

Dear friend with the colors :

As this is written the tempo of the war is being upped to almost unbelievable heights. Three thousand planes at a time blast Axis installations, and the radio keeps up a jargon on the invasion that keeps Germany ever more jittery as to when, where, and how it will come. One thing they know...come

it will, and that it will be "super" in every sense of the word. The whole world is tense, and is aware that affairs of the greatest magnitude are pending: that a great and final climax is to be reached, and at any moment. Fellows, a great many of you will be in this spectacle, many of you will have important parts to play. You may not read this until the affair is on or on its way. Fellows, do your darndest to be brave stalwart soldiers, doing your duty in keen exactness and in poise....but don't lose the larger values or perspective of things....don't let soldiering make you forget that you are a gentleman and a Christian. In all probability your job will make it necessary for you to kill....but it need never make you like killing. You will see horror and coarseness, suffering and hardness, destruction and utter ruin of people, nations and things, but you need never allow yourself to become callous to these things, nor allow this to get you down. War, and certainly this one, is hell in all its fury to the very depth, but you need not emerge a devil from it. Right now the picture looks dark, forbidding and gruesome, but it is not going to remain this way forever. One day (pray God it comes soon!) a brighter spectacle will await us, and we will need men back here with great and fine visions and ideals to carry on the building of a greater, a sounder, and a more glorious America. What crime and thugs have torn down, you who return and we who anxiously await you, are going to unite in rebuilding into the greatest nation the world has ever known. And now may God in His great infinite wisdom bless every last one of you as you steel yourself for this engagement, be it long or short. Come back to us...come back to us as unspoiled gentlemen!!

Warm drizzling rains and a friendly sun has coaxed out the tiny leaves and sticky buds on the Buckeye trees in front of North Hall, and today as I write the lawn mower is leaving great wide swaths as it chugs over the velvety green for the first time this year. Various birds serenade of an early morning when one wishes to sleep, boys play at marbles on the playground near the Lab. school, girls swing gracefully along on roller skates over the walks, students stroll along of an evening in lighter clothing, and more colors. Earth worms wiggle over the side walks after a shower, golden Forsythia blooms near South Hall and Spring in all its loveliness is just now pushing itself out of winter. Trout season, opening April 15th, was the quietest we have so far ever seen, a few farmers plow their fields between showers and sunshine, and any number of gardens neatly planned, have so far gotten no further than that. Many alumni will attend the Baccalaureate services at 2:30 Sunday May 28th and the informal tea in the great lounge of North Hall following it, and Commencement will follow on Monday morning, May 29th. The display of your photographs in uniform, with your name (no titles or rank) beneath, are mounted on a large placque on the 1st floor of Old Main, and is attracting much attention. If you have not sent in your picture, will you please look to this matter at your earliest convenience...your folks at home will cooperate with you if you ask them.

PLEASE--will you look at your envelope. If your address has been changed or if we have it wrong...PLEASE WRITE IN at your earliest convenience...VB desires to reach you! Only a handful of cadets now remain at the college...as soon as they get in their hours in the air, they too will leave, and that, so far as we know, will end the army's program here.

VISITING on the CAMPUS. Bride and Groom: Jack Dunlap and Peggy Griffith, Bill Nesbit and Glenna Cleeton, Eddie Cottrell and Millie Weed...CONGRATULATIONS!! Also to Paul Butler and his wife Leila Mary Weiser of Las Vegas Nebraska, Bob Varnum and wife visited the college-Bob will soon be a deck officer aboard. Kensley Miller and wife spent an afternoon here...Kensley who has one German plane to his credit (others unrecorded) will soon reenter overseas duty once again, after resting, and instructing in Florida-he flew 88 sorties over enemy territory!!! Art Ammon is out on account of physical conditions; he and his wife will live in Butler and Art will edit the Sporting Page of the Eagle. Capt. Frank Ware (Faculty) is now in England. Mrs. DuBard is in the Allegheny Hospital in Pittsburgh, Joe Henning is teaching PT in Berry College, Georgia, Mid'n Tom Joos

Sure there is room on the placque for your picture-turn page.



having been all over the globe "droppen" in for a visit, Mr and Mrs Ted Bukowski spent a few days at the latter's home near here, Sgt. Warren Brandon, soon to move, was here, and Lt. Jimmy Gallagher, now stationed at Middletown Air Port called. And SO, its a pin-up girl for Mr. and Mrs Bob Smith (Mabel Davis), and she weighs 6Lb, 1 Oz and her name is Judy---Hello Judy! Lt. Bob (Judy's papa) is now Ex. Officer in charge of training and has his hands full--soon his outfit will move, and Mrs S and Judy will remain for a little while. Last Sat. night the Seniors entertained the faculty at a well appointed dinner in North Hall with much fun and an element of sadness with the men gone. AND NOW for a peek into the OLD MAIL SACK : •From Cpl. John Offutt (Bks 521 Alliance Neb) "I am now assigned to the Troop Carriers Command, towing gliders and paratroopers...we are soon to be headed across. This, rather a bleak country about here with many bluffs and some Indians around" •From Capt Bill Weaver (APO) "The sun has been out fully 4 days here in England, and I hardly know where these 11 months have gone since I landed here. The "Stars and Stripes" carried an article about "Babe" Denbow being one of the high scorers of a basketball club, and I have not seen or met a single S.R. Man--perhaps we shall soon meet in Berlin." •From Pvt Fr. M. Dennis (447 East Hall F&M, Lancaster Pa) "Dont worry we will soon let you know if we dont receive VB--they have been coming regular. Bob Buxton and I went trouting, with strings and cut poles...met a man who loaned us his fine outfit, promised to take us fishing any time we could go. We got no fish, but I still hold I'm a better troutier than Bob Lewis!" •From Sgt. Fil Nocera (Co K-9th Gr Camp Reynolds Greenville Pa) "At the present my wife and I are living in Greenville--how long we do not know, but I sure would like to hear from Dutkin, Aikey, Sample, Kaufman, Cox, Carey, Jim Howley, McNertney, Parcone, Perkins and the rest--my experience has not been so spectacular as many" •From Lt. Col Donald Dunlap (Hd 4th Air Force San Francisco (6) Calif) "I am in the office of Director of Operations of the 4th Air Force, and we are engrossed in very interesting work, the nature of which demands that I make frequent flights to our installations. I met a classmate Lt. Helen Booth in Santa Maria a few days ago and we had a nice evening reviewing memories of S.R. and I sent her a recent copy of VB--Thanks for the picture Don. •From Pvt. Virginia Brown (Rec Depot, 29th Bn Co FBks 118 Camp Lejeune NC) "I've only been here for a month and the last 2 VBs have reached me. Out of 525 new recruits our platoon of 29 was awarded the banner for excellence in close order drill--that was a thrill!" •From Pvt. John Robak (Hq Det Sec 14 Sta Comp Camp Sibert Ala) "I have completed 17 weeks Chem Warfare Basic Tr, and am now working as radio technician with a controlled target crew. Lately I have acquired some experience in 35mm projection work at one of the post theaters" •From: Lt. Frank Nocera (Naval Tr School, Purdue U, Lafayette, Ind) "Guess who reported for duty here at Purdue? None other than John Ribka Sp(A) 2/c, as you recall he was quite a gymnast at S.R. and I was a senior when he enrolled. My duty as Athletic Officer is to see that our 800 students are properly conditioned before going to sea, and my other duties are Officer in charge of Navy Post Office, Drill Officer, Ordnance, and Ships Co officer; so you see I can keep quite busy"--And from many quarters we have heard excellent reports of your work Frank. •From SpA 2/c John Ribka (NTS Purdue U, Lafayette, Ind) "From Great Lakes I was sent to Bainbridge, Md, then sent here. Lt. Nocera told me about VB and gave me several back copies he had on hand. I see the S.R. lads are far scattered" -Your on the list Johnny Ribka. •From: 1st Lt Robt E. Parke (APO) "Last March 23rd marked my 18th month overseas, in the Pacific area. After spending 10 mo. in Hawaii, I was transferred to Fiji--then to my present position which is a military secret. I have faced the Japs several times, and they are waging a losing battle, and this they know. Battling in the deepest jungle, in mud, rain, sleeping in fox holes half filled with water and battling reptiles and mosquitoes all have left an impression of depth upon me, then seeing your best buddy falling on either side of you never to rise again and wondering if you will be next--this too has given me a picture. God has been with me, and I look to Him each night for guidance and daily help. I am engaged to an Erie, Pa girl and we are planning to marry as soon as I return. I have seen many sights over here, from the Hula Hula Girls of Hawaii to the blackest of island natives...it will be grand to return to civilization again". •From: Sp1/c AMM Gail Warnock (Waves Bks 82 Alameda, Calif) "I received my boot training in Hunter College; then I was sent to Norman Okla, and I am now an Aviation Machinist Mate out here. Life in the barracks, standing in line for chow, associating with a cross section of personalities is a new experience...certainly a change from the class room. We have all kinds of planes to service here, and we do all kinds of work from timing magnitos to installing gas tanks". If you get a furlough come around, Gail, there's a knock in my Chev's differential!! •From Lt. Loyal Briggs (APO) "Even though we have been thought to be at the end of the world life in China has been good to us. Our squadron team, after winning 22 games of basketball has been known as the "Champions of China"--our men play hard and they fight even harder--see you at that Big Homecoming!!"

*From M/Sgt Doug Lehman(England) "The little book that they gave me when I was a freshman telling me "that friends made in college would be true friends" was true. I hear from Lt Bill Manke, Jake Elliott, Lew Bagnato, and the D.C. Porters, and others. Once in a while it gets a bit noisy from "Jerry" but we don't mind it, even when on watch, as I am now."

* From Lt Chuck Hough(APO) "I am somewhere in Africa, and it bears no resemblance to lovely S.R. When coming over I ran into Lt. Pete Sowa (Ferrying Command) and believe me we had a great time talking of S.R. and later shooting the bull with Willie Rometo the past week as he is stationed here where I am delayed. He has been "showing my whole crew a good time" and Willie is definitely sold on S.R.-he really misses her a great deal. While waiting I've been swimming, deep sea fishing, and we hunt big game in a jeep, and shoot from the hip-its great fun--must close as I'm to meet Willie at the PX-keep those VBs coming!" * From :

Ens Fred Lytle(Navy Yard Portsmouth N.H.) "We only have 5 men in this Communication Office, and we are on duty 24 hrs. a day, 7 days a week. We do lots of construction here, launching a new Sub every --days and we expect to build --during 1944. Had my first ride on a Sub. last Thur. and never enjoyed anything better...we made 7 dives and believe me we came up after each one!!! We may leave here on a moment's notice. As to my family: the 19 mo. old twins are coming along fine and our little 8 1/2 mo. old girl is also a darling...wonder what S.R. will be like when they are old enough to attend? We are making plans for them already by War Bonds." - Shall we enroll them as Sec. or Health Edders Fred? * From

Pfc Bob Cyphert(2nd TSS-Lowry Filed #2 Denver) "Upon leaving, my wife (Wanda Krupar) went to visit her sister in Louisville, Ky. and I came here to Denver, and soon hope to go to gunnery school or central fire control. The B-29s here are monsters and make a B24 look small" * From: Lt C.J. Barnhart(9 Valley Place New Haven Conn) "On Good Friday we (Bessie and I) went to Bridgeport to hear a choir directed by Mr. Yingling-and gave the latter and his wife all the S.R. news-we will spend a week end at Storrs, Conn. with them soon. Will send some photographs soon". * Sgt. Mary Aiken(Wac Det-4th Charting Photo Sq March Fld Calif) "Have been getting VB and enjoying it very much-I am now a Sgt." Thanks for your picture!

* From Lst Lt. Wm K. Bunney(18th Co-1st STR, Ft. Benning Ga) "I will return to Camp Fanning, Tex after I finish this course for future Bn. and Regt. staff officers in Inf. Sure like to read about my former college mates!" * From Harry Truman (Red Cross-Iran?) "Last week I was on a trip to Luxor, Egypt, the tombs of the old kings and queens are really something. It is a little quiet here as we are far from the fighting front-but I rather imagine TIME refers to the Middle East as the Tinderbox of politics-I would say "hands off Middle East politics". There seems to be a lot of knife throwing and sometimes they land around the spinal column".

* From Lt. C.E. Gladd(APO) "India is truly a land of mystery, with the many interpretations given to religious things, including cows, peacocks and monkeys which are sacred. The women are not supposed to have souls, and are used for breeding purposes--there are many Indians. We are billeted in an American Camp near a large city, and our food is O.K. with many oranges, bananas, pineapples, and cocoanuts. Our hutments are of bamboo framework. covered with cement and a thatched roof. The beds are of latted rope and we sleep under a net as protection against malaria. I am writing this letter by candle light. The days here are hot but the evenings cool." * From Mrs G.C. Shick "We know that our son reached the point of embarkation in California but since that time we have had no word" Has any one heard from Dan Shick? * From: Ens Ben Rebel (APO) "My mail was held up here until we made port-then I rec'd 2 copies of VB. I am on the lookout for Bill Tallon but haven't seen him yet--tell him to look for LCI --- and I'll set him up to a good meal. Had letters from Jimmy Kearns-he is just a little too far away to visit". Your wife brought a nice group of prospective H.S. seniors to the college last week -glad to see her. * From Pvt Wm R. Schmidt(2nd Weather Sq Stout Filed, Indianapolis Ind) "Hope you heard the wedding bells on March 11-Roberta (Walker) and I were married then...another S.R. romance blossomed!! I'll turn on the right valves here in the Weather Sq. to bring you the kind of weather you desire-let us know!"-We will, and I'll say "hello" to Roberta the latter part of this month-I will speak in her H.S. * From Tom Thompson (APO) "Now I'm half way around the world, and I received 2 numbers of VB-and were they welcome! Any news from SR is always welcome" * From

Pfc Stan Marshall(Hitchcock Hall-U of Chi Chicago Ill) "I'm still in Pre-Med. and haven't much to say-not like the fellows who are really in the war-the army is determined to make a dentist out of me-as John Hallstein (who is in the same program) put it-"I'm just a school boy"-But your story is just as welcome to VB readers as any !! * From: Ens Jim Howley (Rm 322 Brown Hall Princeton N.J.) "I am a darn busy fellow and have to keep abreast of 4 courses with 2-hrs of study-PT and drill round out the day"

* From Pfc Tony Frisina(APO) "England is very beautiful, and I hope I'll meet some SR fellow here soon to discuss memories that are very dear to me"-Plenty of them there Tony-and address Paul Reardon(2628 Hosp Sect 4 Pm NYC) glad to say Paul is recuperating nicely, but he will be there

Interesting letters make interesting VBs-Turn the page.

for a month or so-wounded in right foot and leg-Paul will be mighty glad to hear from you-or any one!! *From Lt. Bob McGregor(APO)"I am now with another outfit, and it is a dandy-we are just now in the midst of special training-soon to be put into action away out here in the S. Pacific. No news gives me greater pleasure than news of SR" *From Lt Andy Petach(England)"Im in the southern part of England-havent been near a plane in months-the Adj just looked at my records, saw I was a B.S. in H.Ed-so now Mrs Petach's little boy is the Base PhyTr. Officer(And how often this has happened Andy!!)I've done about everything that I didn't expect to do and its been a pretty good education. Had letters from Menocher, Hough and St. Ramsey-and look for Chuck and Johnny here any time. AND, I dont mean to miss that reunion!" *From Mid'n Bill Meise (820 Tower Court Chicago Ill)"We are about to take our 6 wk finals and our graduation is set for May 10th-the work has been pressing, but I have liked it at that" *From Pvt. Erma L. Moore(WacDet, Ft Monmouth NJ)"I read every word of the VB you sent me, and soon I shall send you a picture" *Pfc Paul Grine(APO)"I now weigh 12 stone 9 lbs, so you know I'm in England-pass VB on to two fellows from New Castle and Ellwood City who know SR faintly. Have been here a long time and so far have not seen any weather fit to mention in the same breath with Pa!!). Yes, I have met some really fine people who charm and enchant me" *From Pvt David Sarcone(APO)"I am back on New Guinea again, and in the near future expect to be very busy. Had a weeks furlough in Sydney and that is a garden spot of heaven. Count me in on that reunion" *From Lt David Thaler(APO)"I am still in England and right now living in a tent with 3 other men-and not so bad. We have a radio, and I am now listening to Duke Ellington" *From a/c Bill Tebay(Bldg 1236 Pensacola Fla)" Hope to be finished with this part of my training soon and will then pay you a visit when this happens, after 17 mo. as an a/c. I saw Carl Sinkulas picture in the hanger but hear he is away on sick leave just now". *From S/Sgt C.F. Swartz(Bar 953 Truax Field Mad Wis)"I am very busy with my work here at Truax Field, and time passes very rapidly. I saw Major Rasche some days ago but he is moved again to Washington DC I hear" *From Sylvan H. Harris SK3/c(APO) "Several of the VB's have gone astray but the last 3 have reached me away out here in the S. Pacific. It was a good idea to send them also to the girls and we like to know where they are too-I am now in Hawaii, and assigned to the supply dept and am getting a liberal education in storekeeping, Aloha." Aloha to you Harris. *From Ens Gene Barlett(APO)" After I was commissioned I reported to New Orleans for duty on LST-then came gunnery and maneuvers and then we arrived in NY. The convoy I came over on was rather large, about the size of three of your art classes, and the crossing not too bad, I was at no time sea sick, by golly I'm an old salt! A lot of lovely dark nights all by myself up in the "conn" keeping station with the other ships-it was really a great experience-no trouble with the enemy, but we are now right next door to the louse. Our crew is young-none over 34 and I'm the baby of the group-we arrived in England happy and in good health" A darn good letter Gene! *From: Ens Betty Brown(WOQ-An 61 Norfolk Va)" Sometimes when I read about all the things that the S.R. boys are doing I feel that my little bit couldn't help much-keep those VBs coming though!" *From S/Sgt John O. Kaufmann(1020 AAF-Unit R.S. Miami Beach Fla)"My work is now with Returneds from overseas,-getting them from all theaters of operations, for rest and reassignment--we give them deep sea fishing, boating, golfing, picnics, sunshine and swimming, and all the sports equipment possible. The married men have their wives with them and the set up is good. I have had a hand in the administration as well as supervision, and that may be beneficial someday. We hear we may go overseas soon, and since hearing about Stan and Don and the rest I feel like slapping somebody around. Don was very close to me and I shall always remember him as a man." ATTENTION men in England: A letter was just received here from a Rotary Club over there-stating that they rather wanted to know you fellows better. England is full of Rotary Clubs: seek out the nearest and make yourself known!!! Its a baby for Geo Kline and his wife (Etta Walters), and its a baby girl for Mr and Mrs Kelly of Youngstown O-she was "Pat" Shearer, Its a baby for Dr and Mrs Curtis Ruff-making C.C and his wife Grandma and Grandad. Gloria Dondero is now with her husband Keith Stoner in N.J. As this last page is being typed the blossoms are out, the air clean and cool, the sun bright and the leaves just forming on the trees-its really a day to live!!! Regrets that all the fine letters that come in cannot be, even in a few words, recorded-space prevents. *From Cpl Jimmy Harkins: I am now in Corsica, and it isn't so bad, as it is much more quiet than in Italy where I left. There has been little fighting done here, and the people seem independent, have money, but not so much to buy. In Italy we had our laundry done by the natives for practically nothing; here it would cost you a months wages to get a months washing done" Shall we send you a washboard, Jimmy? *From Lt Jg Bob Boozer(APO)"While serving on 9 different ships in 2 navies Ive collected 2 stars for my service ribbon. I want to get home to see Daughter #2 born 7/17/44-I learned of her Nov 4th-thats the most prolonged father labour!! "Good Luck!! Geo T. Miller