

Monday 22 Oct, 1945
Manila.

Dear Mom,

I'm going to make this a short one. There really isn't anything to write about, but I felt I hadn't written in over a week and that you'd be looking for mail. I have your letter of the 30th Sept; but it isn't going to be an easy job to find that Seventh Day Adventists Sanatorium. There was a time, 2 weeks or so ago, when I could have hopped in a truck and gone down to City Hall to locate the place. We then had 8 trucks for 36 men on the system, and were able to use them at any time. Now, however, they've deadlined 7 trucks, leaving only one for 36 men. And that one truck has a lot of demands placed on it.

In addition, the Chief didn't mention by name the persons Harry Friedman is concerned about, and I wonder if the hospital staff, these many years later, would find much meaning in his note.

I told you in a previous letter that Gene D. was to move to Batangas, 80 miles South of Manila. The move has been ~~canceled~~, canceled, and Gene is still on Mindoro island. Probably won't see him till Brooklyn. Frank Fraser was transferred to Leyte, and Jim Morris was in Lingayen but is probably in Japan now. At last word, Frank Malone was sitting on a Liberty ship in Lingayen gulf, waiting to move to Japan. They've been on the ship about a week now.

You'll notice there's talk of reducing the point score to 50 on Dec. 1. That's fine, but it doesn't mean much, with 80 and 90 pointers still waiting around to be shipped home. Someone is bungling some place. Enclosed is one sheet from the Army newspaper here that shows what the troops think about the situation. Read the "Mail Bag" on page 2.

Well, mom, short as it is, that's about all - except I now have a H.I. license for cars & trucks up to

1 1/2 tons. I'd have the license for 2 1/2
ton trucks if only the motor pool could
find time to give me a test.

Sail for now.

Love to all,
Frank.

P.S. With respect to Christmas I'd
appreciate your smuggling some
scotch whiskey thru to me.
To cover things I'll request
something on a separate sheet of
paper.

7/3 F.J. Shields 12110488
CoA! 3159 Sig Av Bn
APO 75 90 PM, Fisco



OCT 22 1945



-AIR MAIL-

Mrs. F. J. Shields
244 - 87 Street
Brooklyn 9
New York.

Making
night
Saturday

USS Mercy Will Carry U.S. Troops, Not Japs

DAILY PACIFICAN

The Army Newspaper

Vol. I No. 131

In the Western Pacific

Monday, 22 October, 1945

War Department Authorizes Use of Liberties as Carriers

HQ AFWESPAC — Brig. Gen. G. C. Stewart, chief of transportation, AFWESPAC, announced yesterday that permission to use a limited number of converted Liberty ships for transporting troops to the United States, was received from the War Department on Oct. 12.

In the teletype message received from Washington, a definite limitation was placed on the extent to which the emergency conversion can be used for auxiliary transports. Also clearly outlined, were minimum requirements governing the troop facilities to be provided and the living conditions to be maintained during the entire voyage.

Sufficient medical supplies must be available to care for the health of all personnel aboard, and hospital accommodations, including three separate wards, must be provided.

An adequate fresh water supply is required to insure the absolute minimum of 10 gallons per man per day and minimum toilet and washing



BECAUSE LONGSHOREMEN who would have unloaded the huge liner *Queen Elizabeth* were on strike, soldiers of the 833rd Port Company, Brooklyn Army Base, were put to work on a New York pier, taking mail and baggage from the vessel—scheduled to leave shortly for Europe to bring home another load of returning U.S. troops.

facilities must include 20 toilets and 14 salt water showers.

Messing facilities must insure the

By BILL WRIGHT

Pacifican Staff Correspondent

Headquarters of Lt. Gen. W. D. Styer, CG, AFWESPAC, late yesterday afternoon issued a statement that in accordance with word from the War Department the hospital ship USS *Mercy* will be loaded in Manila to evacuate sick and wounded American personnel to the United States. She will start loading American patients for Los Angeles this morning.

The ship had become a storm center when the medical complement aboard, under the impression that the *Mercy* would head

for home with Americans, learned that she was scheduled instead to return to Sasebo on Kyushu Island with Japanese internees. AFWESPAC Headquarters confirmed the report that original orders from AFPAC advanced headquarters would have sent the ship to Japan.

The Japanese arrived at the pier in trucks and ambulances yesterday morning, and were lined up ready to go aboard when an order arrived countermanding the shipment. When the Japanese were turned around and driven away the ship's complement cheered.

Ninety-eight percent of Army officers and enlisted men aboard the USS *Mercy* are eligible for discharge, many with point scores ranging from 100 to 125. They were so incensed at the intention to use their vessel for the Japanese that they had drafted a long protest which they planned to send to Walter Winchell and their Congressmen if the ship actually sailed with the repatriates.

A veteran of Pacific campaigns, the *Mercy* has been in Pacific waters for 15 months. She participated in the Leyte and Okinawa invasions; her personnel have earned seven battle stars.

The *Mercy* docked here Saturday from Korea with fewer than 100 patients, who were taken off and sent to hospitals in the Manila area. In these hospitals, authorities confirmed yesterday, there are enough men to fill a dozen ships of the *Mercy's* capacity.

It was understood that consultations are now underway among highest Army and Navy officers on the policy which will be followed regarding ships for Japanese repatriation.

Central Gulf Shipping Idle In New Strike

NEW YORK, (ANS) — As AFL Longshoremen officials here reported general back-to-work movements after an 18-day strike of 35,000 stevedores, trouble was reported at Port of Houston and the entire central gulf coast of Texas shipping was tied up after 1,000 warehousemen quit their jobs and 2,500 Longshoremen joined in a sympathy strike.

The wage dispute involved warehousemen in Houston, Galveston and Lake Charles, La., and AFL Longshoremen officials said the union and various company managements had failed to reach an agreement on wage increases.

A strike by 15,000 glass workers in 10 cities "definitely can be expected Monday," Lewis McCracken, secretary-treasurer of the CIO Federation of Glass Ceramic and Silica Sand Workers of America said in Columbus, O. The threatened strike, he said, follows a breakdown of contract negotiations between glass company owners and the federation wage committee.

Also set for Monday is the deadline for Western Electric company in Kearny, N.J., to meet wage demands by an independent union which conducted a nation-wide demonstration stoppage of telephone service on Oct. 5. Unless demands

'Rider' to Speed

facilities must include 20 toilets and 14 salt water showers.

Messing facilities must insure the service of two and one-half meals per day including two hot meals and a cold meal with hot coffee or soup. The ships must be provisioned with a maximum amount of stores, including fresh vegetables, to maintain a reasonable menu throughout the voyage.

Heating facilities must be installed unless the vessels follow a southern route.

General Stewart, formerly chief of transportation in MTO, had considerable experience with converted Liberty ships in that theater. He emphasized that unless these minimum requirements can be met, it would be exceedingly dangerous to ship troops on a four week voyage across the Pacific aboard Liberty ships. He estimated that at least six days of work are required to install facilities that will insure conformance with the health, messing, and sanitary standards set forth by the WD.

At present the 2nd Major Port, in Manila, has been allocated two Liberty ships on which to commence conversion operations, the first of which will be completed by Oct. 25.

New Era for England Planned by Attlee, Labor Government

MUSSELBURGH, Scotland, (AP) — Prime Minister Clement R. Attlee announced Saturday Britain's Labor party is "out to build a new society — a society of peace, freedom and social justice.

"We are asking the House to get through a program of legislation unequalled in its peacetime history," the Labor prime minister said in an address to a conference of the Scottish Labor party.

Asserting that "we are working on a long-term plan," he urged upon the Labor party maintenance of a high

taking mail and baggage from the vessel — scheduled to leave shortly for Europe to bring home another load of returning U.S. troops.

(International)

Navy to Convert Fighting Ships Into Transports

WASHINGTON, (ANS) — Navy's Pacific fighting ships in the role of transports will bring home three-quarter million men in the next 11 months. This will be in addition to those returned to the United States by regular transports.

The extent to which fighting ships will be used as transports was disclosed in a letter by Navy Secretary Forrestal, written in reply to Congressional inquiries concerning the homecoming of certain vessels to take part in Navy Day observances.

The letter informed Congress that no vessel has been sent to the U.S. solely for Navy Day celebrations. All those on display at ports were sent home primarily for release of crews, repair and refitting or to be laid up because discharges will leave no crews to man them.

All ships appearing at Navy Day celebrations came home carrying large loads of high-point men besides the regular crews, and for refitting, to which many will be subject to increase transport capacity on future trips.

LaFollette Demands Probe of Roosevelt Foreign Commitments

WASHINGTON, (ANS) — Sen. Robert M. LaFollette of Wisconsin demanded that the State Department make a "full and frank statement" about any remaining secret agree-

Sorry, No Ship

Dear Pacifican:

I have been notified by Local Draft Board No. 3, Tulsa, Okla., that I am being reclassified. Failure (they say) to appear or to comply with such notification will result in drastic penalties. No less than 10 years imprisonment or \$10,000 fine.

What I would like to know is, can they do anything to me if perchance I fail to comply?

Sincerely yours,
Capt. William S. Jackway,
APO 75

VFW Urges Caution By Government in Handling Loan Grants

WASHINGTON, (ANS) — The VFW urged the government to "proceed with caution" in dealing with requests by other nations for funds, food and supplies.

In a letter to President Truman and other administration leaders Omar B. Ketchum, VFW legislative representative, called attention to a resolution adopted by the organization's recent national convention calling for the "preservation of American economy and national self interest."

"There is a serious danger" the resolution said "that excessive debt and taxation on the American people may destroy our national economy and financial structure and lead to loss of our standards of living and the American way of life."

which conducted a nation-wide demonstration stoppage of telephone service on Oct. 5. Unless demands are met by Monday 1,500 engineers and technicians at the plant threaten to walk out.

Settlement of a dispute which closed the Ryerson and Haynes Co., plant at Jackson, Mich., a week ago over "super-seniority" for World War II veterans was announced yesterday.

In Detroit a joint statement of company and CIO United Automobile workers said an agreement was reached yesterday through negotiations but did not disclose the nature of the agreement.

Prospects of a general shipyard and machine shop strike in the San Francisco Bay area Oct. 29 appeared darker yesterday as both AFL and CIO machinists announced plans for the walkout have been completed but elsewhere on the Pacific Coast labor front the situation remained comparatively stagnant.

More than 200 Bay region machine shops, a number of shipyards and other manufacturing industries would be crippled should the Machinists' walkout over wage demands.

Possibility was seen an arbitration board decision in an Overland Greyhound bus system wage dispute at Omaha, Neb., may bring early settlement of the Pacific Greyhound strike in seven western states.

Ouch!

TOKYO, (ANS) — High ranking American officers riding an elevator in one of Tokyo's best hotels, knew Yank GIs had been teaching the attractive girl operator English when, as she opened the door, she bowed politely and said "Oh, my aching back."

The expression is a GI favorite in the Pacific and has varied interpretations ranging from surprise to disgust.

'Rider' to Speed Demobilization Spurned by House

WASHINGTON, (ANS) — Refusing to tack on to the bill a "rider" designed to speed demobilization, the House yesterday approved legislation chopping government spending by \$52,653,867,278.

Rep. John E. Rankin offered the amendment which would have required the Army and Navy to discharge all men on application who had 18 months of active duty since Sept. 16, 1940 who had dependents or wanted to resume an education interrupted by induction.

Rep. Fritz Anham (D-Tex.) who was presiding, ruled Rankin's proposal out of order on the grounds that it was not relevant to the bill under discussion, and the House upheld the decision by a voice vote after Rankin appealed the parliamentary ruling.

The bill as passed cancels appropriations and spending authorizations which are no longer needed because the war is over.

Most of the big cuts are in funds for the Army and Navy. The House followed its appropriations committee's figures in all but two cases.

The chamber voted a \$1,317,369,200 reduction in pay and subsistence of Navy personnel, as compared with the committee figure of \$1,117,369,200; and at the same time it inserted a \$332,000 cut in emergency funds for government in the territories.

To insure that there would be no interference with the operation of the Veterans' Employment Service, Rankin obtained the adoption of an amendment declaring that there shall be no cut in the \$7,796,134 fund of the Veterans' Service Placement Board that is operated under the Selective Service System.

a long-term plan, he urged upon the Labor party maintenance of a high degree of self-control to assure that the timetable of the Labor program would not be upset and that at a later stage we shall not be confronted with opposition which might frustrate our efforts.

Bradley Seeking Separate Medics For Veteran Care

CHICAGO, (ANS) — Gen. Omar N. Bradley, administrator of veterans affairs, pledged creation of a separate medical corps for veterans and expansion of the present veterans' hospital facilities.

Bradley, in an address before the convention of Disabled American Veterans, forecast a construction program of hospitals and medical centers for veterans requiring continued medical care.

He said that the Veterans Administration now needs 1,300 more doctors and more than 500 specialists.

make a statement and from statements about any remaining secret agreements made with other nations by the late Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

LaFollette, member of the Senate Foreign Relations committee said the end of the war makes it advisable to disclose any still hidden commitments.

He spoke after state secretary James F. Byrnes this week released a letter from the late President to King Ibn Saud of Saudia Arabia, promising that Jewish and Arab leaders would be consulted before this country acted to increase Jewish immigration to Palestine.

The letter was written last April, shortly before President Roosevelt's death. It was released only, after many members of Congress and President Truman, himself, had voiced demands that the British allow increased Jewish immigration into Palestine.

LaFollette said the disclosure of the letter "cannot fail to create apprehensions" that other agreements exist about which the public knows nothing.

MacArthur Clamps Down on Black Market

TOKYO, (UP) — General MacArthur yesterday clamped down on black market profiteers with an order forbidding American servicemen and civilians from sending abroad any funds except "legitimate pay and allowances."

The black market has sprung up in Tokyo on American food, candy, blankets and other scarce items obtained from American soldiers.

When similar markets were operated in Europe, American soldiers for a time sent back to the United States more money than they earned.

General MacArthur's order provided that an American wishing to exchange Japanese yen for United States money orders and other securities or any negotiable source of American currency must submit a certificate signed by a responsible

personnel officer stating that the funds are legitimate.

War trials for the first of 2,000 Japanese on charges including sickening atrocities are expected to begin within the next 60 days.

"Approximately 500 suspects now are in custody," said Col. Alva C. Carpenter, Fort Wayne, Ind., corporation lawyer, who is directing preparations for one of history's greatest criminal trials.

Among those already in custody are such well publicized personages as Hideki Tojo, Japan's Premier who began the war, members of his cabinet and such war leaders as Lt. Gen. Masahara Homma, accused of responsibility of the brutal Death March on Bataan.

"Our problem here is considerably more complicated than in Manila," said the tall, square jawed Carpenter.

Meanwhile, an official Japanese government report to Allied Headquarters revealed that Japanese national railways are still capable of carrying more passengers and freight than in 1938 despite air raid damage.

The report said the railways now have a capacity of 1,886,000 passengers and 58,000,000 tons of freight.

The report revealed that during the war American planes destroyed or damaged 9,557 Japanese freight and 2,228 passenger cars, 852 steam locomotives, 573 electric cars and 39 locomotives.

At present, the report further revealed, 389 locomotives, 8,635 passenger cars, and 9,274 freight cars are serviceable.

The report also said all main Japanese railway lines have been operating fully since Sept. 3.

Assigned letters
ignored.

If possible, type
letters.

MAIL BAG

Volunteer Labor

Editor:

Three cheers for Lt. Col. Davidson for his statement that Liberty ships can be put into condition for the transportation of troops within 48 hours! We all want to go home and few of us care what the conditions are just so we get there. Apparently the colonel thinks the same way we do.

All of us would be more than willing to do the necessary work if we were to be released outright or on DS to the units which will be assigned to undertake the job. The biggest difficulty would arise from having too many men rather than too few!

Let's all get solidly behind Colonel Davidson and offer whatever assistance we can to get the job done so that each one of us will have the opportunity of getting home at the earliest possible moment. The Colonel went to bat for us; let's do the same for him!

Pfc Andrew T. Hawthorne, APO 75
and 103 others

Editor:

We, the undersigned, will be glad to volunteer our free time to help Lt. Col. C. H. Davidson convert those Liberty ships to troop transports. We're not a high-point outfit, but we want to see the boys get started home. We'll wait our turn and, in the meantime, we'll be doing something that will start them on their way. It will be the first constructive work we've done since we arrived here. We'll be glad to give eight hours daily plus 16 hours of our off-day to help put the plan into operation. We are available at a moment's notice, and don't worry about the transportation—we'll get there on our own.

Sgt. Henry T. Formantok, APO 75
and 68 others

Editor:

In regards to Lt. Col. C. H. Davidson's statement, I am sure and confident that if such action were taken, many thousands would be more than willing to help convert these ships. It seems a shame that personnel with no specific duties cannot be utilized to accomplish this work; so many have already spent two or more years overseas and are still in the 60-point bracket. I think these men are entitled to see and enjoy what they fought for; therefore, reverting to the old proverb, "actions speak louder than words," let's see action!

Sgt. Claude D. Selgman, APO 75
and 15 others

Saving Ship

Editor:

It seems only logical to me, the former

Editor:

The 55th Division leaving for home with soldiers in the 60 point and over category brings the spotlight on another missing link in the chain of the point system. From time to time the War Department and associated spokesmen have declared the point system to favor men with long service overseas. How foolish that sounds to us here when we hear a soldier in the States being eligible for discharge with only 24 points. Being marionettes in a game with too many hands handling the strings, we cannot question the merit of the release, but a continuance of the declaration, "Men with long term overseas service favored" is going to give us the impression that the WD issues high-spirited statements for satisfying public opinion only.

The high spot of WD meaningless statements was the recent announcement that furlough and TD were still available to men in the Pacific. It sounded grand to the people at home, but here's how it worked out: If an applicant had 45 points or more, he was not eligible for TD; if he had less than that score he was not overseas long enough to merit TD.

T/Sgt. David A. Altschuler, APO 925

Editor:

Your headline in the Pacifican of Oct. 13 has us all on the moody side.

Some of our boys in this battalion have over 80 points and can't be sent home for lack of space. Another group of our boys, with between 84 and 90 points, are down at the depot waiting transportation to the states.

They have been there two weeks. Most of us fellows have been overseas 25 months or better, but I'm not griping for myself I'm just blowing up because there are GIs in the battalion with 35 and 36 months that can't get home. Do you think that it's fair for the 60 pointers in these divisions to go home before our 80s and 90s? I only have 74 points and though we haven't seen action, I think we ought to get a chance at getting to the U.S.A.

Another thing, if they intend sending low point men to the states, why print it in the Pacifican? Unless the paper gets some pleasure seeing the morale of the GIs lowered.

M/Sgt. Jack Okrent, APO 75

Holland in Dutch

Editor:

In answer to our 14 pointer, F/4 Louis Holland, I wish to extend thanks for every EM credited with 80 points or over for his kind re-enlistment to release us so-called "grouchers." My dear boy, your critical

Comical Score

Editor:

I have no critical score, only a comical one of 29 light green points cornered somehow by 10 months wanting to and eight months wishing I hadn't. I'm 37 years old, lacking the glorified 35 by six months, the same number I need to complete the necessary two-year sentence of service. That, according to the latest Army dope, will bring me to the mythical "eligible" stage about the time fresh peas are ready to pick as the Army is running "ahead of schedule."

But, I have a problem. Should I write the "widow" telling her to keep the candlelight burning? Should I continue to hunt for a chaplain who isn't looking for another chaplain with a punch of his own? Or, should I just apply to some local agency for a homestead plot and settle down to raise my own fresh peas?

Pfc. Henry W. Farrell, APO 72

Surplus Troops

Editor:

In your Oct. 10 issue appeared an article giving the opinion of soldiers in Japan on the discharge of Stateside soldiers. The diversity of opinion seems to be echoed in this area and prompts me to point out that it is just this diversity of opinion that snafus the discharge system.

Many men seem to have the idea that giving anyone else a break is intolerable, no matter how purposeless or inconvenient trying to even the score would be. Some soldiers may not realize it, but getting the Stateside soldiers out of the way would ease the total flow of troops homeward.

On the assumption that the jealous attitude of wanting Stateside troops here for a length of time is not widespread, the following suggestions and opinions are presented:

Send all Stateside soldiers home immediately who are not part of the discharge program or slated to go overseas. Have them report to their local draft boards for mustering out pay, discharge papers, termination of allotments, etc.

Have an immediate responsible investigation on the utilization of all shipping.

Turn over the governing of conquered territories to qualified non-military men, leaving the Army in its proper position as a police force.

Investigate the possibility of using aircraft to transport the men to the States.

Less emphasis on the Red Apple bill.

Cpl. Harry Snell, APO 75
and 15 others

Editor:



HOMESICK GI daddies are not seeing double when they gaze upon the above picture—it's just that Michael LeRoy and Marvin Patrick Quinn look so much alike that not even actress Joan Fontaine, holding the twins, can tell them apart. The red-headed identical twins take turns playing the same infant role in the picture "From This Day Forward," to speed production since the law only allows babies to be under movie lights 30 seconds at a time. Press Association, Inc., Photo

Private Who Thought He Was Major Turned over to Psycho Mechanics

SAN FRANCISCO. (UP) — Army doctors at Letterman Hospital's psychopathic ward today examined Pvt. William F. Barrs, a wounded soldier from the Pacific, who successfully posed

Saving Ship

Editor:

It seems only logical to me, the layman, that it would take fewer ships to get the high point men home than it would to keep them overseas. During the various War Bond drives, those at home were spurred on by War Department disclosures that it takes so many tons of supplies to keep a soldier overseas. The war has ended—nevertheless it still takes more ships to supply us than it does to return us. No intelligent WD agent can deny this. Why then, aren't we returned?

America, too, has been loudly proclaimed the world's greatest maritime power. A huge supply problem was faced and met. Now ships can't be found to return us although there are enough to supply us. Incredible!

Cpl. T. Orsic and
Pvt. W. Jackson, APO 75

Missed Stipulation

Editor:

After reading the *Pacific* today I have decided that there must be a stipulation in the point system that I missed. Is there a clause in the rules that say the 60-point men of the 88th Division should be given priority over the men of the Air Force with over 90 points?

The news was quite a shock to us all here who thought they might get a chance to go home this year.

So far, I have been waiting 26 days in the 22nd Replacement Depot for a ship to take me home. We all realize there is a great shortage of ships that are fitted to carry troops. I do not know what is considered a "fit" ship to travel to the States on, but I do know that I am willing to travel on the vermin infested ship that took 109 days to get to Manila from Australia.

In an interview with a lieutenant colonel of the inspector general's department today, I was told that a great share of the shipping was being used to get the Japanese soldier to the homeland. The only way I see now to get home is either lose about 30 points somewhere or join the Japanese Army.

T/Sgt. Don Harris, APO 714

Editor:

From the Oct. 13 issue of the *Pacific* I've discovered that I have been misled or there is something stinking somewhere. I've been under the impression that men with the highest points would go home first. I've learned something new in arithmetic: 60 points in the 88th Division is higher than 55 in an engineer unit. Speaking of discrimination, brother, take a look at this.

M/Sgt. Paul D. Ealy, APO 75

Holland, I wish to extend thanks for every EM credited with 80 points or over for his kind re-enlistment to release us so-called "grouchers." My dear boy, your critical score should not even reserve you the right to form an opinion. I give you credit for your fine post-war patriotism, but you're not kidding anybody; you'd be here two more years anyway.

We do our share of bitching, but our 18 months of C and K rations, muddy fox holes and straddle trenches prior to taking a boat ride from the ETO direct to Manila four months ago entitles us to the freedom of speech we fought for.

I agree that the Army does us a lot of good, but after well over three years service our conscience bothers us, as we are starting to feel that we are imposing. We'd like to depend on ourselves for a while.

Pfc. William B. Williams, APO 75
and 11 others

Editor:

T/4 Holland has voiced his opinion that some of us "birds" over here don't realize what good the Army does a man. He also inferred that "everybody" should be glad to serve three years in the Army without a complaint.

We would like to get more information concerning this very rare type of individual. Is he an American? What Army is he in? Where is the soldier-heaven that he has been enjoying for the 18 months prior to his arrival in the Pacific last month?

If only about 500,000 more rare "soldiers" like him could be found, it would solve the recruiting problem. Likewise the old-timers and "grouchers" could be released to go home!

T/4 Edward L. Kaseman, APO 75
and 23 others

Emergency Leave

Editor:

Yesterday I received a letter from my mother telling me that my son was dead. I have not been notified of this by my wife or any of her family.

I took the letter to the Red Cross, and they told me that it would take three weeks to get any information. I asked about an emergency furlough but was told nothing doing. I went to the chaplain; his advice was to take it like a soldier and mark it down to a loss of war, just like the loss of a leg in combat.

I have to get home soon. My wife has only stayed with me because of our son. With him gone, I'll lose her unless I can get home to see her.

I have over three and a half years in the Army, but only a few months overseas—55 points. I'm not asking for sympathy or favors. I do want to get home to my wife before I lose her completely. Is that asking too much of the Army now that the war is over?

Editor: Cpl. Harry Stahl, APO 75 and 16 others

Editor:

In regards to the War Department's discharging "surplus" Stateside troops, why were they drafted in the first place? The American public has been led to believe that the Army knows exactly what it is doing at all times. They claim to make a point of putting the right man in the right place.

How do you justify the drafting of men who are not needed by the Army? If by "surplus," they are referring to the cadre men and officers still in the U.S. who never saw a shot fired in anger in their lives. I think they should be retained in service as essential until the rest of us are civilians.

Cpl. Montaville J. Campbell, APO 6

Rankin Praised

Editor:

In a recent issue of the paper, some of our boys in service took their text on Congressman John Rankin of Mississippi. They stated that he should be run out of the country for being a fascist because of his views on the FEPC. They also remarked that our state had done all right in this war, fascist against fascist.

Fellow, my state has a higher percentage of volunteers in service than most states, and our boys' record will match up with any state. We resent such remarks from those who are so little informed on their subjects.

As for horrible Sir Rankin, whom you think is such a heel, he was the founder of the bill to increase the soldiers' pay from \$21 to \$50 and other grades respectively. Without his leadership, this bill may not have been passed. He is also co-author of the GI Bill of Rights. This congressman has always been a staunch supporter of benefits for veterans and servicemen, so let's give credit where it is due.

Capt. E. H. Bucks, APO 714

Program Wanted

Editor:

Long before V-E day, a well-rounded program of education and recreation was worked out for those soldiers in Europe who would be stationed there pending their return to the States.

Maybe it's because the war ended so abruptly in the Pacific that no such program is in effect here.

The problems of the U.S. and the world have not been automatically solved with the cessation of hostilities. Clarity and understanding are just as important now as they were during the war.

Let's have an F and E program plus recreation instead of quashing trash cans.

SAN FRANCISCO, (UP) — Army doctors at Letterman Hospital's psychopathic ward today examined Pvt. William F. Barrs, a wounded soldier from the Pacific, who successfully posed as a bemedaled major, married an Army nurse, and cashed nearly \$100 worth of bogus checks, before he was trapped on an AWOL

Port CO Explains Pet Destroying Charges of Vets

BOSTON, (ANS)—Charges that pet dogs were taken from homecoming soldiers and thrown overboard alive from a transport were clarified by Brig. Gen. James C. Marshall, Boston Port of Embarkation Commander.

After two veterans had been bitten by dogs, the commander of the transport, USS Hood Victory, ordered the animals confined for observation, he said. A search was then made for other dogs, and the only one found was chloroformed and the body was disposed of in the ocean, Marshall added. He said that no other dogs were thrown in the ocean.

Fiorello Shells Out 90 Cents, But Gets

Money's Worth in Digs

NEW YORK, (ANS)—Mayor F. H. La Guardia sent to Westchester County his personal check for 90 cents in payment of tolls for New York City cars which escorted Gen. Jonathan M. Wainwright on a visit to the county—one of the nation's richest—Sept. 14.

The Mayor, notified the city hadn't met its obligations, wrote Jay Allyn Stearns, Supervisor of tolls:

"May one take this opportunity of stating that any time police of Westchester County . . . are escorting a distinguished guest from your county into our city, we will be very happy to extend all courtesies, and

honeymoon.

Pvt. Barrs told Army officers he "thought" he was Maj. Robert Tillford Greigg, III of Pensacola, Fla., who is believed to be somewhere in the Pacific.

"I thought I was Maj. Greigg because I found his identification tags in my pocket after being wounded on Luzon in July," the 24-year-old private said.

He told several confused stories of "memory lapses" in the Philippines during which he was twice wounded in action and once led guerrilla troops in battle as "Captain William Allison."

He was officially listed on Hamilton Field Hospital records as Maj. Greigg, a Philippines veteran with an arm wound, investigators for the 9th Service Command said.

On leave in San Francisco, Barrs met Lt. Helen Perkins, 21, of the Oakland Army Regional Hospital, courted her, and asked her to marry him.

Two weeks before their marriage date, Sept. 1, Barrs met a former Army buddy who "convinced" him he was only Pvt. Barrs, he said. In spite of this memory recovery, the private continued his pose as a major and married Lt. Perkins, whose home is in Spokane, Washington.

They both went AWOL during their honeymoon at Rio Nido and later in a San Francisco hotel, where they were trapped Sept. 25 by investigators from the provost marshal's office of the 9th Service Command.

Barrs' wife insisted that she would stick by her husband.

"I was married with my eyes open," she said. "I am not being noble but I'm going to stick this thing out."

Wasp Will Be Troopship

BOSTON, (UP) — The aircraft carrier Wasp is being transformed into a troopship to ferry troops home from Europe. Wasp officers said the vessel will be able to carry 6,000 veterans after its hangar space is

DAILY PACIFICAN

Published for troops in the Philippines by the Information and Education Detachment, AFWESPAC. Address all communications to DAILY PACIFICAN, I and E Detachment AFWESPAC, APO 707. Telephones: 6-7118; 6-7218. Mail Bag 6-7618.

News sources: AP, IIP, ANS, GNS, GBC and staff writers.

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ing too much of the Army now that the war is over?

Opl. John J. Ehrgott, APO 70

Let's have an I and E program plus recreation instead of smashing trash cans, guarding empty Red Cross buildings, etc.

T/S Hank Feibert, APO 238

happy to extend all courtesies, and not submit a bill for toll to the County of Westchester."

converted after its hangar space is converted at the Brooklyn Navy yard.

T E R R Y

William
Ceniff

