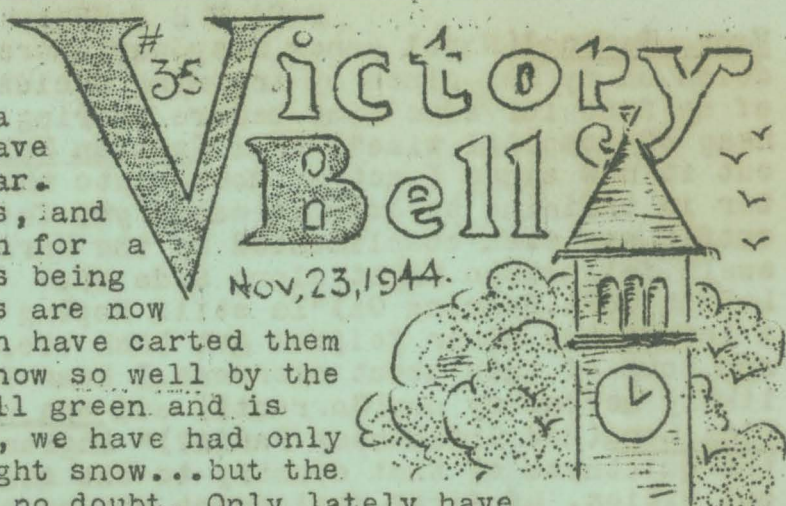


Library

Dear friend with the colors:

One could hardly picture a more pleasant fall than we have had in Slippery Rock this year. Glorious days, crisp evenings, and afternoons that made you itch for a hike in the woods. As this is being written, however, the leaves are now practically all gone, and men have carted them from this large campus you know so well by the truck load. The grass is still green and is growing a little, for so far, we have had only heavy frosts, and no down-right snow...but the latter will come soon enough no doubt. Only lately have men been wearing top coats much. Hunting season is now in full swing and most Nimrods have bagged game...never have we seen it more plenty in this section. Just now the college is looking forward to the Thanksgiving recess (Nov. 23-27) and a little break from the usual routine. To you who read this ABROAD, it will be nearer Christmas time than Thanksgiving, and for us it is just a little early to get in to the Xmas spirit...no carol have we heard, no yule log have we seen, no decorations have we put up. However, the stores are practically sold out of everything, the day it comes in, so the season will soon follow in due time. TO YOU ABROAD, who now hold this newsletter in hand, we unite in great good wishes to you where ever you are. We hope you may find happiness, peace and deepness this Christmas Tide, and in the name of the Gentle Messiah, we hope that this will be your last Christmas away from home and loved ones...."Silent night, Holy night...all is calm, all is bright....."



It's funny how it all happened. Some one had been asking the whereabouts of "Chuck" Burch, and Sam Ristich.Well, Burch was a pilot of a Super Fortress in the South Pacific, and Ristich was on a trip as navigator on a Ferrying Command to India.....then two days later came a knock at the door...and there stood BOTH Burch AND Ristich!! If one ever felt like swooning!!! On their return home a lucky letter had united them--from Erie they drove like mad to spend a few precious minutes on this campus--then back to Erie and far apart. But their visit here was all-to-short. Said Capt Burch: "Once I was flying in a long trip near Bouganville, and in talking to another pl- and in my formation, discovered through the conversation that Lt. Pfeffer, to whom I was speaking, was no other than the husband of Marian Smith of my own class here at Slippery Rock! Gee, the world is a small place!!!" Said Lt. Sam: "Well, I'm just back from another trip over India (and folks Sam has flown several times to every place this side of Timbucktoo and back, except over the North Pole)--and you may be suprised to learn that those addresses placed in the VB came in very handy....in LalManiar I dropped down and had a visit with Bill Mossrush; in Assam (Mesimera, where they have 85% malaria) I saw Loyal Eiken, and just missed Tory Longo by 2½ miles; in Casablanca I saw Dave Speizer; in Agra I saw Norman Russell !!!! The brief story of each of these meetings was in itself most interesting, and while Sam did not see all of our men stationed in these parts, that was more than good for one trip!!!. Others on the campus: 1st Lt. Pete Sowa, & our fourth time away, but he left this note "Sorry to have missed you again--and with great news too-to Mary and me: a whopping big 9 lb. baby boy on October 26th--name, Peter Sowalll" Congratulations, and keep trying,--we cant miss each other always. Pvt. Floyd Bartoe and S/Sgt Sam Mamula visited together, the latter with many tales of the invasion which he was in, landing in France the second day with the Merchant Marines. Ens. Russell Reed soon to report to Boston, and Capt. and Mrs. Frank Nicoletti. Franks wife is a Lt. in the Wacs, and claims that Frank got his latest commission just so he would outrank her. Overseas folks found in their envelope with the last V.B. a pamphlet entitled "A LETTER TO MY SON" written by Frank O. Colby. You have him to thank for that well written timely message as he sent the copies gratis for that issue." SO NOW, lets dip into the MAIL BAG, and see: Writes Mrs Virginia Hipps Herrin (1004 Platt St Tampa Fla) "Through VB my husband has discovered he knew one S.R. boy in Corsica--Lt. Jim Gallagher--he says that he and Jim used to have more than one chat during Winter evenings over there...also he believes he knows Paul Reardon--ask Paul is he remembers a Lt. Herrin in Sicily or Italy". Let Pfc. Paul Reardon who is now discharged from Deshon Hosp. and now at (Conv Hosp. 2nd Bn. Fort Story Va) andwer for himself--were glad Paul is well recovered now. Writes Marg. Vanhorn Guyton (Lt. R. D. Guyton Box 69 RD 3 Charleston SC) "Like all army personnel we have been on the march from Ala, to NY, to Mass. and now here in S. Carolina--and we both read every line of V.B." From A/C.

Buy a WAR BOND----and turn the page, please

Vance Senecal(Naval Annex HOSP Swarthmore, Pa) "I just had my fifth operation on my leg, since my training accident a year ago, so I'll be off of my foot for some time before bearing weight on it. I've logged down a heap of hospital time". From: Capt Dan Shick(APO) "I feel much better about it now since I got my hooks into the Japs good and proper, and after in training so long it makes you feel good to get into battle. Our outfit was even complimented by the Marines!!! And the Marines are swell fellows to fight along side of." From T/5 John M. Lewis(481 Eng. L Pont Co Ft. Benning Ga) "Im still hoping to get back to school, and hope a lot of the other fellows get back too. My outfit is still here in Ga and lots of talk about overseas. I hear from Reardon, Tom Green, who is likely across my now(6 or rect!) and Art Wilson who is on Guam". From : Olga Long(Red Cross-near Paris?) "England was lovely, and I preferred the quietness of that country to the scurrying crowds of the bombed out cities. My first assignment was an Aero Club, then I became a coffee and donut girl with a Clubmobile, and now we seldom see the same face again. Never did I dream that I would be seeing so much of this world after leaving S.R. I was with Bill Temple when he got the piece of rubble of the Tower of London that he sent you, and I saw Jimmy Hines a week before I left England. He was a beautiful "dame" in the show and it was fun seeing Jimmy again! I'd certainly like to serve coffee & donuts to Fred Ptucha and Jack Denbow and a few others"...Bring them to the Homecoming Olga! From Lt Andy Petach(England) "Last week after I moved here. I met a Navy flier who used to visit Jake Elliott at S.R. & he also worked in the same base as Chet Swick-its a small world! AND now as to becoming a BABY JUDGE--I dont know whether I could pass the qualification test---But I do know that Perkins can...he is one who knows all about "babies". From Molly Naismith(Los Angeles, Cal) Geo. is about to leave for the South Pac. We spent last evening with Lt. & Mrs. Ham Wright..we all talk about the homecoming". From Sgt Loyal K. Briggs(China) "Tony Longo is here in the same camp with me, but as yet I have not seen him, and will not for a few days as I leave for a 3 day pass now--hope to see him when I return...am sending these pictures of China which will tell more about it than one could write". Thanks!! From Ens Gene Barlett(At sea) "I think that two of the BABY JUDGES ought to be Keith Stoner and Tom Carey--for no one knows "babes" like they do! I sure would like to run into some of the fellows from school--never dreamt I would miss them as I do. We have been a dry dock being repaired after our torpedoes--then we really began to work and carried tanks, planes, ducks, ammunition etc to the fighting area. They sure ran us ragged for a while! From: Marine News Release: "1st Lt H.P. Mosca narrowly escaped injury when Jap antiaircraft gunners hit his fighter plane on two successive days--both times in the same vital spot in the left wing. Mosca is a Corsair pilot with the "Death-Dealers". The first time his plane was hit, he dropped his 1000 lb bomb on Yaps blasted runway when several Jap planes were seen on the ground...he was successful in reaching his base with his plane afire on both occasions but also succeeded in getting Jap planes and hangars". Nice going Herb !! From S/Sgt Leon Scowden(Belgium) "I dont know much about the progress of the war, but I'll be in on the conquest of Germany or I miss my bet" From Capt. Herbert Hartzell(Belgium) "Over here its 18 hours a day, 7 days a week, and I dont get around much to meet the many S.R. fellows I know must be near. I met Ralph Lonsberry sitting next table at mess the other day. I have met up with Ed Cottrell a time or two". From Ens Melvin Berry(At sea). "Nothing in this war is what you would call pleasant, and it is the things we look forward to that gives us hope, and those VBs help. The crew is now finishing the repairs that will soon put our boat in running again". From Sgt Jim Hines (England) "Recd a letter from my old roomie John Hauth today and he's over across beating hell out of the Krauts...my S.R. Homecoming would not be complete without that big overgrown lummoX there!! Our show may go to the states and take part in the 6th Victory Drive and if Im near S.R. I'd be terribly thrilled to have you see our show" Where is Gib Mohnet? Does any one know? And keep us informed as to show schedule Jimmy-we would like to see it. From Lt. P.T. Butler (1/4 H. Crisman RD #4 Boise Idaho) "This makes the 27th place I have been stationed, and am now in the final phase of my combat training--will spend Xmas either in Europe or the S. Pacific. My wife is here with me and we are living on a grand big farm and enjoying it". From S/Sgt Clarence Aikey (301 S. 10th St Belleville, Ill) "Since last April I have been living here with my wife and I am a P.T. Instr. at Scott Filed. I saw Geo Kline and Bill Overand here when I first came. Red McIntosh writes me that he is at Rhode Island State College, and they have a baby girl. My wife Barbara(from Clinton N.Y) is anxious to see S.R."...Bring her along !! From Lt James Bressi(447 Obsn Bn Ft Sill Okla) "All the other officers here read VB--and so S.R. is becoming well known...we will make the Homecoming a MUST in our schedule". From Sl/c Fred DiMeolo (At sea) "I am writing this during my gun watch so am crowded for space. I have not seen any one of my old college friends for 2 1/2 years &

I sure would like to run into somebody. When this ship "The Reign of Terror" docks long enough I will see some of them. I expect a 30 day leave soon and will be around". Come see us Fred. From Lt. W.S. Held (SecN Sq45-8Victorville Calif) "I would sooner be in Texas than here but what can one do about it?". From Ens W.R. Tebay (F.P.O) "All I can say now is that I've been traveling and will likely have more news in the months that lie ahead". From Lt Bill Manke (Combat Crew Tr Sta SqO Thomasville Ga) "After 22 months overseas I came home, got married, have my wife here with me and I am now training new boys, and then hurrying home to the little wife. I saw Johnny Kaufman in Miami". From Lt Jack Hetrick (PersHq. Camp Crowder Mo) "My wife and I were blessed last May with the birth of a son: William David, and he is doing fine, and he qualifies for that BIG BABY CONTEST, so were looking forward for homecoming. Bob Milheim and his wife (Helen Uber) are here in Joplin Mo". From 1st Sgt Dale N. Pearce (Italy) "Recently Lt Alan Barrette of New Castle is with us and it is nice to have some one to talk to that knows S.R. He is the wearer of the Purple Heart. I spent a couple of days in Rome and enjoyed the new experience no end. The Red Cross tour we took showed us the Pantheon, Colosseum, Catacombs, St. Peters Cathedral, Vatican, Ancient Ruins, and many other points of interest. Grape season is just about in now, and the wineries are being prepared for the season." From Pvt Mary E. Elwood (2nd Wac Co Norgolk Va) "I finished my training in motor transport and am now licensed to drive a $\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ ton truck". From LLt. Frank Crowley (BWS-556U Long Beach AAB. Calif) "I am still doing confidential forecasting and have been here over a year. Saw Joe English when his big battlewagon was in for repairs, Joe is a LtSrgr and looks fine". From T/Sgt Wayne Garraux (France) "Inclosed is a picture of Sacre Cour, the large white church on the hill above Paris-this is a wonderful city". From S/Sg Bob Sinclair (France) "The last VB just took me back to the campus and all the good times we had there, and boy did I want to catch the next boat". From Pvt H.J. Brenner (MedDept Wakeman GenHosp Campatterbury Ind) "When home I was introduced to your newsletter, and would like to get it, as many of the names are familiar. My brother Lt. Edwin is now overseas". Your on the list Harold. From Cpl Eddie Croll (Box 328 AB U Gulfport Miss) "My wife Vavia is here with me and she is teaching in Biloxi-we expect to be in S.R. soon". From Lt. Dale Liken (546 SB Dep Ft. Monmouth N.J) "I was on my way overseas but ended up in the hosp. for an operation-am now in another good company and will depart very soon". From Pvt H.H. White (300 AAF bn, 3rdAF Tampa Fla) "I met Bill Manke in Silver Springs, and he was fine after 22 mo overseas. He is now married, -still goes in for fancy diving. I'd like to see some snow soon". From Lt Jack M. Dunlap (Italy) "I am writing this to you on a box, in my tent on an Italian farm by candle light. Sunny Italy is not sunny just now and we have to rig up our own kind of stove. I am a co-pilot on a B-24 Liberator. Hereabouts the people are poor and the towns not so much. I want to see Rome and Naples as soon as I can." From: Pfc Archie Sonntag (Spec Ser Off. Morris Fld, Charlotte N.C) "I do a good deal of publicity writing for the "Morris Code" about our big team The 3rd Air Force Gremlins...spent a 3 day pass in New York and had a great time and saw a lot of famous people." From Lt David Speizer (British West Africa) "Heaven knows I've seen a lot of the world since leaving the states. We landed in Italy, thence by box car to Naples. This is a very poor nation, and you can't walk two steps without some youngster begging from you. From Naples we flew to Casablanca, which is not a bad town, but they have a medina section that would make any of our slums look like a paradise. It did my heart good to run into Sam Ristich returning after delivering a plane to India, and we had a great chat about SR. I am inclosing a picture taken on the beach-we swim in the Atlantic a lot". From: Cpl Lyle Koenig (BrI SecI Ord - AAF Greensboro NC) "I am a PT. Instr here and am now in an overseas Pep. Depot--I see a lot of men but none from S.R." From: Huck Lieberman (4-R Maritime Ser. Staten Isl N.Y) "Those V.Bs come through with good news from many that I know. I had a nice letter from Johnny Hauth in a Tank Destroyer Unit in Europe and he tells me that the destruction is beyond description". From: Lt Jim Grossman (Crew 9285 Davis-Monthan Fld Tuscon Ariz) "Greetings from the southwest and could you spare a V.B.?" Yes brother! From: 1st Lt Chas Hough (England). "Am now enjoying a recess from aerial warfare and am in a big remodeled English Manor house and having a swell rest--we have tea in bed even". From: Cpl. E.V. Johnson (Italy) "Recently I visited the Isle of Capri, and that was about the nicest thing that I have seen here. I would not want to live here." Attention: Bill Temple: In an indirect way we hear that you have been ill-please advise. From: Ens. Its the size of the fight in the dog that counts-Turn the page.

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ALUMNI--Once more a good friend came to our rescue-again we are able to send out some more copies of V.B. to you here at home. PLEASE see that they keep in circulation !!!!

Bob Varnum(1419 E.Ocean ViewAv,NorfolkVa)"Among the many other S.Rites we see in this section, was Walter McGary who came again last Thu.nite. He told us that while in Oran he saw Al Barnes. We now live right on Chesapeake Bay; can hear the waves, and ships all lit up at night". Do the Waves ever get all lit up Bob?. From 1st Lt Frank L. Hackett(In Germany)"I have been with this outfit since last July, and was wounded Aug 4th, but am now back on duty! Good Luck Frank!! From T.A.Dunn A.R.C. "Greetings from Corsica-this is a picturesque place and I am having new experiences daily". From LtjgE.S.Mehaffey(At sea) "I spent several hours with Jack Williams of Sharon who is attached to the same kind of ship that I am-a PC sub chaser;-it was great to meet some one from school. I have been over here for 17 mo. and soon hope to get home and to S.R. for a visit. This is captured Jap paper I am writing on". From Lt John E. Denbow(4128 B U ASTC FresnoCalif)" I had two letters from brother Al from France and Belgium;said he was having some great experiences-he has traveled 8000 miles by jeep. As Spec Serv Officer I have arranged shows having: Janet Blair, Arthur Treacher, Rags Ragland, Frank McHugh, and Jack Carson. When I recently told a fellow I went to Slippery Rock he said it sounded like an "obstacle course". From Lt Ed Cottrell(Belgium)"I am flying over Germany every day, and only yesterday received Aug 12 VB, and I'm not kidding when I say I honestly never enjoyed a piece of mail more than that. I hope to see Bruce Adams on my 5 day leave soon. Paris is a beautiful city". From Lt H.W. Irons(F.P.O S. Pac) "If you have any men out here in the 2nd Marines I would like to look them up. I am now on my second year out here-much at home to dream about". From Pfc Paul Hoffman(964 OrdCampMaxieTex)"I am now with the Heavy Auto Maint Co. here-and dont know much about my future. Your VB is the only tie I have between myself and college". Saw Ellen in SR a week ago. From a/c Chuck Chambers(Class 44K-Box17Enid Okla) "I am still managing to meet the ever rising standards of the Cadet Program and I guess my lot will be heavy bombers". From Lt Ernie Harrison (901 B.U. Orlando Fla)"It doesnt seem possible that I could be here 18 mo & not run into some old school mate when I read of them meeting all over the world-guess I'll have to go over seas to run onto some one". It was nice to see you on the campus last week Ernie. NOW OVERSEAS: Milton Morris, Sgt, T/4 John Paczak, Sgt Ed Porter, Lt Edwin Brenner, Fl/c Jn Devington, Sgt Andy Arivonek, Pvt Tom W. Green, Cpl Bill Elder, S.Sgt Ted Bukowski Ens Red Lytle, Lt Geo Wagenhorst, Ens Ray Haynes, Pfc Howard Jones, Lt Geo Kaluger, Tom Joos-and others I have probably missed. From Pvt. Jack Lottes(England) "I am looking forward to Homecoming and hope we can make it about a 3 day affair-I have so far seen little warfare as yet, and have seen no SR men". From Si/c Tomas Thompson (Australia) "V.B. reached me here in 7 days after it was mailed in S.R. and I think that is a record! Good letter Tom!, and who is this young lady that keeps asking about you?. From Sp(A)2c Mike Wargo(War Orient OfficeBldg619Bainbridge Md) "Would like to be put on the list" Your on Mike. From Lt Bruce Adams(England)"I spent a week at a Rest Home & had a good talk with Chuck Hough, who is now finished and on his way home. I still have a few missions to do, I recd my Silver Cross on Aug 29th". And congratulations on receiving the D.F.C. lately!! From Capt. Ken Miller(SqD "SarasotaFla)" I dont think I'll be around here a great deal longer as I think Im headed for C.B.I. Tell Petach, Hough, Kearns and the others that I'll probably see them before I get around to this writing-I owe most everybody a letter". From Ens. Norma Kremis(1413 Mass AveNW WashDC)"We have very high morale in our office and every one is right on the ball-it is interesting but difficult at times". From Sgt Andy Arivonak(APO)" I would like to hear from Bill Schmidt, Red Swartz, C. Aikey and the others of '39. Cant express how I like to get VB. From: Lt Bob Reed(APO)" I am now at a base camp following the battles of Saipan and Tinian-getting in a lot of tennis, golf and swimming". We hope you will soon be here Bob! From T/5 Dale Salsgiver(England)" I see "Krauts" and "G.I.s" every day, and boy there is a difference-these "Heinies" look downcast and beaten even though there is not much the matter with them, and on the otherhand I've seen "G.I.s" dying and at the same time looking cheerful and writing or having some one write home for them". From Pfc Stan Marshall(CoD-57thMTbnCampParkeleyTex)"We have about 4 more weeks of training then?. My wife Ruth joined me here in Abilene". And now as this rambling VB. comes to a close, the BIG PUSH is on in western Russia, western Germany, & Italy, and likewise the pin-cers are closing tightly on Japan, as the great air arm makes rubble of the German cities and soon will of Japan also. From now on it looks like a slugging match, as the death gasp of both these toughies is about to be heard. To YOU who have been in this in any capacity, giving months and years of YOUR TIME to aid, -be sure that there are those back home who deeply understand and deeply appreciate your every sacrifice!!! Heads up!! Chins high!! This thing is not going to last forever, and we are winning !! Better days lie ahead for YOU, for your loved ones. Lets build a greater America !!! A friend: Geo. T. Miller