

This Page is a regular feature of the Monday edition of the Semi-Weekly

THE SERVICE JOURNAL

Correspondents and others having items for the SERVICE JOURNAL will please mark "Service" and place on separate sheet from other items. —Service Editor

Sgt. Taylor Honored

CAMP BLANDING, Fla., Nov. 29 — Sgt. Keith W. Taylor, son of Mrs. Ray Taylor of Plattsmouth, Neb., and a graduate of Plattsmouth High School, has been awarded the Bronze Star for his outstanding work as a battalion intelligence sergeant on Adak Island during the campaign in the Aleutians.

Sgt. Taylor is now senior instructor in Company D, 229th Battalion, of the Infantry Replacement Training Center at Camp Blanding, where he is giving rookies the benefit of his wide experience in intelligence scouting and patrolling work in the Alaskan theater.

In service nearly four years, Sgt. Taylor trained at Camp Robinson, Ark., with the 35th Division, which is now in France. After further training in Louisiana and in California, he went to the Aleutians with a combat intelligence regiment.

He had amphibious training on Kodiak Island before landing on Adak Aug. 30, 1942. On Adak, he became an authority on the island's terrain and an outstanding leader of intelligence patrols and parties. On his recommendation, outposts were established at several places on the islands, and his work was invaluable to many units in that theater of war.

Twice during severe winter storms, Sgt. Taylor voluntarily led searching parties to locate men lost in the frozen wastes of southern Adak.

The newly decorated sergeant came back to the U. S. last winter as an air cadet but was transferred to the Ground Forces with many other men of the Air Corps.

Sgt. Taylor's wife and eight-year-old daughter are now living with him at Starke, Fla., near Camp Blanding.

Brothers Meet Overseas

Sgt. Lyle E. Hostetter had a very pleasant surprise on October 29th when his brother, Pfc. John L. Hostetter arrived to spend the day with him at his camp somewhere in England.

At one time they were within twenty miles of each other and neither knew they were so close.

Lyle told about his experiences in North Africa and Sicily. Both have been stationed in England for quite some time. He expects to get a furlough soon which he plans to spend with his brother.

Pfc. John Hostetter is with the ordnance department and Sgt. Lyle with the 61st troop carrier group which was awarded the presidential citation. Other brothers in the armed service are BM2c Cecil Keith Hostetter, somewhere in the south Pacific and Cpl. Kenneth Hostetter, stationed in Panama.



Sgt. Keith W. Taylor and His Bronze Star

Writes from Pacific

Pfc. Mike Kerns, member of the Seventh Marines, who has been stationed in the southwest Pacific for the past year and a half and participated in many of the engagements in that war front, writes home to his family:

"Dear Mom and Al: "How is everything at home? I made out O. K. at Pelelie, none had my name on them but a few came close.

"I got the packages, one was the bracelet, was there anything else in with it, for it was broken into and that was all that was left.

"How about sending more pictures of the house and everybody? The other ones I lost.

"I wrote a letter asking you to see if you could find a watch. I want a good one, one that is waterproof, shock proof and self winding. If you can get it let me know. I don't care what it costs, I'll send the money if you can get one.

"I haven't heard from Helen for some time now. Have you seen her lately? If you see her tell her I'll write when I get a letter from her.

"How is Lorraine? Is she making out OK? Tell her to write once in a while so I can get her correct address, and I would like to know how the kid is making out. Have her send some pictures of her and the babies, also a picture of her husband so I can see what he looks like. Who knows I may run onto him out here for I see quite a few sailors.

"Well Mom things seem to be going OK with me out here. I sure would like to be home for Christmas for this will be the third one that I have been away from home. Maybe I can make the next one, who knows, at least I hope so. If I don't get back soon you won't know me, I do look quite a bit older than when you last saw me. This life will make you old in a short time out here.

"Well, Mom here is wishing you a Merry Christmas. We drank our Christmas last night, boy what a time we had.

"I guess this is it for now so write soon, for it seems I don't get all of my letters, so keep them coming.

"Love, Your Son, Mike."

Receives Service Award

15th AAF IN ITALY— M-Sgt. Elmer W. Cogdill of Union, Neb., a member of the 460th Bombardment Group, is now entitled to wear the Distinguished Unit Badge.

At an impressive ceremony at its base somewhere in Italy, Maj. Gen. N. F. Twining, 15th Army Air Force, pinned the streamers of a Distinguished Unit on the standard of the 460th Bombardment Group for its "outstanding performance of duty in armed conflict with the enemy."

The citation which accompanied the presentation of the streamers, read in part, "On July 25, the 460th Bombardment Group was assigned the task of attacking and destroying the Zwolfaxing Airdrome installations at Vienna, Austria, which were being used for the assembly of ME-109's. Throughout the day and night prior to the attack, the ground crews worked untiringly and enthusiastically to have their aircraft at the peak of mechanical perfection to insure the success of this vital operation."

On July 26th, this Group of B-24 Liberator bombers took off as lead Group of a Wing formation and set course for the target. Attacked by thirty enemy fighters, the gunners threw up such a curtain of lead that the attack was broken off. Adverse weather conditions forced the bombers to bomb at a lower altitude than usual, subjecting them to intense and heavy anti-aircraft fire. Although three bombers were lost, two so badly crippled they had to leave the formation and others badly damaged, the gallant crews pressed the attack and inflicted grave damage to the objective, depriving the enemy of one of his most important fighter assembly and repair bases.

AVOCA BOYS

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Carr entertained at a dinner Tuesday evening in honor of AS Tom Hallstrom, of Farragut, Idaho. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Hallstrom, Corrine and Jack.

AS Tom Hallstrom, of Farragut, Idaho, is spending a leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Hallstrom, Corrine and Jack.

Cpl. Stuart Maseman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Maseman, left Friday evening for Lake Charles, La., after spending a furlough with home folks.

Mrs. Henry Ludwig received word that their son, S. Sgt. Herman Ludwig, previously reported missing had been killed in action in Germany.

Returns to Duty

Sunday Cpl. Kenneth Wohlfarth, who has been here for the week end visiting his mother, Mrs. Paul Wohlfarth, departed for his military station at Camp Crowder, Missouri. He was accompanied as far as Kansas City, Missouri, by his cousin, Pvt. Bill Cloidt, who has been here for a visit with his father, A. W. Cloidt, and his wife, who came here from California to be with the husband during his furlough. Pvt. Cloidt is enroute to Fort George Meade, Maryland, where he will await further orders.

Receives Promotion

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Wiles have received a letter from their son, Lieutenant Stephen A. Wiles, that he had just been promoted to first lieutenant from the grade of second lieutenant, a very fine promotion for this young Nebraska soldier.

Lieutenant Wiles is now in India where he is serving with the U. S. Engineers and states that they are very busy and plenty of hard work for their members. He states also that the weather is getting cooler where he is stationed and that the men have been issued their winter clothing.

In British Hospital

Mr. and Mrs. John Benedict of this city have received word from their son, Pvt. Robert Benedict, that he is now in a hospital in England recovering from the effects of a wound received in battle in Belgium early in the Allied invasion of that country.

The wounded soldier was conveyed from Belgium to England by plane and placed in the hospital. He writes that he is getting along very well. He is suffering from a wound in the shoulder.

Surprises Mother

Thanksgiving day was a very happy one for Mrs. Marie Koehnke, as it brought her son, Tech. Sgt. Francis Koehnke, here for a visit with the mother, who is at the home of her sister, Mrs. Rose Bookmeyer.

Sgt. Koehnke had called the mother that he was back in the states, but it was a surprise when he arrived in Plattsmouth Wednesday evening, to join the mother and aunt.

Tech. Sgt. Koehnke has just returned from six months spent overseas with the 8th air force in England. He was reported as missing in action in one of the recent air battles but was able to rejoin his air command.

He is now home for thirty days and will report at the close of his furlough to Santa Monica, Calif., for further assignment. He has served two and a half years in the air service.

The Koehnke family are former residents of Plattsmouth as well as Hay Springs, Nebraska, but Mrs. Koehnke has recently been making her home at Bakersfield, California until returning here.

The visit was an added pleasure as it was the birthday anniversary of Mrs. Koehnke.

Home from the Coast

Wednesday evening Bronson Timm, SC1c, arrived home from the west coast where he has been stationed for some time. He has been located in California at one of the large naval training centers, coming there from the east coast where he was located at Norfolk, Virginia and later on Long Island. The visit home was very pleasant to all of the family and made a most happy Thanksgiving for all.

In honor of the visiting sailor a group of the friends staged a dinner party last evening at Naeve's south of this city.



EXPLOSIVES IGNITE ENTIRE TRAIN—An oil car derailed at Tolar, N.M., caught fire and ignited a carload of explosives which exploded firing the entire train and demolishing part of the town. One person was killed and several injured. Concussion from the blast was felt in Portales, N. M., 50-miles away. The above photo pictures the burning train. (NEA Telephoto.)

To Visit Family

Captain W. E. Eaton, who has been stationed at Camp Elliott, Ill., arrived home Saturday morning to enjoy a visit here with Mrs. Eaton and the children over the week end. Captain Eaton is feeling in the best of condition and enjoys the camp life after his long service in the medical corps in the southwest Pacific. Captain Eaton was in the Pacific in the early stages of the war.

Home on Furlough

Sgt. Donald Nearhood arrived Saturday from the south for a visit with his mother, Mrs. Anna Nearhood, and the many old time friends in the community.

Sgt. Nearhood who has been located at Tucson, Arizona, in the air service, has been transferred to the training station at Roswell, New Mexico, where he now is receiving special training in flying the B-29 planes.

MURRAY BOYS

Pvt. Charles McKinstry writes his parents from northern New Guinea that some parts of the island are beautiful, while there are a lot of jungles, too. They are having an abundance of rain there at the present time. Charles is an engineer in the Air Corps, and has been across the waters for about a year and a half.

Mrs. Lyl Choat in a recent letter from her husband learns that he has been promoted to Captain. Capt. Choat is with the Third Army and is somewhere in France. Mrs. Choat and the boys are making their home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Parr Young while the husband and father is overseas.

Pfc. Bob Long, who is now home on furlough after being in the army for more than three years, was married Saturday to Miss Helen Sikora. The relatives from this place attended the ceremony.

Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Finney were in Nehawka Wednesday evening to visit with Mr. Finney's daughter, Mrs. Bill Burk and family who had just arrived from Delaware, Ohio. Mr. Burke who is in the Navy, expects to soon be sent overseas, and while he is gone Mrs. Burke and the little daughter will make their home with relatives in this county.

Mrs. Edward Ossenkop and the children have gone to Plattsmouth where they will reside for the duration as Mr. Ossenkop is in the service and overseas.

Relatives here have received word that Kenneth Spangler was killed in action in France in August. Kenneth was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Spangler, and was born near Murray, moving with his parents to Merville, Iowa, when a small lad. He was a grandson of Mr. and Mrs. John Spangler, who were residents of this community for a great many years. Memorial services for Kenneth will be held at the U. B. church in Merville, Sunday, December 3rd.

LeRoy Topliff was in Omaha last week where he enlisted in the Army of Uncle Sam and passed his physical examination. He is now at home awaiting his call into the service.

NEHAWKA BOYS

Pvt. Dean Nutzman, Tinker Field Okla., near Oklahoma City was able to enjoy a three day pass and visit with his parents for a Thanksgiving dinner on Thursday, Nov. 23. Another son, Flight Officer Ned Nutzman, from the Lincoln Air Base, spent Sunday with them.

Chief Gunners Mate Emil Nixon has been transferred from Norfolk, Va., to the naval base at Bremerton, Wash. His wife and two small sons of Nebraska City plan to join him as soon as traveling facilities are available. Emil has been assigned to a new ship which has not been commissioned yet. He expects to be in Washington for several weeks.

Cpl. Leonard Harris of Camp Hood, Texas and Lt. Paul Sand of the Geneva Air Base were Thanksgiving day (Nov. 23) dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. F O Sand and family. Additional guests were Mrs. Matilda Bishoff and Matilda and Mrs. Laura Sand of Nebraska City.

Deane Bixler, recently from the Martin bomber plant, husband of our recent Home Ec teacher, recently enlisted and is a cadet at Stockton, Calif. Mrs. Bixler has secured a position as bookkeeper of an electric firm there.

Donald Cox, 17-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Cox, recently passed the navy examinations and will leave Thursday this week for training at the Great Lakes Base. His father, employed at the Nebraska Ordnance plant, was with the family here Sunday for a Turkey dinner honoring Donald.

Learn Son Wounded

Mr. and Mrs. John L. Hadraba of this city have received word from the war department that their son, Pvt. Jack Hadraba, had been wounded in action in France, on November 15th.

They were also in receipt of a letter from the son himself who is recuperating from the wounds. Jack states that he has been awarded the Purple Heart for his services.

Pvt. Olin Morris has been sent to Camp Hood, Texas, for his basic training.

EAGLE BOYS

Captain and Mrs. Sumner West and daughter Arlene Anne, are expected to arrive on Wednesday of this week and will enjoy Nebraska's Thanksgiving holiday with the former parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde West. Captain West is stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and the family reside at Lebanon, Mo.

Tech. Sgt. Fred Root completed a 15-day furlough spent with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Root and other relatives and left last Saturday for Geiger Field, Wash.

Lt. Marvin Rudolph recently came from Miami Beach, Fla., and spent a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Rudolph. He is now attending Instructors school at Midland, Texas.

Calls from West Coast

Saturday evening Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Hobbs were very pleased to receive a call from their son, Myrard Hobbs, SIC, from San Francisco. The young sailor stated that he was in fine shape and asked to be remembered to all of his friends in the city and vicinity.

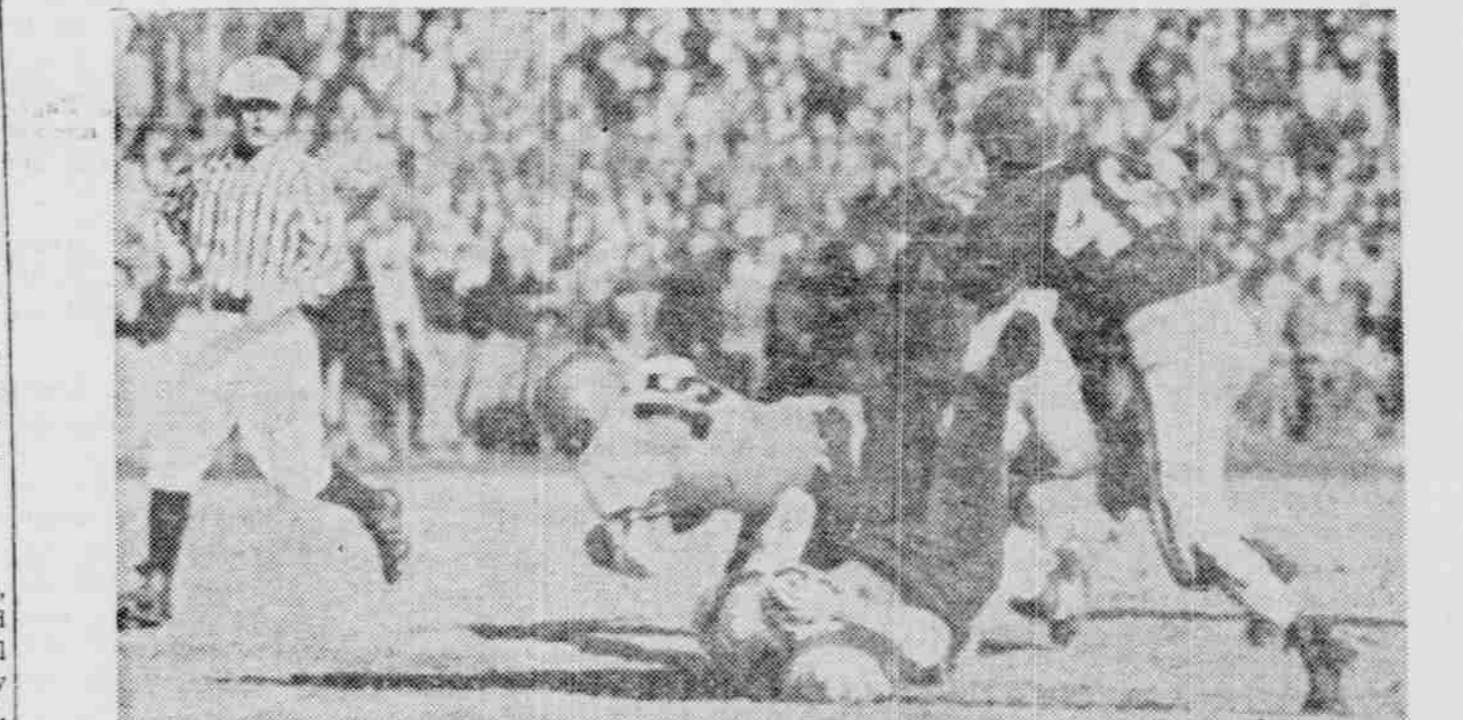
Mynard, a graduate of the class of 1943 of the local high school, has been in the armed service since shortly after leaving school and has been in the Pacific theatre of war the greater part of the time.

Home from Iceland

Friday evening Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kalasek, Sr., of this city were greatly thrilled to receive a telephone message from their son, Frank Kalasek, Jr., United States army, that he was now at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, for a few days stay and expected to be home in Plattsmouth on next Tuesday.

Cpl. Kalasek has spent twenty-three months in the armed service and of these eighteen were spent in Iceland from where he sailed back to the states. This is the first furlough that he has had since entering the service.

The long service of Cpl. Kalasek in the far north has given him a fine experience into the lives and customs of the people of this little known land.



ARMY WHIPS NAVY, 23 TO 7 — Army whipped Navy in the yard line and returns it to Army's 20 yard line. This action game played at Baltimore with a final score of 23 to 7. Edgar Kenna, Army back is shown taking the punt on his own 15.

THE TRIAL OF MOTHERHOOD

