



V-E DAY
MAY 8, 1945

V-J DAY
AUGUST 14, 1945

We are proud to present the boys and girls from the O'Brien Varnish Company who served in the armed forces during World War No. 2. To all of them we extend our gratitude for their contribution in bringing the war to a victorious close.

U. S. A R M Y



Sgt. Wm. W. Aitchison, Air Force, 43rd Bomb Group (B 24's). September 15, 1942 to October 23, 1945. Thirty months in Pacific. Asiatic-Pacific campaign ribbon with eight battle stars and Philippine liberation ribbon. First outfit to operate from New Guinea. Participated in battle of Bismarck Sea. During course of war this outfit destroyed more enemy shipping than any other bomb group.



2nd Lt. Louis Balint, Engineers (Amphibious), 2nd Engineers, Special Brigade. January 20, 1943 to September 15, 1945. Asiatic-Pacific ribbon with two battle stars. Philippine liberation ribbon. 1 star. Received battlefield commission February 12, 1945 on Leyte. Presidential unit citation, bronze star medal. Different companies in this brigade are credited with over 90 landings in New Guinea and the Philippines. Louis participated in six landings and a few "end runs."



P.F.C. Peter Botka, Company B, 334th Infantry. Entered service July 1942. Discharged October 1, 1945. Normandy on D Day and Germany.



P.F.C. Thomas F. Fifer. Infantry. Entered August 24, 1945. Expects to go overseas February 21, 1946.



Sgt. Joseph F. Geyer. Headquarters Co., Army Service Forces, Corps of Engineers. October 14, 1943 to September 21, 1945. Weapons instructor in Corps of Engineers.



S/Sgt. Norman K. Hartman, Air Corps. 484th Bomb Group, 824th Sqd. December 22, 1942 to July 19, 1945. In Italy with 15th AAF ten months. Ribbons—E.T.O., Air Medal with four clusters, six battle stars, Distinguished Flying Cross. Norman's group received the Presidential citation twice for missions in which he participated.



Pvt. Fred Henke. September 4, 1942 to April 1943.



Sgt. Roger Hoof, Q. M. Company, 87 Car Plt. April 8, 1941 to July 6, 1945. Almost three years in England, France, Belgium, Luxemborg and Germany. Ribbons—E.T.O., Good Conduct, American Defense.



T/Sgt. George A. Hultgren, Signal Corps, Hdq. Co. 599th Signal A. W. Bn. October 17, 1941 to November 17, 1945. Spent four months at Oahu, T. H. and 14 months on Saipan. Ribbons — American Defense, Asiatic-Pacific with one battle star. George's battalion had companies on Guam, Tinian and Saipan and controlled air warning service in the Marianas Islands. Certain of the units participated in invasion of Saipan and Guam.



2nd Lt. Kenneth E. Kern, Air Corps, Air Transport Command. September 11, 1943 to November 24, 1945. In India, China, Burma, New Guinea, Tarawa, Guadalcanal. Ribbons—Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, Asiatic-Pacific with three battle stars, Presidential citation and American Theatre Ribbon, World War II Victory medal.



Pvt. Albert J. Kinzie, Parachute Infantry, Hq. Co. 1st Bn. 508th Parachute Inf. Regiment. Entered service September 1, 1942. In France and Germany.



T/4 Raymond Edwin Klockow. Provost Marshal Office, Corps of Military Police. April 15, 1943 to December 11, 1945. European Theatre 27 months. Ribbons—European Theatre, Good Conduct, Victory.



T/Sgt. Harry F. Koehler, Coast Artillery, Hdq. Battery, 796th AAA AW Bn. (SP) Entered service June 1, 1943. Discharged February 1946. In Europe since August 1944. Ribbons—E.T.O., three battle stars, Good Conduct and Certificate of Merit—Bronze star pending. 796th was attached to the 10th Armored Division. Has the honor of having more combat time than any other unit of its type in E.T.O. Dec. 1944 the 10th was the first 3rd Army Unit to speed to Belgium to stop the German Push and most of the 796th together with other units held Bastogne throughout the Bulge Battle until relieved by the 101st Airborne.



P.F.C. Richard G. Lantz, 1st Army, 104th Inf. "Timberwolf" Div. Entered service June 1, 1943. Fought at the Maas River. When mission and objective had been accomplished half his company had perished. Also fought at Aachen. August 1945 assigned to 227th General Hospital. Ribbons—Combat Inf. badge, E.T.O. with four battle stars, Occupation, Good Conduct.



P.F.C. Walter Klimishin, U. S. Army. Entered June 29, 1942. Stationed in Washington, D. C., Fort F. E. Warren, Wyoming and at present in New Cumberland, Pa.



P.F.C. Russell E. Morehouse, Co. F, 362nd Infantry 91st Div. Entered service December 4, 1942. Overseas 18 months. Ribbons — Mediterranean, four battle stars, Good Conduct, Purple Heart. Outfit went into action at Cassino, Rome, Florence, Bologna, Po Valley. Finished in Austria. Discharged November 2, 1945.



S/Sgt. Leonard Miller, Army Serv. Forces, 52nd General Hospital. September 9, 1942 to November 24, 1945. England 32½ months. Ribbons—E.T.O., Good Conduct. 52nd Gen. Hospital was an affiliated unit organized by the Syracuse, N. Y. Medical School and composed of doctors and nurses who were graduates of that college. It was one of the first six General Hospitals to set up in England and pioneered the use of penicillin for the Army in that theatre.



Sgt. Robert F. Mulvehill, 5th Air Force, 19th Bomb Sqd. 22nd Bomb Group (H). Entered service July 26, 1943. One year on New Guinea, Leyte, Luzon, Palawan, Okinawa. Discharged Jan. 1, 1946. Ribbons—Asiatic-Pacific, Philippine Liberation, Western Pacific and China campaigns, Borneo and Ryukus campaigns and air offensive against Japan. Eight in all. His outfit known as "Red Raiders." The oldest Bomb Group in the South Pacific having left the States after Pearl Harbor. Bombed Japs from Australia to Japan.



Captain Tom R. Reece, Ordnance Bomb Disposal, Headquarters 9th Air Force. July 1, 1942 to January 23, 1946. In Newfoundland, England, France, Belgium, Holland and Germany for a total of 36 months. Ribbons—E.T.O. with six battle stars.



P.F.C. Casimir J. Palicki, Chemical Warfare Service, 54th Chml. Processing Co. May 15, 1942 to October 17, 1945. Two years in England, France and Manila. Four ribbons and two battle stars. His unit supplied the front with their needs.



Cpl. Edw. J. Radecki, 101st Airborne, Engineers. Entered March 26, 1942. Discharged September 22, 1945. Two years in Germany, Austria, Holland, France, etc. Ribbons—European, American, Good Conduct, Purple Heart, 4 battle stars, Bronze Star, Presidential Citation with one cluster. Ed took part in the Normandy and Holland invasions by glider. His outfit was trapped in the Battle of the Bulge under Gen'l. McCauliffe, who made the typical American reply to the Germans when they requested our boys to surrender.



P.F.C. Oscar E. Renz, 1st Quarter Master Company, 1st Infantry Division. April 7, 1942 to September 8, 1945. European Theatre 37 months. Ribbons—E.T.O. w/7, Bronze Star, Unit Citation, Good Conduct Ribbon, Arrow Head for D-Day in Sicily and Normandy. Participated in the invasions of Africa, Sicily and Normandy.



P.F.C. Joseph J. Rockoske, 152nd Inf. 38th Div.—5th Inf. 71st Div. April 23, 1941 to September 19, 1945. Overseas 39 months in Caribbean and European Theatre. Ribbons—Good Conduct, Pre-Pearl Harbor, American, European 3 battle stars.



T/Sgt. Joyce R. Schultz, Air Force, 433rd Troop Carrier Group. February 14, 1942 to October 26, 1945. Twenty-five months in Southwest Pacific and Philippines. Ribbons—Asiatic-Pacific and Philippine Liberation. Part of the 433rd planes dropped para-troopers in the Markham Valley in the taking of Lae and Madzab.



1st Lt. Edwin H. Steinel. Corps of Engineers. November 20, 1942 to October 8, 1945. Stationed in Louisiana and later at Albany, N. Y.



P.F.C. Edmund VanTornhout, Infantry, 12th Regt. 4th Division. October 26, 1943 to September 20, 1945. Spent about two months in England and France before he took part in the invasion of Normandy, where he was wounded. He was flown back to the U. S. and stationed at Fort Benjamin Harrison Hospital, Indianapolis, until discharged. Ribbons—Infantry Combat Badge, E.T.O. and one battle star, Purple Heart.



T/4 Orvall E. Tindall, 447th AAA AW Bn., 28th Inf. Division, Medic. Branch January 2, 1943 to October, 29, 1945. In Europe 20 months. Ribbons—ETO with five bronze battle stars. Combat medical badge, Good Conduct, Bronze Arrowhead. His outfit participated in establishing the beachhead at Normandy.



Major Harry S. Wagner, Air Corps. U. S. Military Academy, July 5, 1941 to December 17, 1945. His group the first recipient in the history of the United States Military Academy, West Point, to receive the Meritorious Service Award for superior aircraft maintenance.



P.F.C. Edward F. Wolkiewicz: Co. I, 12th Infantry, Fourth Div. December 8, 1942 to November 21, 1945. European Theatre 20 months. Ribbons—European, African, Middle Eastern, 5 battle stars, Purple Heart, Combat Inf. Badge, Good Conduct. Participated in invasion of Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland and Central Europe.



Sgt. Laverne J. White. Air Service Command, 1803rd Ord. S&M Co. AVN, 68th Air Serv. Group. Entered service January 22, 1943. Spent 21 months in China and one month in India. Ribbons—Asiatic-China Defense Medal. When his Service Group first arrived in China, the 1803rd went on detached service to Chengtu and worked with the engineers under the 20th Bomber Command building B-29 strips, assembling vehicles flown over the Hump and many other jobs which were essential to making possible the first B-29 raid against the Japs from China. Later Vern was assigned to the 14th Air Force which was under General Chennault. Discharged January 1946.



PFC Joseph J. Wagner, 1037 Guard Squadron. Military Police, August 25, 1942 to March 16, 1943.



Pvt. Warren Young, Air Force. Entered service July 10, 1945.

U. S. NAVY



Frederick F. Caithamel Bkr 2/c. May 13, 1941 to October 15, 1945. Thirty-one months overseas. South Pacific and convoy duty in Central and South America. Asiatic-Pacific ribbon, American defense, Philippine Liberation, American theatre and Good Conduct ribbon. Participated in invasions of Lingayen Gulf in Luzon, Leyte and Borneo.



Leo A. Chalk, S 1/c, Seventh Fleet. Entered service March 29, 1945. At this time Leo has four ribbons due. He has been in Carolinas, Marshalls, Leyte, Tuboboa, Sumar and Calicoan Island.



Lorraine A. Deka, S.K. 1/c, WAVES. Entered service July 1943. Discharged February 4, 1946. Stationed in Transportation Office at Great Lakes, Ill.



Robert P. Gibbons, S.K. 1/c. December 9, 1941 to October 23, 1945. Spent 28 months on Atlantic and Pacific. Ribbons—American, European, Asiatic-Pacific, Good Conduct. Cruiser and destroyer duty. Participated in two invasions.



Lt. (j.g.) Richard L. McComb, Blimp Sq. 41. August 20, 1942 to October 13, 1945. Nineteen months in Brazil. Ribbons — Atlantic Theatre — Air Medal for rescuing survivors of a crashed Cessna plane on a remote part of the Brazilian Coast. Dick flew the blimp and directed rescue operations.



Joseph Niedbalski, S 1/c. USS "Sebec" (AO-87). Entered service October 1943. Sixteen months in Central and Northwest Pacific. Ribbons — American theatre, Philippine Liberation, Asiatic-Pacific and one silver star. Participated in operations of Guam, Palau, Okinawa and rendezvous with the 3rd fleet in the Philippine waters and China Sea.



Richard M. Pilarski, Fireman 2/c. Easy Division, Electric Force. Entered service February 15, 1945. Spent six months in Attu and northern Honshu, Japan. Ribbons—American Theatre, Asiatic-Pacific, Occupational Bar. Dick is on the "Pensacola" which has participated in every major engagement in the South Pacific and Asiatic Theatre of war. Has been hit by shore batteries and torpedo and is being decommissioned soon.



Helen Ruppert Veith, Yeoman 2/c. WAVES. June 1943 to November 1944. Stationed in Washington, D. C. seven months. Then at U.S. Naval Air Station at Corpus Christi, Texas, as Court Reporter until discharged.



Ralph J. Wallace, S 1/c. April 28, 1943 to September 22, 1945. Six months in North Atlantic, 12 months South Pacific. Ribbons—American Theatre, Asiatic-Pacific.

PHOTOGRAPHS NOT FURNISHED BY THE FOLLOWING:

Joseph Balha—U. S. Army. Aug 20, 1943 to Sept. 13, 1945.

1/Sgt. Paul E. Bergman—U. S. Army. Medical Department. March 14, 1941 to October 22, 1945. In European Theatre eight months. Ribbons—European Theatre, American Defense, Good Conduct.

Casimir Gorski—U. S. Army. April 3, 1941 to January, 1942.

John Juhas—U. S. Army. July 1, 1942 to November 11, 1945.

Harry Labis—U. S. Navy. November 18, 1942 to November 10, 1945.

Alton P. Tatay, A.E.M. 3/c. Naval Air Transport Service. VR-3. Entered service February 18, 1945. At this time, Tatay is stationed in Olathe, Kansas.

Wilson Treesh—U. S. Army. February 1, 1945.

George Vesey—U. S. Army. April 17, 1944.

Sgt. Frank Wiczorek, First Marine Air Wing. May 27, 1943 to January 27, 1946. Ribbons—Asiatic-Pacific, Philippine Liberation, 4 battle stars. Overseas 17 months on Bougainville, Luzon, Mindanao. Participated in Luzon and Mindanao invasions.

U. S. MARINES



Corp. Joseph C. Dickens, 11th Serv. Bn. Proc. Entered service July 2, 1942. Spent 25 months on Bouganville, Peleliu, Saipan. Asiatic-Pacific ribbon and two stars. Served with the 3rd Marines on Bouganville until knocked out of action. Then again with the 1st Division at Peleliu.



P.F.C. Joseph S. Schreiner, 3rd Amphibious Corps. January 1943 to November 2, 1945. Twenty-six months in New Caledonia, Australia, Goodenough, Gilbert Islands, New Guinea, New Britain, Guadalcanal, Peleliu, Okinawa. Ribbons—American Theatre, South Pacific, three stars, Navy Unit Citation, Presidential Citation. Participated in Cape Gloucester, Peleliu and Okinawa invasions.

IN MEMORY OF THE SONS OF O'BRIEN EMPLOYEES WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN SERVICE



T/Sgt. Donald Call, son of Marion Call, entered the Army on Dec. 28, 1942 and arrived in England on March 3, 1944. He was attached to the 784th Bomb Sq., 466th Bomb Group. He was killed in action on Sept. 1, 1944 when the B-24 in which he was a crew member crashed near Horsham, Norfolk, England after taking off on an operational mission.



T. Sgt. Clem Pilarski. Infantry. Son of Mike Pilarski. Enlisted August 1942 and killed in action in Germany on Dec. 15, 1944.



T/Sgt. Matthew Hagedorn, son of Chalmer Hagedorn, entered the Army Dec. 9, 1942. In September 1944 he was sent overseas and served in England, France, Belgium, and Germany. Sgt. Hagedorn was killed in action on March 14, 1945.



P.F.C. Albert F. Rudynski, stepson of Joseph Romsicki, entered the Army on March 2, 1944 and went overseas in October 1944. He served with the 291st infantry in England, France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. He was killed in action on April 7, 1945 in Germany.

We are very thankful at O'Brien's that there are no gold stars on our Service Roster. Out of an approximate two hundred employees in the factory, office and on the sales force, fifty-three were called in service and all have returned with the exception of a few who have not yet been released as this magazine went to press.

Those still in service, to the best of our knowledge, are Leo Chalk, Thomas Fifer, Albert Kinzie, Walter Klimishin, Richard Lantz, Joe Niedbalski, Richard Pilarski, Alton Tatay, George Vesey, and Warren Young.

On January 7, 1946, DANIEL J. KELLY, oldest employee of the O'Brien Varnish Company, in both age and service, retired after forty-eight years. Dan was shipping clerk here until 1900 when he became a sales representative. In this job he traveled through every state by horse and buggy, automobile, train and airplane.

Our best wishes, Dan, for a life of ease and luxury which you have earned.

PETE TATMAN, formerly manager of the order department, has replaced Dan in the Michigan territory. EUGENE O'BRIEN has taken over Pete's duties.

Other long service records include A. R. GARVER, who started with the company in October 1902. For a short time he left the company to go in business for himself and returned in 1928. F. M. REECE has been with O'Brien's since February 1903—J. J. MULVEHILL, April 1903—O. A. FULKERSON, January 1903—C. J. MORRIS, July 1906 . . . indicating records of forty years and over.

CLARENCE BAUGH in the factory heads the seniority list, having begun his job here on March 1, 1909.

PEACE:

According to an old Chinese Proverb . . . "If there is righteousness in the heart, there will be beauty in the character. If there is beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the home. If there is harmony in the home, there will be order in the nation. When there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world."

Then there's the story about the man who wanted a two weeks' vacation and ended up in the brig before he could ensnare the little woman into marriage. PETE BOTKA will be glad to finish this story. By the way, Pete, you should be a Wall Street broker. We understand your talents as a financial wizard are going to waste in these wide open spaces.

For the suggestion box . . . A doorman for the factory entrance, whose duty it will be to see that the doors are opened wide at five o'clock to allow "Whirlwind" BAUGH, and BILL (Gunder Hägg) FAUST to make speedy exits.

A little bowling news is always good, especially when some of the champs are returned veterans like RENZ, BALINT and VERN WHITE. Vern's southpaw is getting in the groove again. BIG ANDY was going to quit the league on account of arm trouble (the trouble is at the elbow joint) and just about the time he was ready to bid farewells, he up and bowls a 571.

In spite of some bad luck occasionally, the Commercial League and Builders League ended the first half of the season in the upper brackets. The second half which began January 1946 finds the Builders League battling for first place.

It has been rumored that we have a Bluebeard in our midst. RALPH WALLACE of Lakeville has been selling meat to members of the shipping department but after the first purchase the men become violently ill and have to stay out of work. This suddenly stopped when the farmers around Lakeville discovered who was stealing their coon dogs.

STEVE CHIKAR is looking for another source of chicken supply. After the meat packers went on strike, CLAUDE BRUNSON furnished Steve chickens and when he found out they were laying eggs for Steve, he put up a "No Sale" sign.

FLASH!—HERMIE GNOTH has an eye for the future. Since the meat shortage it has been rumored that Hermie bought 100 chickens and 3 pigs. That may not be news where others are concerned, but when Hermie buys something instead of selling it, that's news.

The laboratory is beginning to take on an air of sophistication again now that our handsome chemists are returning.

Incidentally, BUELL WEBSTER has left O'Brien's and, along with BILL AITCHISON, has opened a paint store in Grand Rapids, Michigan, known as the "Wolverine Paint & Supply Company". (The advertising department will send you a bill for this ad.)

Ensnconed in the arm chair formerly occupied by Buell is GEORGE HULTGREN, recently of Saipan.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all the returned veterans at O'Brien's for the beautiful basket of flowers received at Christmastime, and presented as a token of appreciation for the time and effort put forth in behalf of the NEWS since August, 1943.

All the gray hairs acquired in editing the NEWS during this period will always be a reminder that my efforts were not in vain.

The NEWS was published especially for O'Brien boys and girls in service — to keep you informed of events here at home — and I am deeply grateful that you found it interesting.

Ruth E. Lehman, Editor.

A LAUGH A DAY KEEPS THE DOCTOR AWAY

Did you hear about the secretary who went out and practiced with the team after the boss told her he'd buy her a mink coat if she'd play ball with him?

Joe: "Let's have a companionate marriage — we'll live together for awhile and then if we find out we've made mistakes, we can separate."

Sue: "Yes, but what'll we do with the mistakes?"

DAFFYNITIONS

Jury: Twelve men chosen to decide who has the better lawyer.

Baby: An alimentary canal with a loud voice at one end and no responsibility at the other.

Chiropractor: One who is paid for what other men get slapped for.

They laughed when I sat down at the piano but when that little blonde soprano gave me the key to A flat — how I accompanied her!

Bill: "I've got an awful lot of electricity in my hair."

Ruth: "I don't doubt it. You always have such shocking things on your mind."

Grandma (looking at her granddaughter's new bathing suit): "If I could've dressed like that when I was a girl, you'd be six years older today Missy."

Blonde: "Sorry, Sailor, but I don't go out with perfect strangers."

Sailor: "Don't worry about that, babe, I ain't perfect."

Oren: "How are things going with you?"

August: "Say, I've got so much on my mind that if something happens to me today, I won't have time to worry about it for two weeks."

Weekly Expense Report

Week ending — Jan. 1, 1946

12/1	Advertising for girl stenographer .	\$.50
12/2	Violets — New Steno65
12/8	Week's salary for stenographer	20.00
12/9	Roses for stenographer	4.00
12/11	Candy for wife75
12/13	Lunch with secretary ..	6.25
12/15	Week's salary for secretary	30.00
12/17	Picture show tickets—self and wife	1.10
12/18	Theater tickets—self and secretary	7.50
12/19	Candy for wife75
12/20	Lillian's salary	40.00
12/21	Theatre and dinner with Lillian	21.75
12/22	Fur coat for wife ..	625.00
12/23	Advertisement for male stenographer	.50

GOOD BREEDING CONSISTS OF CONCEALING HOW MUCH WE THINK OF OURSELVES AND HOW LITTLE WE THINK OF THE OTHER PERSON.

In order to get married, a girl must show:

1. A generous nature.
2. How generous nature was to her.

An old and privileged friend asked his pal why on earth he had married his bride, a woman with the face of a dejected cow, the brains of an addled sheep and the disposition of a setting hen.

"Well," explained the groom, "it was a perfect June night. I'll never forget the scent of honey-suckle wafting across the porch, the softness of the breeze, or the sleepy notes of a mockingbird in a nearby tree. But even more unforgettable is the bright, mellow moon. I'll see it to my dying day."

"Why should the moon impress you so?" asked the friend.

"Because it was glinting in two parallel streaks straight toward me — along the barrels of her father's shotgun."

Wonderful indeed is a woman shopper. In a department store she can hurry through an 18-inch aisle without brushing against glassware piled on both sides, but when she drives home she can't get into a 12-foot garage without knocking the doors off.

Say it with flowers, say it with sweets,
Say it with kisses, say it with eats;
Say it with jewelry, say it with drink,
But never, oh, never, say it with ink!

The one-ring circus was visiting among the hills. The folks recognized all the instruments except the slide trombone. One settler watched the player for quite some time, then turning to his son, said:

"Don't let on you're watching him. There's a trick to it; he ain't really swallerin' it."

Knees are a luxury. If you don't think so, just try to get hold of one.

Easy-crying widows take new husbands soonest; there's nothing like wet weather for transplanting.

Jack: (In Alaska) "Why don't you wear earmuffs?"

Mack: "I haven't worn 'em since the accident."

Jack: "What accident?"

Mack: "Someone asked me if I wanted a drink — and I didn't hear 'em."

Did you hear the one about the K-9 Corps dog that asked for a tree-day pass?

Susie has a nice, new skirt —
So neat, so bright, so choosey
It never shows a speck of dirt,
But, gosh, how it shows Susie!

A CHIP ON THE SHOULDER INDICATES THERE IS WOOD HIGHER UP.