Jamaica, B. W. I. This is his first furlough since being inducted into the army July 18, 1941.

Sgt. Haines is a filing clerk in an office at Puerto Rico. He is the oldest son of the family and his younger brother is serving with the U. S. Navy and is now stationed at Orange, Texas, waiting for a ship. He is electrician's mate Z. C. Floyd L. Haines, who entered the Navy on Oct. 24, 1943. He was 29 years old Oct. 24. Sgt. Haines is 24 years old.

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

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Sensational new Zenith Radionic Hearing Aid chosen by people who could afford 10 times this price! Zenith's faces quality made possible by world's largest precision mass production, which insures quality at its lowest cost! Come in for Free Demonstration. No "high pressure" W. dispense only to those who can be helped.

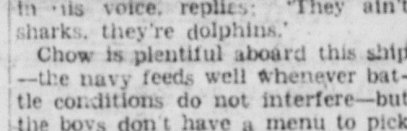
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HONOR ROLL

In Air Corps



Joseph Thompson
A former well known Bellefonte resident, Joe is attached to the Air Corps somewhere in Italy. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Thompson, Sr., deceased, and lived here until about six years ago.

Joe, who is now 23 years of age, was inducted into service in April, 1943. From Atlantic City he was sent to Utah for training and in December, 1943, was sent overseas.

He is the husband of the former Meriam Emery of Lock Haven who resides in that city.

A brother, Charles, is also in service with the Sea-Bees in the South Pacific.

With Signal Corps



Pvt. Samuel T. Holubec.
Private Holubec, 20-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. John Holubec, of Bellefonte, R. D. 3, enlisted with the Marines early this year.

He was called in March to report at San Diego, California, where he received his basic training. He attended a Telephone Company school for six weeks after basic training, and was granted a furlough in July which he spent at home.

At the end of his leave he reported to Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, Calif., to train for overseas duty. About the middle of September he announced landing somewhere in the South Pacific. He is connected with a construction company of the Corps Signal Battalion.

With Pacific Fleet



S-2e Charles R. Grieb
Charles Royer Grieb, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Grieb, of Snow Shoe, Pa., enlisted in the Navy in February, 1944, and received his assignment February 24, 1944, just five months following his 17th birthday.

He received his boot training at Sampson, N. Y., and following a furlough was transferred to Newport, R. I., for further training in a gunnery school.

At the end of this training all the boys in his division who would donate a pint of blood to the ship's bank were nominated 24 hours' leave. "Chuck" gladly donated a pint of his blood to the bank and reached home just in time to march in with his high school class and receive his diploma.

After his return to his post, he went out to sea duty with the Atlantic fleet. Upon returning and following ten days' furlough, he was transferred to the Pacific fleet and is now on duty somewhere in that area.

While in school Charles was active in sports and received letters in both basketball and football.

Wounded in Italy



James R. Immel
James R. Immel, 20, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James S. Immel, of Snow Shoe. He enlisted in 1941, and has been overseas for two years. Attached to the Signal Corps, he was wounded while on duty in Italy. From latest reports he is still in the hospital.

During his leisure hours, James wrote the following verses which he presented to Chaplain A. H. Guiliano:

GOD AND ME.

If e'er I wander,
Near or far,
Or lie at night
And watch a star,
In this world
I know no fears,
Because I know
That God is near,
God will guide me
Through the years,
He'll share my joys,
And, too, my tears,
He'll watch o'er me
From up above,
And cleanse my heart
With His love,
And when death comes
Knocking at my door
I'll share His love
Forever more.

SCOTIA

(By H. M. Williams)

Visitors with Aunt Dora Ghaner over Sunday were Mrs. Ma Cronmiller Ebert, of Philadelphia; Mrs. Hermie Cronmiller Maness, of Detroit, Mich.; and Carl Cronmiller, Sr., of Bellefonte. While here Carl took his sisters up to Scotia to visit their old home which we suppose they will report that it doesn't look like home any more.

Visitors to our home the past week were Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Zimmerman of Pleasant Gap, who were here on Monday, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kookan and two daughters of Tyrone, who were here on Sunday.

Quite a few of our old Scotia friends were here a couple of weeks ago and spent Sunday looking the old homestead over. They also had lunch at the George Harper cabin at Marysville. We haven't learned yet just who all was there.

Mrs. Geraldine Saxton Bush spent a couple of hours in our vicinity last Saturday evening. You know, just one of Jerry's pop calls, long enough to say hello to Grandpa Saxton.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Vetsel and daughter Dorothy, of Ford City, and Mr. and Mrs. Bert Milam of East Brady, near Pittsburgh, were Sunday visitors at the Adolph Reed home. It will be remembered that Mrs. Vetsel and Mrs. Milam were the former Jane and Naomi Sellers, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Jarvis Sellers, former residents of Scotia.

Last Friday, while at work at the Scotia washer building, we were working along and we thought we heard a familiar sound, something that we hadn't heard for about 30 years; but yet we thought it sounded like olden times to us, and we looked around. There it was, the Bellefonte Central engine coming into Scotia on its first trip, all the way into the ore works. Let a few more things like this happen and then it will seem like our old home.

The lady members of Gray's Methodist church served lunch at the John Carney sale last Thursday and reported that they cleared a nice sum of money which will be used to help pay the expenses of remodeling and painting the Sunday school room. Anyone who has charge who wishes to donate any amount to this good cause may do so and your gift will be greatly appreciated.

Patton township is now sporting two new school buses, which were purchased a couple weeks ago by our two bus drivers, John H. Chaner of Scotia, and John Carney of Buffalo Run Valley. When we were kids going to school the only time we got a ride to school was when the snow was so deep that it was almost impossible to wade through. Then our bus was two top-eared hoves hitched to a sled. But, boy, how we did enjoy it!

Toggleer



S-Sgt. William Lloyd Spangler
Staff-Sergeant Spangler, son of William Spangler, returned to his home in Blanchard recently after being on active duty for 13 months in England. He is what is known as a toggleer on a B-17 Flying Fortress.

Staff-Sergeant Spangler was promoted to his present rank in June, 1944, and has 29 missions over enemy-occupied territory to his credit. He has received the Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters, and the Presidential Unit Citation.

At the expiration of his 21-day furlough he has been ordered to report to Atlantic City for further assignment.

Awarded Infantry Badge

To Pfc. Chester E. Lannan, Loganston, R. D. 1, was recently awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge for outstanding service and exemplary conduct against the enemy during the battle for Omaha. To this soldier it means wading ashore from an outlying reef, digging in mud, climbing mountains and crossing thick, hot jungle to close with the Jap. Lannan served with the 307th CT of the 77th "Statue of Liberty" Division. This New York Division was seasoned by Louisiana swamps, Arizona and California deserts, amphibious, mountain and jungle training before its entry into combat. Lannan has two brothers, Theodore and Kenneth, in the service. Prior to his induction he worked for the American Aniline Products, Inc. for one and a half years.

We enjoy considering theories but we do not accept a theory based upon a theory.

In French Invasion



S-2e Howard Donald Ort.
Seaman Ort, son of Mrs. Nancy Ort, and grandson of Charles Ginter, of Milesburg, enlisted in the Navy on January 6, 1944, at the age of 17.

Completing his boot training at Sampson, N. Y., he spent a 21-day leave with his mother, grandfather and sister in Milesburg. Upon his return to duty he was sent to Trinidad, and transferred to the USS Omaha, of which he is still a crew member. He took part in the invasion of France and has seen quite a bit of service.

Seaman Ort was a junior in the Bellefonte High School and a member of the football team. He was a member of the Sons of American Legion and played bass in the Junior American Legion Band.

Awarded Medal

Mrs. Sarah Garfinkle of Phillipsburg has received the Purple Heart medal awarded to her son, Simon, who was seriously wounded in action in France on August 1. Simon suffered shrapnel wounds of the head and hip and is still hospitalized. He was moved from a hospital in France to another hospital in England.

Navy Needs 4000 Nurses

The Navy reported this week that 4000 nurses are needed "urgently" by June 30, 1945, to keep pace with the still expanding Navy.

Many a man who thinks he is a wizard, discovers his mistake.

Wounded In Action



Pfc. John Condo, Jr.
Private Condo was wounded in action in Holland, September 13, according to word received by his wife, Mrs. Hester J. Condo, of West Decatur. He was recuperating in an English hospital at the time the information was received. Private Condo is a son of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Condo of Howard.

Fleming Sergeant With Service Group

Following allied ground forces in the race toward Germany, Havoc light bombers, the Ninth Air Force weapon of ground support and medium bombardment, have moved to France. With them went the allied units of the Ninth Air Force Service Command. The Service Group under Command of Lt. Col. Ray Fisher, Kansas City, combined in maintenance and supply of a tactical organization of the two-engine aircraft moved from the United Kingdom with ton upon ton of heavy equipment, all of which is designed to sustain Havoc missions now into the heart of the Reich.

Sgt. Walter Lucas, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Lucas, of Fleming, is a member of the service unit now in France. His training in service and maintenance, combining technical and tactical experience has gone into the group which has been commended by numerous superior headquarters and recommended for the battle star as having participated in the assault of Europe.

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FARRISH DRUG STORE

Cohurn Top Turret Gunner Gets Distinguished Cross

Technical Sgt. Charles S. Wingard, of Cohurn, top turret gunner on the B-17 Flying Fortress, has been decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross for "extraordinary achievement" on bombing attacks on enemy Europe.

Wingard, 20 years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wingard, was the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters. He was graduated from East Penna Valley High School in 1942 and before entering the army in March, 1943, was an airplane mechanic at the Middletown Air Depot. He has two brothers in the service, Henry, an army private, and Doyle, a navy seaman third class.

The citation accompanying his award read in part: "The courage, coolness and skill displayed by the B-17 Flying Fortress, has been decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross for 'extraordinary achievement' on bombing attacks on enemy Europe."

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Knapper Brothers Spend Leave at Home

Captain William Knapper, of the Army Air Force, and Lieutenant Commander John Knapper, of the U. S. Navy, spent a few days together in Phillipsburg after seeing each other for the first time in three years.

Bill left Friday morning after spending 23 days with his wife, the former Maxine Stonebraker and two children, Carol and William, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Knapper.

Eighteen months of the two years he has been overseas has been spent in India. He was awarded the presidential citation for his flights "over the hump" flying supplies into China. He has also been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. He has piloted practically all types of planes being used by the army.

John arrived home Tuesday, Oct. 24, to spend a 10-day leave with his wife, the former Helena Ball, of Annapolis, and his three children, John, Thomas and Charles, and also to visit his parents.

He has been detached from the USS Texas where he was damage control officer and participated in the European invasions. He is being transferred to a cruiser now under construction and he will be accompanied to his new base by his wife and sons.

Another brother, Charles, is a corporal in an army floating repair unit at sea in the South Pacific.

Port Matilda Soldier Awarded Air Medal



Sgt. Robert Williams, a Port Matilda soldier serving in the 8th Air Force somewhere in England, has been awarded the Air Medal for meritorious achievement. His wife, the former Marguerite Kern, received the medal and the following citation concerning her husband:

"For meritorious achievement in accomplishing with distinction several aerial operational missions over enemy occupied continental Europe. The courage, coolness and skill displayed by Sgt. Robert Williams, in the face of determined opposition, materially aided in the successful completion of these missions. His actions reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States."

You can't read every book that is published but you can read some of them.

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