

Dear friend with the colors :

#28 Victory Bell

APR. 8, 1944

After "Pop" McClymonds sold his store and left S.R. it seemed lonesome down town. No more would students stream in on a little afternoon sortie filling his store to the doors, buying his pencils, note book filler and his yellow Easter cards, and receive free the verbal scotching that they knew was coming, or hear the banter, quips, satirical remarks, and taunting ridicule that was always on the wing there. To hundreds of students for over ten years, and to fully as many town and country folks as well, "Pop" was an acceptable... right guy... a character. His store, the most popular student center in the metropolitan area, (he made it that way!) attracted many, and the raillery, banter, and witty sallies from behind the counter were answered all day back and forth by the customers. No dull moments were there in the R.C. McClymonds Stationery and News Emporium in Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania!! Coming from another, "Pops" salty retorts might have miffed many a customer, but no!, they liked it, and came back for more.

Friday, March 17th saw lines of people, both young and old, pass his casket across the street at Uber's Funeral Home, for he had silently slept away in a coma, and they laid him gently to rest out under the murmuring evergreens on Cemetery Hill..... Let him in St. Peter!

And eventually, if you hear him

telling some silver-haired angel that "She'd better straighten up her halo" or that "Her

left wing looks as if it was moulting" or that

"Dony Sowash could straighten up those run down

sandal heels and make them more in keeping with

a place like this" or if you hear him asking

another "Did you get that harp in a pawn shop?"

...Dont mind him at all, St. Peter...he doesn't

mean a word of it! Many of us who rather

counted that day lost when we didn't have

a tilt with him would be a little more toler-

ant with our fellow men, a lot more kindly day by day, a heap more patient with folks who might annoy us, if as a reward we had the assurance of that good-natured seasoned banter again with "Pop".

Three informal (VERY!) organizations have appeared on the campus all among Health Edder girls, and while the information is most difficult to corral, we learn that the JUNIOR COMMANDOS is a pseudo-military-epicurean group of juniors. Every member is top-ready and also top-ranking, for all are officers. They eat in rooms, restaurants, on the march, on picnics...in fact anywhere. Ever ready are they at the well-guarded sign to assist in addressing or otherwise helping with V.B. letters or work. Hail, all hail, Junior Commandos!!! The THETA OMRICON GAMMAS are gastronomic first and last, from Alpha through Omega each day, every week, through the semester. Midnight DINNERS (a snack? not us!!!) are their specialty...and any menu, so that it's ample. These soph girls wear their emblem daily; a little porker...and entirely in keeping with the members, -well fed. Every member is a President, whose duty is to arrange for...another feed! The English initials for this society are H O G--they admit it. Clothed among deep, dark, sinister secrets is TELDA BELDA PHI. It has pass words, signs, symbols, and regal pomp, and meetings every now and then at devious places. These freshman girls are so close-mouthed about their well guarded order that no one even knows what the name signifies, save those members, and they guard it jealously.

At this writing college looks ahead to Easter Vacation, the faintest green grass blades now tint the campus as early Spring moves in, and as the cadets move away in groups.

Married: Roberta Walker and Pvt. Bill Schmidt, Marilyn Burdick and Serviceman Eugene Rider. Broadcast: From England, Sgt. "Babe" Denbow's address on the work of his Special Services Co. was heard by Mrs. McCandless of North Hall.

Visiting on the Campus, an always welcome: Joe Bower, on his way to Columbia U, "Bob" McClymonds soon? overseas, Jack Merritts, R. Headland, Gene Shelar home to see his young son, Eugene Jr. age 3 weeks, Dick L. Casserly (1340 S.U. Med. Det. Aberdeen Pr. Gr. Md.) and Lt. Jimmy Lytle, wife Eleanor (Banks), and 18 mo. old Eleanor Jr. And now, for a peek inside the OLD MAIL BAG:

*From; Cox, Jack Flora (USCG RecSt Manning Sec, Gov. Island, Alameda Calif.) "I left St. Augustine last week and have been here on Government Island for 5 days...soon I hope to be assigned to a Frigate. Liberty in San. Francisco is much different than in St. Augustine. As I now write this letter I am right outside the brig guarding 3 fellows who are now on bread and water".

Pass the bread and water, and please turn page.

•From: Ltjg Clyde Scheidemantel (144 Bruce St. Flint 3 Mich.) I have returned from 10 mo. in the Med. theater overseas on an LCI boat. Was in the assault waves on Gela, Messina, and Salerno. Saw Ens. Bob Miller (Ex. Pres. Miller's son) but have made contact with no other S.R. people. On my way home I flew from Palermo to Cassablanca, and took passage on the first transport to N.Y. Boarded a plane in N.Y. and in several hours suprised my folks in Zelienople. I am very happily married and would not wish for a sweeter wife. I am now instructing Naval officers in Diesel engines" ...Glad to hear from Clyde! •From Sk3/c Mary Wood (Waves-Treasure Island Calif) "It gives me a thrill to look out toward Golden Gate bridge and see mighty ships headed for duty...I enjoy being brought closer to my old college days through the news of my old friends" -And we'll be looking for that picture Mary--they have been coming in with every mail!!! •From Lt James R. Stewart (Officers P. Sc. Ft. Sill, Okla) "I was riding a pack mule this morning when all of a sudden up he went...nearly threw me." Will expect to get your picture when your able to sit for it, after riding mules so long. •From Pfc Dick Perkins (APO) "Everything is just the same in the jungle but now it is hot, but it won't last long as the rainy season will soon set in; then we will have rain all the time. In the last two months I have seen Gary Cooper, and John Wayne, the movie stars--they had nice troops of actresses with them, and they were the first white women we had seen for almost a year!!! We have movies nearly every night--and are they jammed with soldiers--our only recreation. How about sending me a bushel of snow--that would be something over here. Soon I will get a furlough to Australia, and I can hardly wait." •From Olga Long (Per. Tr. Unit Am Red Cross, Wash DC) "I am now working as a Staff Asst and I soon expect to be sent overseas, where I hope to run into S.R. folks if VB will follow me and keep me informed. Please let Dr. Nichols know I re'd my MA from U. of Mich. last year"--And he was delighted--VB will try to follow you--please keep us informed with your interesting letters and latest address. •From S/Sgt H.E. Keown (Det. Med. Dept Sta. Hosp. Coral Gables, Fla) "My address is the same, my work still physiotherapy, which I studied at the Mayo Clinic several years after leaving S.R. I send best wishes to all and especially to Bill Manke" ... "I am a deck officer on board, and the work so far has been very interesting chiefly because it is an innovation. I learn that Sgt. Frank Rogers '41, is studying communications in England after having beaten Rommel in Africa and Mussolini in Italy. Lt. Chuck Burch '41, is flying in the Pacific, and Cap'n Dick Hammerle '41, is recovering from the flu in Italy" For a fine letter--THANKS! This letter from Ens D.W. Nesbit. •From: Pfc Blair Hildebrand (MAD Navy Pier-Diesel Sc. Chicago) "Just a marine now studying diesels" From: Lt. PT Butler (Class 44-13 Las Vegas, Nev) "At present I am at Gunnery school in this flying training. I hope to get assigned to a B 29 some day, as a bombagator--figure that one out! I can well see how our fellows are knocking down so many enemy aircraft with this great sight. I served as a ground officer in Ferry Command for 8 mo." •From: Lt. Bob Reed (APO) "I am on my way back from the Marshall invasion. We had a lot of fun and played hell with the Japs. Our company of tanks was one of the first outfits to hit the island. We fought on Roi and Namur islands and never stopped until every Jap was accounted for. I have been on the water 23 days, destined for another place, and the ocean is starting to bore me." AND we were all wondering where Bob Reed was !! •From A/S J.R. Ashcom (Box 279 Bloomsburg Pa) "I can give you a little news for the boys as Bill Messmer, Danny Carroll and Chuch Fitzgibbons are all here, taking the course for entrance to Midshipman School. Bill Meise went to Mid'n school at Northwestern U, Joe Bowers to N.Y. John Brooks to Asbury Park, Frank Campbell to the Brooklyn Navy Yards, John Bevington to Bainbridge, Md. I have none of their correct addresses. I sure want this affair over with soon, as I want to get back to college--I know there will always be an opening in a school for me to teach." Thanks!! •From Ens. C.W. Mallon (At sea) "The last VB reached me after traveling a long way--and I have seen many strange sights and have been many places since I last saw you on the 3rd floor front of Old Main. I recently saw Ens Chuck Moore in N. Y. before being shipped out--and I also saw Henry Ott (Ens.). In the 8 mo. I have been to sea I have traveled to England, South Wales and to Scotland, and Cuba. The more I see of the world the more I like the USA--and that's God's country! I sure was pleased to read of the great successes of Harold Hastings, Bill Manke, Joe Fuszek and I am grateful for having known these great men--and to read of their adventures and bravery. Other men on the ship read VB with much interest and I never fail to mention S.R. to them." Come again!! and thanks for the picture! •From Lt. R.J. Herzberger (CBtry 840 AWbn (suffolk AB. Westhampton Beach NY) "I haven't run across a single S.R. man in the army; so VB is a welcome piece of mail. My wife Virginia and I are looking forward to that big reunion--count on us !! We meet in NY most every week now."

•From Pfc Paul Reardon (ASN 13089176-2628th Hosp Sect 4 Pm N.Y.C) The following written Feb 20: "I am now in the hospital with a wound I received from one of the enemy shells that landed near me during some of our assaults. I would like to tell you more, but the censor would only cut it out. I have received the "Purple Heart" medal for the wound received during action. It has only been a year ago that 18 of us left S.R. for the service and I hope that I may be around at the finish." Then on March 10th "I had an operation, but the doctor came around today and said they would operate again in a few days. I sure hope it comes out OK so I can do a little swimming for S.R. when this war is over. I received letters from Cassidy, Senecal, and John Lewis. It is nice that they are making plans there at the college for the great Homecoming Day. As for ideas, well I will try and think about some while lying here in bed".... Paul were all with you to a man! We most certainly hope all comes out well, and we look daily for another letter...fellows a Paul's address is above--Im SURE you will want to write him! •From Lt Jg E.S. Mehaffey: "I can now mention our first stop; that was at Tarawa, where we escorted a transport filled with troops. I am now at another hot spot in more ways than one. Since we have no place in particular to go I have a nice beard and a mustache--you wouldn't recognize me." From Sgt Walter Ramsey (22 Base Hq Lowry Fld Col) "I'll sure be glad to return to the campus for a reunion after this conflict is over" •From: Cap. Dick Hammerle (APO) "We are acting as both AA and Field Art. here on the Italian Front, matching shell for shell with the enemy--and the rain falls day by day and the mud gets deeper and deeper". •From Ens Clair Axtell (NTS (Comm) Harvard, Cambridge, Mass.) "Uncle Sam changed his mind and I am now at Harvard studying Communications...I had expected to ship out, but here I am. Thanks for Truman's address--I have written him" From T/Sgt Nick Bilowick (APO) "I cant tell you much about some of the missions I have flown, but you probably read of the 2nd Regensburg raid over Germany? Well I was on that one--and the article in Sat Eve Post was very graphic, and will give you some impression. An air battle turns out to be not at all as you would imagine it to be--it is the most exciting thing in the war, but not like the movie version. From a plane a bombing mission is like a hodgepodge of disconnected scenes...bombs flashing and falling, a crippled plane smoking and losing altitude, a bombardier pushing a button to send his bombs away as calmly as if he were turning on the hall light, tiny specks like dots before your eyes, which turn out to be enemy planes circling before they come roaring at you, the black puffs of smoke that look so innocent blossoming in the air all around you--that's flack--and all this in a dull monotone that is the roaring of your engines, broken only by the shudder vibration of the plane as one machine gun after another lays a line of fire in the path of an attacking fighter. The interphone talk from tail gunner to pilot: "Fourteen enemy planes, fighters, low at 6 o'clock; they'r now moving up to 3 o'clock...keep your eye on them!" Nick, every one who reads this discription can say "Swell--sure Ive been on a bombing mission myself--with Nick". •From Ens. C.J. Swick (BOQ. Rm 112a Atlanta Ga) "After being sent via cattle car to Norman, Okla, where I took my basic training, I was sent to Pensacola. Soon I expect to arrive in Roanoke Va from here and then a 15 day furlough and you can bet your best paint brush you'll see me at S.R. Please tell Ace Hovis, Dick Jones, Andy Petach and Bill Ritter to write me--I would love to contact the old gang. I met Bill Tebay in Pensacola but we only had a few moments." •From Pvt Wm Rometo (APO) "Well here I am in French Africa working in the mail transfer. Who should I meet but Sam Ristich and Mike Mamula last week over here--we talked about SR till the wee hours. Will send you some pictures as soon as I get the camera...interesting natives" Be looking. •From Sgt Loyal K. Briggs (APO) "The last VB traveled about 15,000 miles to reach me over here in China as we knock at the Nips back door with a bunch of fellows who know how to "knock"...we are trying to shorten the time until that Victory Homecoming--and lets make it SUPER " Amen! •From Pfc James C. Kearns (APO) "Did you know that I was with Capt Petuch and didn't know it...well according to VB, I was! It will be a great day when I meet up with him--I am planning to get you a picture of Don Pritchard's grave! Hope your all fit by now, Jimmy! •From Lt. Bill Tallon (APO) "I am now flying attack in a medium bomber, and it is a lot of fun, if you want to call this fun...believe me, the boys are doing a good piece of work too. I may be a little late in getting to the reunion as my folks have moved to Florida and Dad is overseas as a C.O. of a Railroad Bn" When I do come back it will be with my old H.S. girl as my wife, and I will take pride in introducing her to good old S.R. of which she has heard so much." Good!! •From Lt Sam Ristich (6th Ferrying Ap-Long Beach Calif) "After a prolonged dangerous trip I am headed for Long Beach once more. I covered 20,000 miles visited S. America, Sahara, Africa, England, Scotland. I saw Bill Rometo and Mike Mamula in Dakar--Mike was a radio operator on one of the ships--strange places to meet friends--saw Red Nicoletti at Baer Field, Ind! Sambo...how you do get around!! •From a/s Tom Carey (308CTD. Sg 111 ELA College Station Tex)

Keep sending in those pictures, and turn the page.

" This time it is in Texas...and with a program identical to the one at S.R., so you know pretty well what I'm doing" • From Pfc John O. Hallstein(CoB St Louis U,St.Louis Mo) "I am still a school boy in per-med. and I do enjoy hearing from the gang, and the fine work they are doing" • From Pfc Geo E. Sipe(APO) " I like to read of the Victory Re-union we are going to have...that makes me look forward to things and something to think about. Had a letter from Jim Harkins over here, and would like to hear from D. Sarcone and John McNertney, and I don't want to miss an issue of VB" • From Cpl Lyle Koenig(PP)(1187TrGpGreensboro NC) "S/Sgt Clarence Aikey and I were in the same wing giving P.T. to the colored troops and believe me that was a job" • From Lt. Frank J. Ladesic(APO) " At present Im in Italy flying my own B-24 "HotRock" my crew so far has one German Fighter chalked up, besides the many bombs we've delivered to various places. We've rigged up our tents to make it very comfortable...after the war I think Ill get a patent on our gasoline stove-its colossal!" Good luck Frank!! • From Pvt Dick Sprowls(436East Hall LancasterPa)"Frank Dennis, Bob Buxton and I are here at Franklin and Marshall until about July 1st-you will surely hear from us the very time when we miss a VB" • From Capt Bill Weaver(APO) "Last Friday I went to London for a change and rest;the RedCross got the change and the night clubs got the rest.(Whoa Bill!) I have had letters from Andy Campbell(now a civilian since contracting malaria in Panama, and from Jimmy Cox, whom I believe is headed this way.We have good quarters, good food,many conveniences that the men must miss in other sectors, but the sun has not peeped through to warm us for weeks, and "Spam" is still our favorite meat" • From LT M.E.Carless(BarrT-13Courtland,Ala) "At last I have found some one with whom I can sing the Alma Mater,as we have two men who attended S.R. as Cadets, and they can never shout her praises high enough, for the swell treatment they received there!" • From Csp Leroy Brest(F.P.O)"I am now back at work after a grand 21 days leave home in the States, but disappointed in that I got no further to S.R. that to phone Mr. Miller from Sharon.Last week Mrs.Roosevelt came through this section on an inspection tour of recreational facilities and I had the honor of putting on a swimming exhibition for her" • From Lt Chuck Hough(Soon?APO)"I guess I should have told you that I was to be married -well Mildred and I had a beautiful double ring ceremony at the base chapel at Alamogordo, and I heartily recommend married life to one and all. I've told her so much about S.R. that she thinks it's the grandest school in the U.S.A-which it certainly is." Congratulations Lt. Chuck and Mildred-and we'll be expecting to hear from you "over there" soon. • From Cpl Jim Harkins(APO) "After getting your note in with VB I made inquiry and in Africa had the good fortune of meeting Cap'n Dick Hammerle-at that time he was a 1Lt, so I see he's now climbing the ladder. We have the same APO, but it covers a lot of territory, altho as the crow flies he is not far away in one of these Italian valleys, or hills. Its been 3 years since I have been on the campus-and that will be one of my first stops when I get back. I happen to be in an outfit that has been in for practically all of the "Big Shows", and it rather makes me smile when I read of those fellows wanting to see action" • From S/Sgt Leon E. Scowden (APO) "Im in England and so far hav'nt seen any S.R. fellows, but have my eyes open for I know there are quite a number here.My job will, in all probability,take me to many quaint places on these isles--though I will probably also see the sights only from the road". Jimmy Cox and Bus Bowers are still likely with you Scowden ? • From Lt Ernie DeSue (soon APO ?) "We have taken our overseas physical, so I do not expect to be at Ellington Field much longer-so I'll send you my new address as soon as I can" DO!, and that will help VB. to keep coming better. From MM 3/c J.S.Craige(ATB Camp FtPierceFla)"I met Ens. Fred Darlin here and he showed me the first copy of VB and it brought back memories of 1940 when I attended S.R. I saw combat action in the invasion of Sicily,& it was during those days that my mind wondered back to college. I sure would like to hear from the fellows" Your on the list Jay. • From Pvt Anthony Forte(MedDet-285F.A.Bn FtSillOkla) "My wife(Florence Agnew) and I surely liked our first copy of VB-hope to receive more. After being in sound observation work,I transferred to the Medics--look forward to Victory Homecoming and back to teaching". • And in TODAY'S mail From:Pfc Jim Kearns(APO)"Accomplished two things these last two weeks;got a picture of Don Pritchards grave, and met and talked to Cap'n Fred Ptucha...and talked S.R. to him for a real session...really swell to be able to discuss something dear to you with one who knows it in and out. I am back on duty now, good as ever, raring to go. Where Stan Robson is buried they have an inscription "We live by Deeds, Not Years". Ben Rebel is up around New Guinea, and hopes to run into Tallon, who will soon be here a year.Rebel was in the Cape Gloucester scrape. I met Ed Ballard (Westminster Col) who wants to be remembered to Mosca,Stitzinger,D.Jones,Dutkin,Carey,Hauley&Nocera--I met Pete Carey,Toms cousin --a small world!!" **ATTENTION ALL ENEMIES OF AMERICA**-Don't tread on us, Don't attempt to hinder us, we won't have tyranny here in Free America!"

A warm hand clasp, good luck, From a friend Geo.T.Miller.