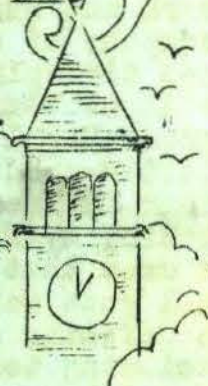


Dear Alld Bill:

Dear friend with the colors :

When your last V.B. was written it told you about the unusual wet weather we had had in Slippery Rock--the truth of the matter is, we then didn't know that the same kind of weather would continue for almost a month longer, with rains almost every day, with overcast skies, with the campus grass so long that they finally had to use sickles and scythes, and as this is now being written a crew of men are out forking piles of hay in trucks--that would remind you of a hay field. Now they are able to use the power mowers and the old campus is again looking like itself, altho there is still much to be done yet. Few gardens were plowed until a week ago, and thus a late

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crop of garden stuff is expected. Floods in the middle west inundated square miles and that will have its effect on foods also. Well, another commencement has come and gone at S.R.--the quietest one that we ever did see, and no Alumni Day for you know why. Inclosed is a copy of the Program which will doubtless be of interest to you. The men of the class who left college during the last semester were, due to a ruling by State Supt. Haas, graduated in absentia--their mothers or fathers being there to receive the diploma, for the sons who were in this man's Army, Navy or Marine Corps. Present in the chapel was Tim Ehliess now a 1st Lieutenant, was home on leave for a little while having been bowled over by the concussion of a Jap shell exploding back of him in Guadacanal--his back muscles were slightly injured--hospitalized him for three months--now as good as ever. Tim was here also for Class Day exercises in the chapel a few days before graduation and he made a nice appropriate response when called upon to receive the 1943 SAXIGENNA year book--which, was dedicated to YOU fellows and Girls also with the colors---and a hearty CONGRATULATION--it could not have been better dedicated!!!! It is an interesting and well illustrated volume and if you haven't seen it, I think you will some day. And so the regular college year has ended, a short vacation has come and gone for most of us, as now the Pre-Session has started and so we are once again teaching college classes. Of course the regular Army Cadet program goes on independent of college classes just the same, with the added pep and zest that this body has added to the campus. They now have their own band and their orchestra plays for dances. Since the last V.B. has gone out the great victory of Bizerti and Cap Bon has taken place, when thousands of the "Supermen" (pardon the giggle) came in surrendering and wondering what it was all about!!! JUST NOW the world is momentarily watching where OUR next move will be--and would Hitler like to know!!! I am most keen that these letters reach you fellows especially in combat--they may be days reaching you, and if and when you can find the time to answer, please stretch a point and do so for we will have you in mind every hour--from none would word be more welcome, both to us here at your old college, and to your folks back at home...and may the great protecting hand of Providence watch over you every minute. Be Strong--we know you are Brave!

And just a little word here that we mentioned away earlier in one of the VBs that came out months ago-----Be sure you make a great number of friends in your outfits the same as you did here at college--no telling when these friendships may play a very decided part in your service life. And these friendships you make with your outfit men are also LASTING friendships (just last week the Millers had dinner with a pal and his wife in Pittsburgh--a pal made in World War I--over 20 years ago) and you will be doing the same thing 20 years hence with friends you are making in your own outfit today. To the campus have come quite a list of visitors during the past three weeks: Walter Kiebler, Phil Nocera, both of the Shenango Replacement Depot near Greenville, Willy Rometo from Camp Wheeler, Grayson McCandless for a little furlough at his home here, Freddy Darlin, telling of his tough course at Notre Dame, MidShipmans School, 1st Lieut Bill Temple here for Commencement and home for a little rest before taking off again for the West, Lt Dick Jones who is now likely in Honolulu, and Ens Carl Sincula just here last night, home on furlough--he will return to Pensacola, instruct in Dive Bombing--and I hope I haven't missed any of the others--any how it was a pleasure to see all of you--come back again to Slippery Rock and be absolutely sure your ALWAYS WELCOME--its grand to see you chaps here again.

And now as space will allow for EXCERPTS from a fine big assortment of letters, the whole of many of them we wish we could include----- From Pfc George DARR (Recon Co665TDBnNCampHoodTex) "I was proud to be remembered with a copy of V.B. even though I was a 2nd Semester Freshman--I have moved 30 miles north from here and we are now at North Camp Hood". From Capt F.I. PETUCHA "At present I am on an English speaking island in the Southeast Pacific. The folks are most cordial Please turn the page.

and amiable. I have made many good friends which of course makes our work not quite so difficult. I have my own camp here which houses my company of Marines quite comfortably. Feeding, training, clothing, and disciplining nigh to two hundred "Leathernecks" keep me busy--the boys call me "Czar" so you know they have a sense of humor. Your V.B. is a great Moral Buildre--keep them coming" --And Freddy come again with a letter--good luck! From Lt Frank J. Ladesic(39th Bomb61stSq-Davis Monthan FldTusconAriz) "At present Im stationed here in Tuscon where Im taking my first of 2 or 3phases of combat training. Ive been assigned a crew that in some future day will give a good account of itself. If all goes well Ill be getting my own B24(Liberator)in about 2 months & a definite assignment soon after-I hope ! That picture of our old swimming team brought back lovely memories and Im not kidding when I say I had a lump in my throat" -- From Cpl Harold Elliott(28MPCamp Pick ett Va) (Jake how you do get around!) " I presume the gas ban hinders the trout fishing some this year--When the time comes as it will there is a must that we must do Mr Miller-I know some swell streams in Potter & Cameron Co--and when the war is won we'll go for certain and beat those streams to death " --For the first time in a long time Jake --no liscence this year--sure well go!! From Ens Roy VanHorn(Ath.Office USAir Filed Miami Fl) After being at Northwestern U and Norfolk in the Physical Fitness program , I am now here in Miami. I have seen Johnny Menocher and Eggs Mehaffey --the latter an Ens. and scheduled for sea duty. May we all look forward to better days and a great homecoming. I certainly hope to be on your list for all future numbers" Your on Roy! --From S/Sgt Walter R. Ramsey(Bldg329LowryFldDenverCol) "I am the non comissioned officer in charge of the post gym at Lowry Field-I conduct the officer s classes. Our gym is the largest in the air corps command--it is likely the best equipped too.We have two massive basketball courts, 3 handball, 1 squash, 2 boxing rings, 2 badminton courts, 1 volleyball, 2dressing rooms, and all finely equipped. The men need furnish nothing--all is handed out to them when they enter the gym--the gym covers a block--all that is missing is Lt "Ham" Wright--he was my former superior officer here before he went to California.I was with Babe Denbow when at home and saw him off to the train--he is still at Camp Meade. His brother "Jack is in California" Bob, please send me both their addresses--thanks for a swell letter. --FromSgt Eddie Fester(422FAGroupFtSillOkla)"This is an old post dating back from Indian Frontier Days.A few miles away is a precipice over which Geronimo lured a whole cavalry regiment.Quarters vary from winterized tents to barracks.We have 400 WAACS here--they work in offices, drive Jeeps&trucks--most of them are hep-cats from Brooklyn" --Ah Eddie beware of Heep Cats from any where--and stay far away from the precipice--if it comes to both prepipice and hep-cats choose the precipice.-- From Ens Butch Beckert "When you leave the states you just commence to realize what VB has to offer--mine came just yesterday --I dont know whether you have me listed"as one of the 7 here" or not.I would like to find out where Kensley Miller is stationed--I cant tell you where I am located though. So far Ive had little time or opportunity to get much sun , but theres beginning to be less of that sort of prison pallor that we joke about. (Couldnt be you were on a Sub near the coast of Africa could it Butch?) I miss a morning paper, coffee, and what papers we do get are mostly propoganda politics, and such.From all indication the war is now going OUR way and if things continue as I hope they do, I will likely get an opportunity to see some of those marvelous things we studied in your course" -- What a story YOU can tell us at the big Homecoming that we all want Butch--Kensley(87Fighter APO 3280.) And the WAR IS going our way--in tonights paper Pantelleria surrendered this morning--heisted the White Flag--and so far as we are taught the submarine menace is pretty well under controll--the Allies have the balance of Air Power over the Mediterranean--jittery is Italy, and Hitler has the St Vitas dance. From S/Sgt David Frazier (Guadacamal?) I heard from Clair Gladd a few days ago--he is selected for officers training--he ought to make a swell officer.I have never had a letter from Ens Walter McGary yet--keep those VBs a ringing Mr Miller"--Gladd is now Lt Gladd, and neither have we had word from Ens McGary--on board he likely has a time mailing letters as you will understand" From Cpl Tom Johnson--"my new address--(Co C-665TDTB-N Camp Hood Tex)" Tom --in an other issue soon I hope I will give more addresses of men in the US. From 2Lt Samuel S. Ristich (ATC%Capt Underwood, BocaRaton Fla)"Fanflare, sensible short speeches, presentations--we Hot Navigators are on the loose like homing pigeons we are seeking a permanent base--good wishes" Sambo, we congratulate you--BUT who ever heard of a permanent base on a plane? U cant stay up forever.--From Csp Leroy Brest(NASBox35aNavyNoll15 Fleet Pm NY)" Well--was I ever suprised to get the VB--and didIread it over! I have been in the Caribbean area for 7 months--my duties to arrange recreation for/officers and enlisted men of our squadron, and visiting squadrons--I like this work--hope to profit by it. You can also list me as being a husband--the girl, well a local girl I dated while attending S.R.

She is from my home town. Lt. Peter Sowa married Mary E. White in case you dont know. When this affair is over we ought to have a big Victory Banquet and dance What say? -Agreed, Leroy and lets make it a dandy. From Ens Bob Boozer (USS Arizaba N.Y.) "My address is here and I dont want to miss a copy of the VB. Heres an item; Lt. jg Buck Davis is now operating the Fleet Club in Portland Maine " -Bet Buck is getting in training to open a night club after the war--can any of you fellows on the Pacific islands suggest any hot mammas for his floor show? From Lt. W.H. Manke (346 Fighter Sq-350 GrAPO 525 NY) "It is difficult just how to express the joy that your VB brings me away over here--it brings back memories I had almost forgotten. More than 6 mo have passed since I left the States--I have been in two theatres of operation; the European and the African, where I am now--each has been an education in itself. Im more than proud of the flying ability our boys have been doing--no doubt you will be better acquainted with what I mean by the time this reaches you--I sure hope V.B. reaches me from now on". For a swell letter B. Manke has our thanks--we have heard of you through T. Olson and Mel Grossman both of whom met you the former in England, the latter in Casa blanca--write again soon. FROM Pvt J.M. Dunlap ((Davis and Elkins, Elkins WVa) They are giving us 10 hours in dual Piper Cruisers (J-5) now and I expect to leave here June 19th--the sooner the better so that I can get my wings--This is a nice place only 196 miles from home and I shall, in a way regret to leave it--Ive read VB over and over". Come again Jack. From Cand Lewis J. Hamelly (The Adj Gen's School Ft Wash Md) "Finally Im here at Ft Washington and we really get down to business--I got 41 books today to study for the next 11 weeks. Last Wednesday I saw Churchill also Wally and The Duke and Eleanor, and some more of the big stars. It is nice down here but I wont have time to admire it so very much from the looks of things."--All the army men say Your Lucky Lew. From S/Sgt N.M. Bilowick (458 Bomb Sq Biggs Field, El Paso ex) "I hope you will understand why I havent written for so long--After completing radio I can say Ill have a nice hobby after this is over to say the least--I also attended gunnery school, and for the last 2 months have been training very strenuously for combat duty on a giant B24 Liberator, as radio operator. V.Bs bring S.R. back to mind and we have you to thank for that as you know how we really liked it there" From Lst Lt Dick Hammerle (Lbn HdQr 67CA (AA) APO 634 Pm NY) "Well things have rather quieted down over herenow (May 16th) the big problem now comes in guarding the prisoners of war--and believe me Mr Miller, theres a flock of them. You asked about "Gertie From Bizerte"--well, theres is just no such song that any of us have heard about. Theres so many men over here that its practically impossible to locate any one you know. Have you ever gone swimming in the blue Mediterranean? Its really a lot of fun!! Our HdQrs is lyami from the nicest beach in Africa--I was sent ahead to pick the place for our outfit and I likes this spot,--I find out you can get almost anything if you go about it in the right way. I promise you a good visit when this mess is over. Hope to be receiving my next copy on the other side of the Mediterranean"--Hope you do too Dick--keep writing. From Lt Bill Weaver (526 Bomb Sq APO 634 Pm NY) "It means more than I thought to get word from the gang when over here--thanks for the "Memories" Today is an eventful one, for if all goes "onschedule" Gloria and I will be Momma and Poppa. Our outfit is dropping bombs thick and fast on the Jerries--their losses have been extreme--and England seems to be very peaceful through it all"--Thanks Bill--and we trust that he kept his appointment--congratulations! From Pfc Dick Perkins (Co D 339 Eng-Reg TAPC 3582 Pm San Fran) "Well Mr M since you last heard from me I have traveled almost half around the world. After I left Cal. I was soon on the high seas I landed on Australia--Im there now. Gosk I never saw so much water in my life (What Dick? Dont you remember Wolf Creek?) When we crossed the Equator we ducked every one with water and paint. I like it here--it is a beautiful country--the people really treat us SWELL. Tell everyone I said Hello and keep those Bella a coming"--Good Old Dick Perkins! From Pfc R.C. McGregor (USMCCand Det-Inf Batt Courthouse Bay New River NC) Damn Bob, what an address. "I was transferred here May 1st--this is a prep for Officers. Can--and kinda tough (So I heard Bob) The first week they rushed us with a lot of wrestling, boxing, Judo and obstacle courses--we were busy all day and all night at battle maneuvers sleeping in foxholes etc--to me it was a lot of fun--a lot different from my last 6 mo. This week we are landing in barges--more laughs, in the surf. I sure appreciate the VBs especially about Jimmy Kearns--I know that where he is he is doing a lot of good work--he gave me a lot of advice before I joined up with the Marines and it did me real good--I also hope that Ace Menocher is making out O.K. It is just a year ago today since I left--I was working for Miss Woods--I guess I caused her a lot of trouble but shes a good sport--I only had 1 year in S.R. it was the best in my life so far--Ill never forget the nice people there--as Jimmy says it will be a great day when we all get back. I hear often from A/C Geo Hornicle at (SqB Gr 4AAFP-FS Maxwell Fld Alabama)--

Turn the page Jimmy Sumatra Kearns and all others.

For a swell letter thanks to you Bob McG. - FROM Sgt Dale N. Pearse (513 Bomb Sq 376 GrAPO 681 Pm NY) "All well here in the Middle East I just received news of Ethel Nagys death. I did my student teaching with her and she was a good friend. I have been able to swim occasionally" We look to you Dale Pierce for interesting news out there have you had a ride on a camel yet? From S/Sgt John O Kaufman (906 TG-BTC #9 (PP) Miami Beach Fla) "I am a PT Instr and it is my job to train the trainees here at Miami Beach and keep them physically fit--It is good to hear from and about the fellows from S.R. and one of these days we will all come through with this mess and then go back to normal lives. Thanks a million for those VBs and keep them coming"-And thanks Johnny for the letter & for the pictures--IN CASE YOU FORGOT-or dont know, we are making a collection of pictures of all S.R. people in the service-so dont forget to send us a picture of YOU in your uniform or at work, for the display.

ALL OVER THE WORLD--so many are on the MOVE--VB wants to keep up with YOU---

On the envelope--Was YOUR ADDRESS CORRECT?--☐

Your RANK--have we kept this up-to-date?--☐

Your LETTER--was it FORWARDED to you?--☐

Your picture--Have you taken care of this?--☐

Keep VB informed and VB will do

its darndest to keep up with you.

FROM Lt Thor Olson (14 Rep Contl. Depot AFO 635 NY) "Since last VB I have had 2 letters from Doug Lehman--a good contact.--I suppose I'll be talking to him next month. I sure liked the Sax pictures

you sent--as a moral builder they were strictly A1. I have had the opportunity to read some of the enemy propaganda leaflets, dropped from the air--they use lies. Strictly the allies use the policy of truth. I have contact with several British offices and have also seen the stereoptican pictures that they take from reconnaissance planes and you use a folding set of stereoptican lenses to read them. The third dimension is brought out vividly, any I have been amazed at the destruction and devastation that our bombs make. Ill bring you some of these leaflets and some pictures too" -And again Thor your letter was fine--would like, like many others, to insert all of it--do come again!! From AS Bruce Adams: (Elet Hall #313 Xavier U. Cin O) "I expect to start flying in two weeks here at Cincinnati. Sure was glad to get the degree from SR only sorry fellows like Flora, Kearns, Ehliens, and others couldnt have finished with us. I hear from Carey, Stoner, Ed Cottrill, -all of them are doing O.K." From Lt J.T. Lytle (553 CABn (AA) Camp Hulen Tex) "Last week I got my first copy of VB -havent enjoyed anything so much for a long time--it was good to read about fellows you know--and isent S.R. going places. Have been in Tex for 4 mo. half way between Huston and Corpus Crist on the Matagordia Bay. I have been in the army since last summer--my special branch is the anti aircraft--it isent very glamorous but we will be in there pitching just like every one else--and keep those Bells coming"--Come again Jimmy. From Lst Lt Bill Temple (94th FABn Camp Bowie Tex) "Its nice being in camp again after 8 mo of ----Here we have beds, showers--I feel like one of the 400" From Pvt J. Hallette (2nd Co SCU #3413 Clemson College, Clemson S.C.) "I spect 6 mo in camp VanDorn, Miss where I was in the heavy weapons co. of the infantry. I am now in Engineering school here we carry 24 accredited courses in basic eng. with our PT and that is a full schedule" I'd say John. From Jack Merritts (909 TGSq 92C Miami Beach Fla) "Im expecting to be shipped out to a school for Av. Mechanical work any day now. The chow is good, some kind of meat 3 times daily, and I havent lost any weight despite the heat--usually around 100 by noon and remains so until 6 p.m." -A good letter Pvt Jack. From A/C Keith Wooster (Bldg 1213 Rml 132 Pensacola Fla) "Well by V.B. it looks as if S.R. was being spread all over the globe--I dont know all the fellows, but I read it thoroughly. I have received instruction from Lt Hooks Sample and I can assure you that S.R. may feel proud of him and also Lt Herb Mosca of the Marines--I shall transfer to that branch of the service later if Jimmy Kearns approves. I am training to be a torpedo bomber pilot--and I count on being back to S.R. for that big reunion after this mess is cleared up. Alex Dutkin is in my group--and getting along O.K." Come again Keith. -From Ens Don Prichard (Fleet Air Command Noumea Fleet PO San Fran) "Well here I am about 10000 miles from good old S.R.--a fine trip across in our carrier. The Pacific is really a beautiful ocean--much calmer than the Atlantic. We stopped at Pearl H, visited Honolulu hotel, and swam at Waikiki Beach--the town here at Noumea is a little larger than S.R.--most of the whites are French--the natives are coal black--have hair 1' long. If you can speak French your O.K. if not you can gesticulate with the hands--soon Ill be shoving off to another island" Good luck, Don!! From A/S Nobert Wagner (Sq E Sect 20 Wittenberg College, Springfield O) "They sure keep us busy here--and I know what it means to stand at attention--more later!! Bert--Write Tallon at 309 Bomb Sq, Sq 426 Columbia S.C. From Pvt. Archie Sonntag (422B-Hd Venice Fla) "I am in the operating office as chief radio operator--I talk with ranges, planes, and WAACS at Macdill field in Tampa--I ride around in a Jeep--more damn fun" (You would ride around!!) "One of the fellows here has a date with one of Ringlings midgets at Sarasota" Why dont you go along Archie and date the --skinn y lady. Best of luck gang--Cheerio!!! Geo. T. Miller