

Library
Dear friend with the colors :

AND so it was on the morning of Friday, August 10... breakfast was over. We were listening to the regular news broadcast, when suddenly at 7:48 came an interruption..."Here is a late bulletin", he said...then as casually as if he were reading an ordinary weather report he intoned it: "The Emperor of Japan, through the Swiss Foreign Office, asks for peace." Boy! this was the very first news that Japan had really cracked--this was the REAL McCoy!! Over we race to South Hall, enter by the rear door, thence to the front--students join up--we all try to get to 2nd floor--the door was locked! The custodian is found--he fumbles with his keys--the last one does the trick. Then the door to the bell rope room is found to be locked--more students join up--(Would he never find the right key?)--AT LAST!! Then we "let go" on the old rope, and at long last the moment had come--the VICTORY BELL WAS RINGING!!!!!! ... DING DONG! (Peace at last!) DING DONG! (No more to be killed!!!!) DING DONG! (They're coming home!!!) DING DONG! (The price we've paid!!!) DING DONG! (The ones we'll miss) DING DONG! (No more to be wounded!) DING DONG! (The Victory home-coming!!) DING DONG! (Great days ahead!!) DING DONG! (More butter and meat!) DING DONG! (College as it was!) DING DONG! (They'll start coming back!!) DING DONG! (The baby contest!) DING DONG! (We'll really live again!!) DING DONG! DONG, DONG, DONG.....

The VICTORY BELL woke many from sleep: they flew to their windows; people flocked out on the street; a young mother, her husband in the S. Pacific, hugged her baby--rained kisses on it. Girls in the 8:00 class wept openly and unashamed. Tears of gladness and tears of sadness were shed on this old campus; one student rushed to his room, stuffed his suitcase, caught a waiting bus for Erie....on every face was an anxious smile...an old lady in a window praying over the picture of her grandson...a man sweeping his front steps--with tears in his eyes...a little girl scampering across the street to post a hurried letter....telephones jingling....people crowding about their radios..... a man washing down a store window on Main Street keeps right on with his work; never batting an eye...finally turns to a passerby with "Hey, now what's th' hell's gotten into that goddam bell?" And that's how VICTORY came to Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania. And for your record and information, the ones who pulled the rope were: Sylvia Jean Dale '47, Glen Ewer '46, Dick Barkley '46, Howard C. Smith '46, Dan Bonitsky '48, Prof. Wm. Storer '30, and yours truly '11.

V I C T O R Y !!

How sweet!! But to us, YOU who served here at home or overseas, YOU were OUR Army, YOU were OUR Navy, OUR Aviators, OUR Marines, OUR Wacs, OUR Waves, OUR Red Cross Workers, OUR Everything!!!!!! It was YOU who now hold this humble scrap of paper before you that we HONOR.... it was YOU who brought us V I C T O R Y!!!!!! You have sacrificed precious years, precious months, you have given your utmost energies, untold suffering, suffered wounds, undergone hospitalization, ...agony. Aye and some of our number have given their very lives... ..can't say any more...we never will know how to thank you.....

We have all seen history in the very making; the systematic and gradual pulverizing of the enemy--in the air, at sea, on land his industries and cities blotted out, the colossal energies of the cosmic atomic bomb (Let's hope that no more of them ever need be dropped!!!), the entrance of Russia...the final suing for peace, the formal signing and the occupation. What an "atomic ache" Japan must have, thus losing face as well as world prestige!!! The world will look back a full thousand years to these days, a billion words will be written about this VICTORY, plays will be enacted, movies made, poems will be written, art will be produced, AND, thanks to YOU, it will be the turning point in the lives of almost every one of us. Better days lie ahead, ...be of good cheer!!!!!!!!!!

ON THE CAMPUS--college has started with a larger enrollment...a new Freshman class of 120, a pre-training class of 55 nurses for the Butler Memorial Hospital,--making a total of about 325 enrolled, so once again the halls of the old college ring with merry laughter!!!! Paul Reardon and Jack Dunlap are enrolled--and many more of you will come when you are out--AND, since you were taken into the service at ANY time, we hope you can come and register ANY TIME!!! Coach will have VICTORY!!!! How sweet--We'll really live! Turn the page!

a football squad-hopes to play games. Mrs. DuBard is here again after a long illness; Dr. Victent has returned; no new faces on the faculty but plenty among the student body!! VISITING on the CAMPUS: Pvt. Homer Christy, Jimmie Welsh, David Frazier, who now is Prin. of a school in Harmony, Pa, Cpl. Dale Salsgiver, Grayson McCandless, Cpl. John Menoher, ARM2/c Ted Hogg, Sgt. Tom Carey, Lt. Jg. Wayne Stoyer, wife, three children.

AND now for that OLD MAIL BAG, with short excerpts from great letters: now that censorship is off we give full addresses: FROM Cox. Jack Flora (USA. FS-153 FPO, Navy 920 San Fran) "I am now aboard a Freight Supply Ship, Coast Guard manned and operated-no more dealing with the enemy! Likely won't see any of the fellows since I am in New Guinea. Hold that big celebration off until we all get back". FROM: Ens Ray Ashcom (Underwater Demol. Team #24 FPO San Fran) "In Oceanside I tried for 6 hours to contact Rick Sprowls and Frank Dennis -no soap!! We are heading west & there is lots of work to be done-so I'll be here for some time". FROM Pfc. Dick Perkins (CoC 339 Eng Const Bn APO 70 San Fran) "I am still on Luzon and have moved all over this island since I last wrote. My company was in the final push for this place. I sure hope I can soon get home and finish college.". FROM Lt. Jim E. Gallagher (12th Weather Sq APO 650 NY) "It sure took the spirit out of me to hear of 'Ken' Miller and 'Lew' McElroy being killed. I am now in Rome, and have become a culture vulture. I expect soon to go to Athens and Cairo, to Bengasi and to Tripoli". FROM: Cpl. Bill Schmidt (3502AAF Sq B Rantoul, Ill) "From Stout Field I was sent to Goldsboro, Patterson Field, South Bend, then here to Chanute Field, where I am now an instructor in weather observer's course. I have had fine talks with Lt. Jim Lytle who has been here for some time". FROM: Lt. Jg. Daun Nesbit (USS Pegasus IX222 FPO San Fran) "Boy what a thrill to get one of your VBs away out here in the Philippines. Geo. Kline and I met at the Officers Club at Ulithi Atoll-he spent a day aboard & read my file of VBs. Its hot here but cool at night". FROM: S2/c Ralph Weaver (NT COD Samson Off #1498-Shoemaker, Calif) "I sure hope that VB will still be published as I will be in the Navy for months to come." FROM: Pfc. Ken Nelson (CoB 275 Inf 70 Div APO 461-NY) "I am now about 20 miles from Frankfurt. Out of our battalion I was appointed to attend the University Center. The course is 8 weeks long, and if I complete it will get 9 college credits, and some of the courses are the ones I need at S.R. when I return". ADDRESSES: Lt. Jg. John JOY (USS Robt M. Emery AK84 FPO. MY), 2nd Lt. Carl L. Graham (Btry A, 628 Rocket F.A. Bn Ft Sill Okla), Lt. Jg. Ray Haynes (LT6 Flotilla Staff 42 FPO San Fran), Lt. Jg. Fred Lytle (SOMSUB PAC-ADCOMD 2 FPO San Fran) ARC Sara Landon (26th Gen Hosp APO 1004 San Fran), Lt. Winfield Kiester (Co. 104th Reg Camp Rucker, Ala), Lt. John E. Davis (Nav Air Sta Alameda Calif), Cpl. Bob Cowher (Hq 404 FABn APO 403 N.Y.) Lst. Lt. Dale E. Liken (546 Sig Base Depot Co APO 513 N.Y.), Ens A. J. Barnes (SS Black Yates FPO N.Y.), Lt. R. M. Boal who also visited here with his wife, baby, (GAAG Greenville, Miss). FROM: Lt. E. M. Brenner (173 Liaison Sq APO 696 NY) From Mannheim, Germany, we moved to Bonn, to Fulda, Marsaille, France, & then we got orders and I'll be home in September." FROM Pfc. Bob Buxton (Gen Del Camp Lejeune N.C) "At Quantico Va I ran into that 'Old Angler' Frank Dennis-and I hope he is getting acquainted with those western trout. Soon fall will be here and I wonder if there will be a football team. If you could get Hildebrand back you would have a line and Bevington could make up the backfield-of course we would need Fitzgibbons to carry the water and myself to hold down the bench". FROM: Capt. Dick Hammerle (553 AAA Aw Bn APO 758 N.Y.) "I am now at Erbach, Germany, and have been here for a month. I am certainly looking forward to the Big Victory Homecoming". FROM: Sgt. J. V. Clark (soon at 573 Eden Park McKeesport, Pa) "Will try and give you my whereabouts as we move along-will be on my way home very soon-I've started a new life in a new world". FROM: Ens John D. Brooks (USS WINSTON AKA94, FPO San Fran) "This is the day that so many people have waited for so many years -- and thought it would never come. Ever since last Friday, when the Japs gave their first indication that they were through we have had our ears to the radio. Last night when I was sitting here writing all hell seemed to have let go, so I stepped out on deck and every one was shouting and yelling. Soon the beams of every ship in the harbor played against the sky, sirens and whistles blew, bells clanged, bursting rockets lit up the sky, and flares glowed. It was one of the most beautiful sights I ever saw-no Fourth-Of-July celebration could ever match it". FROM: Sgt. Don R. Fusco (Hq 14th QM Trg Bn, Camp Lee Va) "This is Aug 9th and big news in the air-it could mean the end of my career in the army! Let's hope it happens within the next few hours-I've been in service 4 years! I met Clp. Jas. W. Glass who played on the football team in 1937-41". FROM: S. Sgt. John W. Conway (Med Det 893rd AAA Aw Bn APO 638 NY) "Bill Elder and I were transferred into this outfit which is supposed to leave Germany within the next few weeks-we hope to get home soon". FROM: Lt. Joe Bonafeste (Cas P.O.A.P.E. Wilmington Calif) "My trip to the Philippines and to Manila was interesting. I always kept a lookout for S.R. fellows but so far

PLEASE- keep sending in your latest ADDRESS- Many are on the move!

no such luck. My trip was most interesting and it looks as if civilian days might be in sight". From: Sgt Warren Brandon (CoD-341 InfApo450 Camp Gruber Okla) "We are now in 8 weeks of training before going to the Pacific. My furlough could not have been better and I surely did enjoy my visits to the campus". From: Capt John Hartman (Sq A 1339Bn Apo 211 NY) "The news as it reaches me over here in China sure is very good-soon we shall have that Victory Homecoming. If any body ever gets around Kuming look me up". From: T/Sgt G.A. Buzas (CoC 123 OrdMtBn 1st Armd Div Apo251NY) "At present we are located 12 miles south of Frankfurt, Germany, in a town called Raunshein." From: Lt. Lew Hamelly (Hq 59th AACSGr Apo 980 Seattle, Wash) "Mighty sorry about the two who lost their lives-Lew McElroy practically lived with Ken Bunny and me. With the VB and a few telephone calls I located Lt. Johnny Brich who is also here in the Aleutians-did we have a bull session-it was fine to run into him! I just came back from one of my trips-was near the outskirts of Russia". From: Cpl Jake Elliott (106 M.P. Plat Apo443 N.Y) "We are now at Karlsruhe, Germany, and am now awaiting shipping space so you may see me soon-will be over to see you when I get home". (Will be looking for you!) From: Capt Pete Sowa (1346 Bu SqB Apo433NY) "In 1944 the German War machine was within 30 miles of Naples-completely wiped out two American air bases-not a B-25 took off. With many others who had been training pilots we started across the long South Atlantic route in utmost secrecy to Italy. Of the first group of 25 B-25s that made it, 5 never got there--the rest of us were returned to USA within 30 hours. In two days time 25 more crews were enroute to Italy. Those two times were my first view of the black smear that threatened our way of life. I am now at Teygoon Air Base, Decca, Bengal India ". Good letter!! From: Pfc Jay F. Brown (CoA 6Th Plat SAW-Apo74 SanFran) Those VBs always leave me in a pleasant reminiscent mood, and I want to return just as soon as I can to the campus". From: Lt Jg A.E. (Gene) Barlett (USS LST 118 FpoSanFran) "As I was on transit (heading to Pearl Harbor) I missed several VBs-we are still, as I write this (Aug 16th), still under way". From: Sgt. Wayne Goss (CoB 736 Takn BnApo403NY) "I am now (Aug 9th) situated in Rokycany, 9 miles from Pilsen in Chech. As the war ended, we were 34 miles from Berlin at the only bridgehead across the Elbe. With three years of service and 4 bronze campaign stars I can only muster 70 points. If I don't get back soon to finish my course I will have forgotten all I ever learned. The death of "Lew" McElroy was a shock, as he and I roomed together all the time we were at S.R. except for 9 weeks when I was doing my practice teaching in New Castle. We likely had as much fun as any fellows who ever went to college. With this letter I am sending you a rough "log" of my war experience month by month. " AND it is very interesting!!! You'll enjoy your own copy all your life....wonder if all of you would not profit by making out a schedule of your movements-events-accomplishments-people you've met- etc., etc!!!! From: Mary Jane Hall (A.R.C. Sissonne Sub Area Hdq Apo952NY) "I am now near Rheims, France (July 3) and we are meeting trains and convoys coming into camp. Two very joyous occasions were: "seeing off" the 87th and 30th Divisions-and those fellows were really happy, for they were homeward bound-it was the "graveyard shift" (12 to 6a.m.) and a right occasion each time!". From: Lt Jg Fred Darlin (Amp Tr Base Coronado, San Diego 55 Calif) "After Sept. 5th I'll likely be at Treasure Island, and after Oct 16th likely aboard the USS HempsteadAPA241 Fpo SanFran." From: Cpl Sam Bowers: "By the time this reaches you I will likely be on my way home. Have been with the 5th Armd Div band Apo 255 ApoNY." From: Lt Mary Elizabeth Jackson (BTC ANC Class 52 Fort Devens Mass) "My orders were received just two days after the war was ended, so I am new at this game. I am a Physical Therapist in the Medics, and right now I am taking basic training. I ran into Lt. Ann Sowa in England Gen Hosp, Atlantic City nj." From: Lt Jg John O. Williams (now at home Apt 14a 304-W 75th St NYC23NY) "Likely the most interesting place I visited was the island atall Tonga Tabu, a picturesque Hollywood version of a tropical isle. Several of the native girls invited us to the Queens palace (like or akin to any wooden house in a rural section of Pa, having 12 rooms. We sat on clean grass mats, flowers and beads were put about our necks, and the girls played guitars and sang while we ate pineapples and chicken, sheels bananas, and limes. All this fruit grows in profusion there. When a man becomes grown he is given a plot of ground upon which he erects a grass hut, selects a wife who does all the work and he sits out on a grass mat all day long". (The life of Riley, I'd call it! How do you get there?) From: Pvt. Neal Shira (Rml05 Dept of Patients, England Gen Hosp Atlantic C) "I have finished my operations and am now awaiting discharge. I met Jimmy Cox's sister down here! Where is Jack Offutt?" (-In answer-address S/Sgt John Offutt (1106AAF SqA Car DivATC Apo845 Miami Fla). From: Sl/cY Rose Jagatich (Waves BarRecStaNYardWash25Dc) "I had dinner some time ago with Louise Wilson and Florence Solobay and L. Dufford-all looked happy and well". From: Mr. Bill Temple (741 West End Ave Apt 1c New York 25NY) "With my 162 points Uncle Sammy figured that he

did not want me further, so I'm here giving the theater a whirl. I expect to open in a new Broadway show likely in September. My wife is now one of the Roxyettes (precision dancers in Radio City) will open in a new Musical Comedy in Sept". From Ens. Dick Jones (USS Monterey Fpo SanFran) "After leaving, it took me 32 days to reach my ship. Quarters and food are excellent, and my work, arising at 3:45, is communications and quite interesting". From: Capt. Miller L. Kerr (CoT-355Apo89N.Y.) "We were in the battle of the Rhineland and also Central Europe. I am now at Camp Philip Morris, France". From Cpl Tony Longo (Hq-10th Weather Sq Ap O-627NY) "This finds me at Kuming, China-and now that it's over will be home in 4 or 5 months. In Dec-May I was at Chengtn and saw many of the B29s take off on their raids against Japan. I have been doing a lot of camera work lately". From SpA3/c Bill Messmer (Navy 3964Bx8 FPO Frisco) "I had 8-weeks intensive training and am wondering if I could get credit at college for this work in teaching swimming, tumbling, boxing etc. VFs reach me regularly! (You'll get an answer from the office on this Bill-seems that in fairness you fellows should get consideration for training along your chosen field). From: Lt. E. F. Patnik (soon 4755 Baptist Road, Baldwin Manor Pgh, Pa) "I have learned that my services to Uncle Sammy will soon terminate-then, to return to Physical Education work, coaching, etc. Perhaps you might help me along these lines, since you know of my past experience and work, and your help will be certainly appreciated. VB has sure kept following me". (Eddie: we think we can place you and others. Coaching and P.E. instructors are sorely needed according to all I can find-we feel you will have no trouble-and this will likely hold for about two years-so many of your profession are in the services). From: Capt Bob Reed (C-4th Tank Bn 4th Marines Fpo SanFran) "I have not seen my family for 3 years, and am anxious to get home. I still have my original Tank Co, but, sorry to say few of the original men are left". From Pfc Keith Stoner (158th AACs Sta 313Apo212NY) "Aug 22th China, and VB has brought home the Ybac-on again! Listen-I've just spent my most pleasant half hour since being in China. A big '54 just dropped in here-Lö and behold, it was Capt Pete Sowa-I was on duty; he came back to our shack-did we have a S.R. gabfest and a "battle of the babies"-the only reason why he won was because he had more pictures. And I was as happy as a kid with a new drum." Good!! From: Lt and Mrs. Jim Lytle (402 W. Nevada, Urbana Ill) "We were in Denver and spent an evening with Chuck Barnhart, Goldie and their little boy, also Sgt and Mrs. Bob Ramsey and baby. We'll come in a hurry if Fred Lytle comes home from the S. Pacific". From: S/Sgt Loyal Liken (158th AACs Apo627NY) "After I caught up with VB, I hav'nt missed a copy, and since I expect to be on my way home from China soon, I may just drop in for the next copy! (Hope you do!!!). From: Lt. Bill Tallon (PAAF Pampa, Tex) "Sorry I didn't get up to see you, but I was home and got married. We had a nice wedding and Pat is here in Pampa with me and we sure like married life. Things sure have changed; Bill Kearns & I are both married now!". From Phm3/c Jack Swetek (USN Hosp Staff Portsmouth, Va) "Just missed meeting Ltjg Fred Darlin -was told he left that morning for duty. Now I am trying to get in touch with "Ditty" Graham. I sure hope S.R. gets back "on her feet" for it sure must have been hard sledding". (The upturn is in sight, Jack-we had our annual Faculty Reception last Sat. night (Sept 15th) and it was really great. to see so many new faces-we all feel that the corner has definitely been turned.) From Pvt. David Sarcone (Cannon Co. 186Inf Apo41 SanFran) "I expect to be on my way home shortly. Had letters from Lt. Dutkin, who is now on Okinawa, and from Dick Perkins, who is on Luzon. To date I have received every issue of the VB whether at base camps, in fox holes, & I would like to still get them at 5000 Lytle St Pgh7 Pa. (You'll get them-you have been on the list from #1). From: Sgt. Henry White (SqT-5 463AAFBN Geiger Field Spokane, Wash) "We are in engineering work and we probably will be building air fields all over the world. Clarence Aik key is here and we have had some wonderful times talking about old friends and S.R. When do you suppose we can have the BIG VICTORY REUNION ?" (Can't quite say-not this fall though, as so many are still in foreign parts. We will have to wait a little and if YOU keep sending in your latest address we will keep you well informed. Quite a number of letters are now being returned as the address has been changed, and we have not been informed of the change. PLEASE drop us a line WITH EACH CHANGE OF ADDRESS.....AND also, like Sarcone-inform us when you expect to be discharged--and YOUR HOME ADDRESS! Of course we hope you can drop in to see us on the campus when you arrive home...the college anxiously is awaiting your call!!!!!! And so, this winds up #45...45 straight month of hell--how can we thank YOU for bringing us V I C T O R Y ??? Things are all changed now...better days are ahead for all of us. Be of mighty good cheer. A firm hand clasp from a friend. Geo. T. Miller

WILL YOU kindly write in as soon as you receive this copy...we are revising our mailing list AND we want to see that **YOURS** is correct.