

Chapter 22 – Returning to Civilian Life

Americans Returning from German POW Camps Suffered from PTSD

--- Duane Schultz

When the war in Europe ended and the POWs started going home, many quickly found that their transition to civilian life was not going to be easy. As with so many veterans of World War II, POW or not, the momentary initial excitement and euphoria of seeing family and friends again did not last. According to surveys in 1946, a full 40 percent of returning POWs expressed disappointment.

At least one of every three returning American veterans felt completely estranged from the civilian world they had left when they went to war, and as many as half believed the war had left them worse off. Forty years later, in 1985, a study of former POWs found that 25 percent said they were still bothered by anxiety, irritability, depression, exaggerated startle response, body tremors, insomnia, and nightmares. And almost three out of every four ex-POWs reported intermittent problems with these kinds of symptoms. Only four percent said that they had never been troubled emotionally by their experiences during captivity.

Studies in 2018, more than 70 years after the war, found that 30 percent of British POWs had developed what was called a “stalag mentality,” which included feelings of guilt at having been a prisoner of war, along with intense depression, a belief that their mental and physical health had been permanently damaged, and intense anxiety about being able to reintegrate back into civilian life.

Many American POWs felt estranged from their wives and families, and many marriages were damaged as a result. The first two postwar years saw a divorce boom in the United States, with veterans divorcing at twice the rate of people who had not served in the war. Many wives felt that, as one put it, “I got engaged to one man, then a different man came home.”

One million returning American servicemen, including POWs, were classified as neuropsychiatric (NP). One year after the war, by 1946, more than 10,000 veterans a month were trying to get help at veterans’ hospitals for NP-related problems. By the following year, more than half of all patients in VA hospitals had been diagnosed as neuropsychiatric.

One veteran said, “I would wake up at night drenched with sweat and a sense of terror. I would lie awake and stare at the insides of my eyelids. Every one of those young dead soldiers [he had seen in combat] went by like a slide show. Why did I survive when so many others had been killed? Why had I not been wounded when so many others were maimed for life? I didn’t recognize the fact that I had indeed been wounded, and severely at that. It was a wound that would take fifty years to heal.”

*Kurt Vonnegut spent more than 20 years after the war trying to come to terms with his experiences at Dresden, writing and destroying thousands of pages before completing his most famous book, *Slaughterhouse-Five*. His daughter said Vonnegut “was writing to save his own life” and that he was constantly dealing with heavy drinking, flashbacks, nightmares, sleepless nights, periods of dissociation from reality, and sudden bursts of intense anger.*




A major problem for returning veterans after the war was that the VA lacked enough psychologists and other mental-health counselors to treat their disorders. The VA also failed to fully comprehend the array of emotional problems plaguing returning veterans. Norman Bussel wrote, “For those of us who recognized that we had a problem, a trip to a VA hospital for help quickly convinced us that they didn’t have a clue as

to what was wrong with us. So, we went back to our jobs and self-medicated with alcohol at night and on weekends.”

Many returning POWs and combat veterans could not bring themselves to talk about their feelings. It was considered “unmanly” to admit to having feelings of stress—or psychological problems of any kind, for that matter. They did not want their families and friends to know that they had such problems, or worse, to admit they were accepting treatment. Many were also afraid, with some justification, that having “NP” stamped in their files would follow them throughout life and keep them from finding meaningful employment.

Another issue for returning POWs was the sense that while millions of others had been fighting and dying for their country, they were often thought to be “safe” in the camps. In the occasional letters from home that got through, loved ones would ask such questions as what color bedroom slippers were wanted for Christmas, or offer advice such as not to overeat and to exercise and stay in good shape.

Stepping off the troopship John Ericsson in New York meant you were home – but it didn’t mean you were discharged. Just getting off the ship was an unpredictable affair.

	
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES PERSONNEL DISTRIBUTION COMMAND	
Atlantic City, N. J.	
 WELCOME HOME 	
<p>On behalf of the Commanding General, Army Air Forces, and as Commanding General of the Personnel Distribution Command, I extend to you a cordial welcome back to the United States.</p> <p>This personal greeting is to express our pride in your splendid overseas record, as well as our appreciation. In furtherance of these motives and in executing the mission of the Personnel Distribution Command, I assure you that every effort will be made toward providing you with pleasant surroundings, adequate rest at one of our Redistribution Stations, and a proper future assignment.</p>	
<p>Sincerely yours,  H. R. HARMON Major General, U.S.A. Commanding</p>	

Some men would be admitted to military hospitals and others placed on extended leaves and furloughs. However, all men would eventually be processed by the AAF Personnel Distribution Command and assigned to one of five Redistribution Stations. George was assigned to Atlantic City and found himself right back in the same reception station where he had enlisted in May of 1941 – Fort Dix.

Many others would be reassigned to the continuing war effort. For them, the war went on. There was no change of situation, only a change of scenery.

To support the continuing efforts in the Pacific Theater, "R" (Redeployment) Day, 12 May 1945, was a notable date at Fort Dix when more than 2,000 troops were processed for additional overseas assignment. They were screened for eligibility and placed in a separation stream from those who would ultimately be discharged. In order to separate as many eligible men as possible that day, all military and civilian personnel who could be spared were put to work in the Separation Center. Separations on R-Day were given worldwide coverage by news and motion picture services with two national radio hookups. It was the beginning of a huge effort where Fort Dix would discharge in total, 508,069 personnel in 1945 alone including those returning from the cessation of hostilities in the Pacific.

Since the war in the Pacific would continue for another three months, security of information was still a high priority. The following general memorandum regarding responsibilities of the Distribution Command and procedures when reporting to an appropriate Redistribution Center was given to all returning military personnel. Written in September of 1944. And additional letter highlighting security issues was also distributed.

PORT LIAISON OFFICE
AAF PERSONNEL DISTRIBUTION COMMAND
1ST RECEPTION STATION NO 2
FORT DIX, NEW JERSEY

1. GENERAL. The Commanding General, AAF Personnel Distribution Command desires that you be given assistance by the AAF Personnel Distribution Command and Port Liaison Officer at this station. The undersigned and his staff will assist you with any personnel problems and answer questions you may have regarding your stay at AAF Personnel Distribution Command Redistribution Stations. Undoubtedly, you are primarily interested in beginning your period of leave or furlough. Your departure will be expedited if you cooperate with all personnel involved in the brief processing which is necessary at this station.

2. LEAVE OR FURLOUGHS. You will be assigned to the proper AAFPDG Redistribution Station, granted an appropriate delay enroute plus travel time. Unless great emergency exists, such as illness or injury, it is impossible to extend your leave or furlough. Request for such extensions result in unnecessary waste of money to yourselves, as well as additional paper work in answering telegrams.

3. ILLNESS. If illness or injury occurs while on leave or furlough, communicate with or report to the nearest Government operated hospital for treatment. The hospital should, in turn, advise the AAFPDG Redistribution Station as to your status. In the absence of Government facilities, local physicians may be consulted under the following provisions only:

- a. Military medical attendance cannot be procured in time to cope with the urgency of the situation.
- b. The individual cannot be moved to any Army or other Government hospital for necessary treatment.
- c. Necessary medical care is emergency in nature. If a local physician is consulted, request the physician to notify by telegram, the AAFPDG Redistribution Station to which you are assigned, stating the date illness occurred and the probable date of return to duty. Upon completion of illness or incapacity, secure a written statement from the physician for submission to the Commanding Officer of the AAF PDG Redistribution Station.

4. HOUSING OF WIVES AT REDISTRIBUTION STATIONS. The War Department has granted authority for your wife only to remain with you at a Government operated hotel. Information in this connection and necessary forms for requesting reservations for her will be made in this office. Government facilities are not always available, and you are advised not to bring your wife to the Redistribution Station unless you have been notified by the Station Housing Officer that Government accommodations will be furnished. If you bring your wife without such notification, you will probably have to expend personal funds for her accommodations. In these resort cities, costs of hotel rooms are usually high. A nominal charge is made for the housing of wives at Redistribution Stations.

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5. COMPLIANCE WITH TRAVEL ORDERS. Overseas returnees are given special authorization for a delay enroute to AAPFDC Redistribution Stations plus necessary travel time. Special orders granting such delay, specify the date you will report to the Redistribution Station. **YOU MUST** report to your Redistribution Station on the date indicated in your orders. Failure to comply with the above orders constitutes a serious military offense and necessitates disciplinary action.

6. DECORATIONS AND AWARDS. If you are entitled to decorations or awards which have been noted in General orders but not issued to you personally, application may be made for such decorations in accordance with Sec II, WD Cir 337, 1944.

7. VENEREAL DISEASE CONTROL. Because of unsettled home conditions during the war, health authorities have found the venereal disease problem one of increasing concern. Experience with returning personnel has proved that we must warn all returnees of this danger and request their use of caution in this respect. Emphasis is placed on this warning for the good of the service and for your own well-being.

8. SECURITY. The inclosed HQ AAPFDC Letter addressed to all AAF Personnel Returning from Overseas, Subject, Security of Military Information, dated 1 September 1944, will be carefully read. You are cautioned to govern yourself accordingly.

9. FOOD AND GAS RATIONING. While at home you are entitled to meats and processed food, ration coupons, and gasoline coupons (if there is a car at home). Present a copy of your special orders to your local ration board as authority to be issued these coupons for use while on leave or furlough. If your orders provide for TPA for any part of your travel to an AAPFDC Redistribution Station, the Port Liaison Officer will assist you in obtaining the gasoline coupons necessary for such travel.

10. LEGAL ASSISTANCE. If advice is needed for filing income tax returns, claims for loss or damage of personal property, revision of wills or other personal legal problems, take all necessary data with you to the AAPFDC Redistribution Station where the Judge Advocate will assist you.

11. CONDUCT. You represent the Army Air Forces to the General public. Consequently, it is highly important that you conduct yourself at all times in such a manner as to reflect credit to the Army Air Forces - be courteous, neat in appearance, and present a military bearing.

12. BUS SERVICE. Buses from Main Gate direct to Philadelphia and to Pennsylvania Railroad Station in Trenton, run at frequent intervals. US Army Buses from Port Liaison Office through Reception Station Area run every 45 minutes, terminating at the Main Gate. Use "New York Avenue" Bus.

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13. BAGGAGE. Baggage can be handled in the following manner from the Checking Station in Warehouse #2:

- Sent to your furlough address, express collect or Government Bill of Lading;
- Forwarded express prepaid from the American Express Office adjoining Warehouse #2;
- Checked on your railroad ticket.

If your baggage has not arrived prior to your departure from this station, leave your baggage checks at the Checking Station, and it will be forwarded to you express collect.

14. POST INFORMATION. OFFICERS - The Main Officers PX is at Pemberton Road & Maryland Ave., (Camp St.) diagonally across from checking Station, Warehouse #2. Use New York Avenue Bus. Branch Officers PX is at Newark Ave., at 14th Street. Main Officers Club is at Maryland Ave., & 1st St. Use New York Avenue Bus. Cafeterias at Service Club #2, Newark Ave., at 17th St., at Main Officers Club and Main Officers PX. Telephones at Newark Ave., & 16th St. Theaters # 2 or #5 may be reached by taking the New York Avenue Bus in your area.

ENLISTED MEN. There is a PX in your company area. Cafeteria at Service Club #2, Newark Ave., at 17th St., Telephones at Newark Ave., & 16th St. Theaters #2 or #5 may be reached by taking New York Avenue Bus in your area.

15. ADDRESSES OF AAF REDISTRIBUTION STATIONS.

AAF Redistribution Station #1
Atlantic City, New Jersey.

AAF Redistribution Station #2
Miami Beach, Florida.

AAF Redistribution Station #3
Santa Monica, California.

AAF Redistribution Station #4
Santa Ana, California.

AAF Redistribution Station #5
Camp Davis, N. C.

1 Incl:
AAPFDC Ltr. 1 Sep 44.

JAMES M. WILEY, JR.,
Major, Air Corps,
Port Liaison Officer,
AAF Personnel Distribution Command.

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RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS

ARMY AIR FORCES PERSONNEL DISTRIBUTION COMMAND

IS

Atlantic City, N.J.

SUBJECT: Security of Military Information

1 September 1944.

TO: All AAF Personnel Returning From Theaters.

1. The Commanding General, AAF, has directed that the following information be disseminated to you immediately upon your return from theaters:

a. While in this country it will be easy for you to talk indiscriminately about your recent experiences and thereby be responsible for the enemy's getting a better shot at your friends and comrades who are still in the thick of things.

b. It will be natural for you to want to talk to your family and friends about your experiences and for them to urge you to do so. It will also be natural for the enemy agent to pick up all the information he can from your talk.

c. Some of our units have already been ripped apart because the enemy intelligence has been able to put our plans together from small bits of information. This information was given out, in conversations such as you will be tempted to have, by military personnel like yourselves, who did not realize they were disclosing information of importance. The enemy is as greatly benefited by information disclosed by you as he is by information disclosed by one who is an enemy.

d. However, it is possible to talk in general terms about the "show" you have been through, without giving aid to the enemy. To do this your talk must be confined to:

- (1) General description of the countries you have been in.
- (2) Discussion of the peoples of those countries, their customs, habits, etc.
- (3) Your personal experiences in battle, without mention of the units or the equipment involved.
- (4) Name of the port of embarkation and port of debarkation, but not until more than one week after you have landed in the U. S.

But remember that this is for conversation only. Any of this information, if to be used for a press release or newspaper story or over the radio, must be cleared through Public Relations. (If you are a returned escapee, evadee, or internee, even clearance through Public Relations will not protect you in the event of any violation of security. All returned escapees, evadees, and internees are reminded of their special instructions in this connection.)

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e. YOU MUST NOT, under any circumstances, give information to anyone—wife, parent, or friend:

- (1) which would disclose the number of troops in the area from which you have come, or their disposition or equipment;
- (2) which would disclose the size or type ships of the convoy or its escort, which accompanied you, or its route;
- (3) which would indicate the facilities, present or in construction, at ports, cities, or camp in which you have been;
- (4) which would disclose new equipment being used in the field;
- (5) which would disclose the tactics being employed or your idea concerning what future tactics will be or should be employed;
- (6) which would indicate the geographic location of APO numbers;
- (7) which would disclose the designations of units in the field.

f. DO NOT engage in political or other discussions concerning our Allies. Remember that the Russians and the English started the Axis tide before we entered the war, and they and the French and others are our Allies. DO NOT start criticisms of our friends.

g. An alert, persistent, and capable enemy intelligence system exists. No bit of information is too small for its use. Your loyal friends will understand, if, when they question you, you say "I can't talk about the details of that show yet." Their sons and brothers will be safer as a result, and you will be fulfilling your continuing obligation to the men you have left behind.

By command of Major General HARMON:

/s/ HENRY M. BAILEY,
/t/ HENRY M. BAILEY,
Colonel, Air Corps,
Chief of Staff

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After stepping on US soil, it was "hurry up and wait" at debarkation points. At repatriation centers, those in need of care, including all ex-POW's, were culled out and hospitalized.

Eventually all returnees passed through a variety of military travel stopping points on their way to the assigned separation centers.

The Final Push

You might be back on US soil but you were still weeks or months from being back at home in civilian clothes.

I have little information of the period from George's arrival in New York on May, 29, 1945, his processing and assignment to Fort Dix and about his last days of service and reintegration into society other than a single document regarding his stay at the Atlantic City AAF Redistribution Center, Station No.1 from July 31 to August 8, 1945.

HEADQUARTERS AAF REDISTRIBUTION STATION NO. 1 Atlantic City, N.J.		JDF:hj
3B-1/201- FLOWERS, GEORGE A. (O)		8 AUG 1945
		(Date)
SUBJECT: Clearance and Transmittal of Records		
TO : COL JAMES D. FLOWERS DEPT OF DEFENSE ATTN: CHIEF, RECORDS PLATTSBURGH, N. Y.		
1. Transmitted herewith are inclosures, as listed below, pertaining to 2nd Lt. George A. Flowers, O740310, and reassigned to your command.		
2. I certify that this officer (did) (did not) occupy adequate quarters while assigned to this station for the period from <u>31 July 45</u> to <u>8 AUG 1945</u> and availed himself of <u>no</u> days leave of absence while at this station.		
FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:		
		 JAMES D. FLOWERS Captain, Air Corps Assistant Adjutant
8 Incls:		
1	* Orders bestowing Aeronautical Rating	
1	* Orders bestowing Flying Status	
1	Copy of last Promotion Orders	
1	WD AGO Form 66-2 or 66-3 (Print)	
1	ARPDC Form 50	
1	MD Form 81	
1	Flight Surgeons Record	
1	* AAF Form 5 File	
1	Change of Station Orders (5 copies)	
1	Form 163	
* If not inclosed copy of letter requesting same is inclosed in lieu thereof.		
AF No. 1 Form 35-7 (15 June 45)		

Having arrived stateside on the M.S. John Ericsson troop ship on May 29, 1945, this document implies he was placed in a hospital, most likely Fort Tilton Medical Center, due to his physical and mental condition. After a two month recovery period, he arrived at the Atlantic City Redistribution station on July 31, 1945 for final processing, furlough assignments or discharge.



After surviving a grueling death march from a German POW camp, newly liberated American prisoners of war recover at a U.S. Army hospital in May 1945. For many the road to recovery was long and arduous.

Redistribution and Separation Centers

Somewhat healthy again, there was only more tunnel for George to traverse to get to the light – but it was not as close as you would think.

Separation centers were not the cold impersonal disassembly lines one would imagine. Several personal guidelines were considered at all times. Before individuals were returned to civilian life, center operators attempted to bring the separate-e face-to-face with the realization that their home communities were probably changed by war, and that their own interests also may have changed. Men wishing to use Army-acquired skills in civilian life were informed how these skills could be used. Each separate-e was provided a record of his military experiences to help him get a job. Those with handicaps or physical limitations, who needed rehabilitation or development of a proper mental outlook, were given counsel. Thus, those operating the centers guided soldiers from the world they knew before the war into the post-war contemporary world. This was the humanitarian approach followed during the maximum 48 hours allotted each individual prior to his release from active service.

The system was set up none too soon. Separation activities steadily increased until it seemed they would be overwhelmed by the hordes of troops returning from the war. Separation Center 26, which had begun operations at Dix in April 1944, processed only 323 men that month. The volume slowly increased, and at the year's end, 38,554 officers, enlisted men and WACs had been separated. This number was but a trickle preceding the later flood.

There were twenty-two designated Separation Centers by April 11, 1945:

SEPARATION CENTERS ARRANGED ALPHABETICALLY INDICATING AREAS SERVED	
(Source: RR 1-2, 11 Apr 45)	
<i>Separation center</i>	<i>States served</i>
Camp Atterbury, Ind.	Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio
Camp Beale, Calif.	California (north of 35th parallel of latitude)
Camp Blanding, Fla.	Florida
Ft. Bliss, Tex.	Arizona, New Mexico, Texas (west of 100th parallel of longitude)
Ft. Bragg, N. C.	North Carolina, South Carolina
Camp Chaffee, Ark.	Oklahoma
Ft. Devens, Mass.	Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont
Ft. Dix, N. J.	Delaware, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania
Ft. Douglas, Utah	Utah, Idaho, Nevada
Camp Gordon, Ga.	Georgia
Camp Grant, Ill.	Iowa, Illinois
Jefferson Barracks, Mo.	Missouri, Arkansas
Ft. Leavenworth, Kans.	Kansas, Nebraska
Ft. Lewis, Wash.	Oregon, Washington
Ft. Logan, Colo.	Colorado, Wyoming
Ft. MacArthur, Calif.	California (south of the 35th parallel of latitude)
Camp McCoy, Wis.	Minnesota, Montana, South Dakota, North Dakota
Ft. McPherson, Ga.	Alabama
Ft. Meade, Md.	District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia
Ft. Sam Houston, Tex.	Texas (west [sic] of 100th Parallel of longitude)
Camp Shelby, Miss.	Louisiana, Mississippi
Ft. Sheridan, Ill.	Michigan (Upper Peninsula), Wisconsin

This was the tunnel:

A man entered the demobilization stream when he reported at the Arrival Station, officially known as Incoming Records Section of the Enlisted Men's Record Branch. The Arrival Stations operated on a 24-hour basis throughout the entire period, employing hundreds of civilians and enlisted men and women under the supervision of five officers. Among its other facilities the Arrival Station had a snack bar where men got coffee, milk, doughnuts, and sandwiches before they assembled to be briefed on the separation



procedure. At this assembly the soldiers completed the first in a series of WD (Discharge) forms and then proceeded to the Initial Clothing Shakedown Section at which place they were relieved of all unauthorized government clothing and equipment. The Clothing Shakedown Section, like the Arrival Station, operated on a 3-shift basis, facilitating the rapid processing of the discharge-es. This is where the men were separated from their "War Trophies".

War Trophies - The problem of war trophies gave the separation center personnel cause for much extra work. Certain items were authorized to be kept by discharge-es, provided they had the items certificated by their commanding officers before leaving their units. It was discovered, however, that many troops kept unauthorized articles - and even had no certificates for those which could have been authorized. Various reasons were offered by the men for this situation. Some of them claimed that they had known nothing about the arrangement to have trophies checked; others

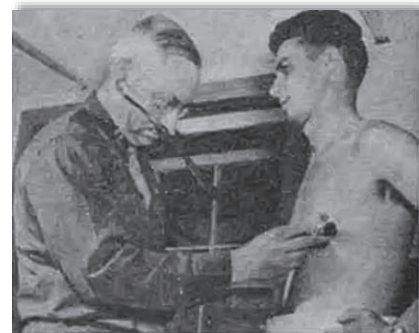


complained that officers were either too busy or not available to do the job. Whatever the reasons, the result was that unauthorized items showed up everywhere, and it was discovered that soldiers were throwing these trophies out the train windows as they approached camp, hoping to pick them up later without censure. Roadbeds had to be searched daily in order to pick up these discarded articles. Those who legally retained weapons were warned to register them with local police after discharge.

From the Clothing Shakedown Section, separate-es were transported to their assigned processing company. Separation Companies, usually divided into five units that were in charge of all casual personnel processing for discharge - Orderly Room, Billeting, Supply, Mess, and Operations Sections. Separate-es were fed, billeted, issued passes and furloughs, and kept informed by the company. Roster leaders from Operations Section, trained in separation procedure, conducted each group to formations, the first of which was an orientation lecture giving the details about separations, information regarding the facilities of the camp, and a pep talk about re-enlisting!



The fourth step in the separation process was the final physical examination. Separation Centers devoted multiple barracks-size buildings to this purpose - most for actual examinations and some in which to keep records. With the cessation of hostilities in 1945, Fort Dix took on a new prominence. During that year, the Separation Center expanded and became the largest in the nation with a personnel center capacity of 24,560 as compared to most others with well under 10,000-capacity.



While in the Medical Processing Branch men were not only examined thoroughly but their complete medical history was made a matter of record. Should a man require further examination, he was sent to the Tilton General Hospital, a huge sprawling complex adjacent to Fort Dix where many wounded and ex-POW personnel were convalescing.



The last step in the medical examination was a final check at which time a board of four medical officers, one of whom was a psychiatrist, made the decision as to whether or not a man was fit for discharge. At this point men filed their disability claims.

Having passed his physical examination, a man was ready to go through the fifth stage of the separation - counseling. The Army had instituted counseling to assist the soldier in making a smooth transition to civilian life, to make known to him his rights and benefits as a veteran, and to offer vocational and educational guidance.

At Fort Dix, the counseling system was divided into enlisted men's and officers' sections with each section housed in buildings consisting of a general orientation room, an individual booth capacity of fifty, a library, a civilian agency office, and an administrative office. The original group



counselors for enlisted men rose into the hundreds (plus officer counselors) at the height of separation activity. Counselors at first were graduates of The Adjutant General's Counseling School and had had experience in the work at other separation centers. When the demand for additional counselors became great, schools and on-the-job training courses were established and men with high AGCT scores, personnel experience, and college educations were enrolled.

Although formal counseling was the fifth step in being discharged, counseling of sorts had been going on all the time. Men had already been apprised of the benefits they could expect under the GI Bill of Rights, the actions discharge-es must go through in civilian life, and what to do about their National Service Life Insurance. With this information in mind, the soldier could approach his counselor with intelligent questions and could assimilate the new facts he learned.

When the soldiers were brought to the Counseling Branch, they were first given a quick summary of what they could expect there and were impressed with the importance of cooperating as much as possible - for their own good. After the brief orientation, soldiers passed to the counseling booths for individual attention. There particular emphasis was placed on filling out the Separation Qualification Record, with an account of all military and civilian education, training, and experience; and the rest of the interview dealt with awards, various GI rights, and job opportunities for returning veterans.



In addition to the Army counselors, there were representatives on hand from civilian agencies, such as Red Cross, U. S. Employment Service, and the Veteran's Administration, to answer questions and give advice. At all times an effort was made to have current information so that it would be as useful as possible to the veteran.

The Awards and Decorations Section of the Counseling Branch issued Good Conduct Medals to qualified troops, gave detailed information regarding all medals, awards, and decorations, and prepared medals for presentation at the Departure Ceremony.

The clothing issue warehouse and tailor shop operated under the Post Quartermaster's supervision. The clothing issue warehouses were set up so that a man could enter at the side of the building; and then, proceeding down a guide rail, he collected the various items of clothing that were coming to him. A checker stood at the end of the line, making sure that the separate-e had received the proper things. From this point the man continued to the near-by tailor shop for any necessary alterations, pressing, or sewing, which usually took no more than ten or fifteen minutes. Sometimes a soldier was of such extreme size that he could not be provided with proper clothing immediately, in which case it was forwarded to his home as soon as possible.



At the Initial Clothing Shakedown separate-es were relieved of all unauthorized items, and this process was repeated at the Final Clothing Shakedown, with men's uniforms being checked for neatness and fit also. Should any alteration, pressing, or sewing be required, the separate-e received a priority slip entitling him to these services as soon as his discharge was complete. Luggage was tagged for storage at this point until after the final ceremony.

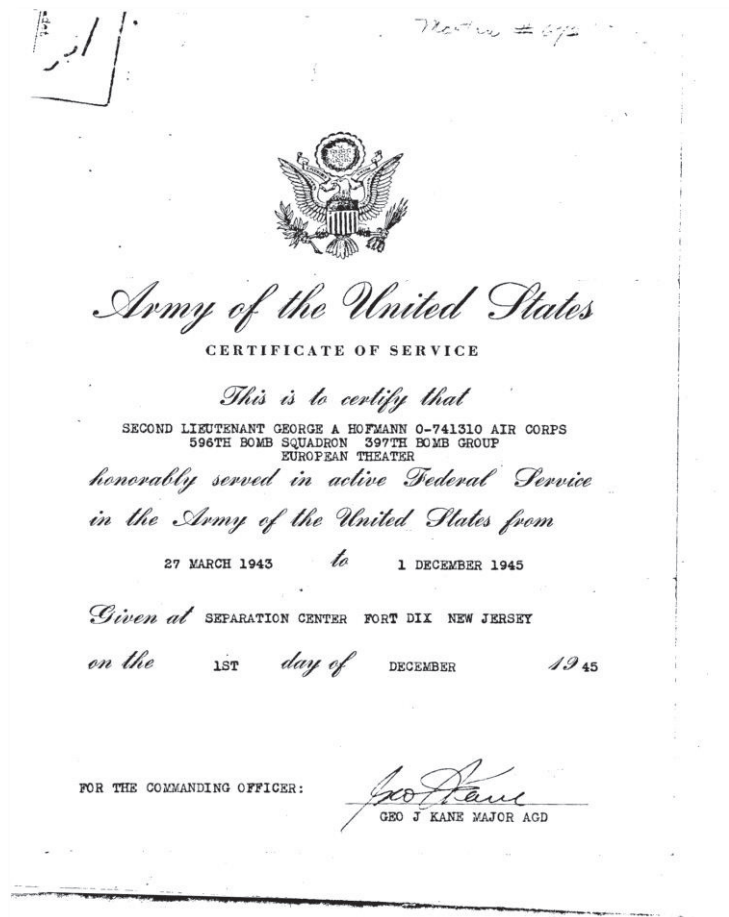
The final step in the separation procedure was the departure ceremony. At this assembly the War Department had an opportunity to express in a dignified way its gratitude to the civilian soldiers for their service and to help them leave with a feeling of pride in themselves for doing a good job. Military and religious significance was given to the occasion by having both a field grade officer and a chaplain in charge. Begun with an invocation by the chaplain, the ceremony continued with a talk by the officer, who gave the soldiers a few pointers about returning to civilian life. At the same time the discharge-es were praised for their loyal service in the Army and were given a pep talk on being good Americans when they became civilians again. When the speeches were concluded and decorations issued, the separate-es filed past the officer in charge to receive their discharge certificates, the last step in the separation process.



George did not complete this discharge cycle in August although he was removed from active duty on August 25, 1945. He was in and out of debriefing and treatment centers for sixteen more weeks, much of the time furloughed and home with his wife and son. I know for a fact he was home in late September since his second son, the author, was born nine months later on May 31, 1946.

On December 1, 1945, he was officially discharged.

And so, it ended. The 27,205-mile journey to Hell and back was finally over.



THIS FORM WILL NOT BE REPLACED
IF LOST OR DESTROYED

ARMY SEPARATION CENTER, FORT DIX, NJ.

SEPARATION QUALIFICATION RECORD

RD 1L 415

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE INITIAL	ARMY SERIAL NO.	GRADE	DATE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE	SEX	DATE OF BIRTH
HOFFMANN	GEORGE	A	0-741310	2d Lt	27 Mar 43	M	28 Sep 17
PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES (STREET AND NUMBER, CITY, COUNTY, STATE)							
69 West 104 St. New York #25, New York County, New York							
CIVILIAN EDUCATION							
HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED	LAST YEAR OF ATTENDANCE	HIGHEST DEGREE RECEIVED	MAJOR COURSE OF STUDY	NAME AND ADDRESS OF LAST SCHOOL ATTENDED			
2 Yrs. H.S.	1934	None	Vocational	N.Y.C., N.Y.C.			
OTHER TRAINING OR SCHOOLING							
None							
SERVICE EDUCATION							
SERVICE SCHOOL	COURSE	WKS OR HRS	RATING	INSTITUTION	WHILE ENROLLED	COURSE OF TRAINING PURSUED	NO. OF WEEKS
AAF Schools	Pre-Flight	9	Comp				
	Bombardier	13	Comp				
	Navigation	6	Comp			None	
CIVILIAN OCCUPATIONS							
MAIN OCCUPATION (TITLE)				SECONDARY OCCUPATION (TITLE)			
Clerk, general.				None			
JOB SUMMARY							
NO. OF YEARS	LAST DATE OF EMPLOYMENT	NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER	NO. OF YEARS	LAST DATE OF EMPLOYMENT	NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER		
5	1941	Lord & Taylor N.Y. City.					
MILITARY SPECIALTIES							
YEARS	MONTHS	GRADE	PRINCIPAL DUTY	ARMY CODE NO.	YEARS	MONTHS	GRADE
(Comp)	2d	Lt	Navigator	1034			
2	4	2d	Lt Bombardier	1035			
SUMMARY OF MILITARY OCCUPATION AND CIVILIAN CONVERSIONS (SHOWN BY TITLE)							
Commissioned 27 March 1943; overseas with 397 bomb group of 9th Air Force. Flew 11 missions bombing strategic targets in France; shot on 11 mission over France behind enemy line. Prisoner of war until release by allies 29 April.							
SUMMARY OF MILITARY OCCUPATION AND CIVILIAN CONVERSIONS (SHOWN BY TITLE)							
Awards and Decorations: European Theater ribbon with 1 star, Air Medal and 1 cluster, American Defense.							
*THIS INFORMATION BASED ON SOLDIER'S STATEMENT. (INDICATE BY * ANY ITEMS NOT SUPPORTED BY MILITARY RECORDS)							
DATE OF SEPARATION	SIGNATURE OF SOLDIER	SIGNATURE OF SEPARATION CLASSIFICATION OFFICER					
1 Dec 45	George C. Hoffman	W.W. Von Schlichter		W.W. VON SCHLICHTER, Maj, AGD			

WD AGO Form 100 (15 July 1944)

**MILITARY RECORD AND REPORT OF SEPARATION
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

1. LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL	2. ARMY SERIAL NUMBER	3. AUC. GRADE	4. ARM OR SERVICE	5. COMPONENT
HOFFMANN GEORGE A	0-741310	2ND LT	AC	AUS
6. ORGANIZATION	7. DATE OF RELIEF FROM ACTIVE DUTY	8. PLACE OF SEPARATION		
596TH BOMB SQUADRON 397TH BOMB GROUP EUROPEAN THEATER	1 DEC 45	SEPARATION CENTER FORT DIX NEW JERSEY		
9. PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES	10. DATE OF BIRTH	11. PLACE OF BIRTH		
69 WEST 104TH STREET NEW YORK 25 NEW YORK	28 SEP 17	NEW YORK NEW YORK		
12. ADDRESS FROM WHICH EMPLOYMENT WILL BE SOUGHT	13. COLOR EYES	14. COLOR HAIR	15. HEIGHT	16. WEIGHT
SEE 9	HAZEL BROWN	6'2 1/2"	196	2
17. NO. OF DEPENDENTS	21. CIVILIAN OCCUPATION AND NO.			
	CLERK GENERAL 1-05.01			
MILITARY HISTORY				
18. SELECTIVE SERVICE DATA	19. RACE	20. MARITAL STATUS	21. LOCAL S. S. BOARD NUMBER	22. COUNTY AND STATE
X	WHITE	SINGLE	UNKNOWN	NEW YORK NEW YORK
23. DATE OF ENTRY ON ACTIVE DUTY	24. MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY AND NO.			
27 MAR 43	BOMBARDIER 1035			
25. BATTLES AND CAMPAIGNS				
EUROPEAN THEATER: AIR OFFENSIVE OVER EUROPE				
26. DECORATIONS AND CITATIONS				
AIR MEDAL WITH ONE OAK LEAF CLUSTER AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL EUROPEAN AFRICAN MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER CAMPAIGN RIBBON				
27. WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION				
EUROPEAN THEATER: 8 MAY 44				
28. SERVICE SCHOOLS ATTENDED	29. SERVICE OUTSIDE CONTINENTAL U. S. AND RETURN			
PRE-FLIGHT SANTA ANA CALIFORNIA ADVANCED BOMBARDIER DEMING NEW MEXICO	DATE OF DEPARTURE 22 MAR 44	DESTINATION EUROPEAN THEATER U S A	DATE OF ARRIVAL 4 APR 44	
30. REASON AND AUTHORITY FOR SEPARATION	31. CURRENT TOUR OF ACTIVE DUTY			
RELIEF FROM ACTIVE DUTY RRL-5 DEMOB TWX AFPMP 2559 HQ AAF 15 AUG 45	15 MAY 45			
32. EDUCATION (YOGIS)				
YEARS	MONTHS	DAYS	YEARS	MONTHS
5	27		2	7
33. INSURANCE NOTICE				
IMPORTANT: IF PREMIUM IS NOT PAID WHEN DUE OR WITHIN THIRTY-DAY DELAY, INSURANCE WILL LAPSE. MAKE CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO THE TREASURER OF THE U. S. AND FORWARD TO COLLECTIONS SUBDIVISION, VETERANS ADMINISTRATION, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.				
34. KIND OF INSURANCE	35. RISK PAID	36. EFFECTIVE DATE OF RISK	37. DATE OF NEXT PREMIUM	38. PREMIUM DUE
X	X	31 DEC 45	31 JAN 46	\$ 6.80
39. INTENTION OF VETERAN TO				
Continue Continue only Discontinue				
40. REMARKS (This space for completion of above items or entry of other items specified in W. D. Directives)				
BOMBARDIER-NAVIGATOR ASR SCORE (2 SEP 45) - 93 LAPEL BUTTON ISSUED				
41. SIGNATURE OF OFFICER BEING SEPARATED		42. PERSONNEL OFFICER (Type name, grade and organization - signature)		
George C. Hoffman		F P PORTER 2ND LT SIG C ASST ADJ		

WD AGO Form 53-18
1 November 1944

(a) NAME OF DEPENDENT: WIFE OR UNMARRIED CHILD UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE **HAZEL J. HOFFMANN** IF CO-OP. ENTER AGE **68** ADDRESS **68 W 104 ST NEW YORK NY**

(b) DEPENDENT FATHER OR MOTHER (Item 8)
For the purpose of obtaining payment of certain allowances from the Government and in support of my contention that my father or mother is in fact dependent on me for his or her chief support, I CERTIFY that my father or mother is Mr. (Mrs.) _____ who lives at _____; that the amount required for my father's or mother's reasonable and proper living expenses is from \$ _____ to \$ _____ per month; that for the period from _____ to _____, I have contributed to the support of my father or mother, without any consideration therefor or hope or expectation of return therefrom, the sum of \$ _____; that the total gross income of my father or mother, from all sources (including in such income any payment or contribution of others toward his or her proportionate share of household or living expenses) other than my contributions has not exceeded and does not exceed \$ _____ per month or \$ _____ per year for the period from _____ to _____; and that the living expenses actually incurred by my father or mother during the period _____ to _____, amount to from \$ _____ to \$ _____ each month.

(c) ADOPTED CHILD OR STEPCHILD (Item 9)
I CERTIFY that _____ is my adopted child and will be _____ years of age at his or her next birthday; that he she was adopted by me pursuant to the laws of _____, certified copy of adoption papers filed herewith (or filed with voucher No. _____, 19 _____, accounts of _____); that the child was _____ related to me by blood or marriage as my _____ before adoption; that the adoption by me was for the child's benefit; that the child was not adopted by me to secure any personal or pecuniary advantage, either in the way of increase in my pay or allowances, or otherwise; that the child is now residing with _____, related to me by blood or marriage as my _____ and related to the child as _____; that the child is not possessed of property or income adequate of his or her support; that the child is not the beneficiary, either directly or through others, of any trust or estate entitling the child to income adequate for his or her support and education; that I actually and necessarily contribute from my own personal funds \$ _____ each month solely for the care, maintenance, support, and education of the said child.

(d) STATEMENT OF SERVICE FOR LONGEVITY CREDIT (Item 15)
I CERTIFY that I have held a commission; appointment as commissioned warrant officer, warrant officer, flight officer, or army field clerk; or have been enlisted as a member of the respective service(s) shown below for the inclusive periods indicated. I FURTHER CERTIFY that all National Guard service claimed hereon was federally recognized; that it was not in the inactive National Guard; that all officers' training camp service was in the capacity of an enlisted man and that all initial appointments are shown from the date of acceptance.

SERVICE OR COMPONENT	FROM—	TO—	SERVICE OR COMPONENT	FROM—	TO—
ENL R A	15 MAY 41	27 MAR 43			
COMP OF	27 MAY 43	PRESENT			

(e) FLYING PAY (Aeronautical rating) (Item 18)
I CERTIFY that I hold an aeronautical rating as _____; that during the period for which aviation pay is claimed on this voucher I was, by orders of competent authority, required to participate regularly and frequently in aerial flights; and, in consequence of such orders, I did participate in regular and frequent flights, while in a duty status, sufficient to meet the requirements of Executive Order No. 9195, 7 July 1942 (AR 35-1480).

(f) FLYING PAY (Nonflying officer) (Item 19)
I CERTIFY that during the period for which aviation pay is claimed on this voucher I was, by orders of competent authority, required to participate regularly and frequently in aerial flights as a nonflying officer; and, in consequence of such orders, I did participate in regular and frequent flights, while in a duty status, sufficient to meet the requirements of Executive Order No. 9195, 7 July 1942 (AR 35-1480).

(g) PARACHUTE DUTY (Item 20)
I CERTIFY that, during the period from _____, 19 _____, to _____, 19 _____, I was not in a flying pay status; that parachute jumping was an essential part of my military duty; that I held a rating as a parachutist or was undergoing training for such rating; and that I was engaged upon duty designated by the Secretary of War as parachute duty.

(h) MUSTERING-OUT PAY (Item 21) (Strike out the italicized words if inapplicable)
I CERTIFY that I am a member of the armed forces and have been engaged in active service in the present war; that I am being discharged or relieved from active service under honorable conditions; that I have not heretofore received a mustering-out payment under the Mustering-Out Payment Act of 1944; that I performed active service for at least 60 days; that I served outside the continental limits of the United States or in Alaska; and that I do not fall within any of the classes of persons to whom payment is prohibited by section 1 (b) of said act.

(i) RENTAL ALLOWANCES (Item 25)
I CERTIFY that, during the period for which rental allowance is claimed on this voucher, I was not assigned adequate quarters at my permanent station; if without dependents, I was not on field or sea duty; if with dependents, I did not occupy with them any public quarters assigned to me without charge at any station, nor did any of them occupy public quarters assigned to them or to any other officer or his dependents, except for bona fide social visits, or receive a monetary allowance in lieu thereof.

(j) AUTHORITY FOR DUTY AT PRESENT STATION AND STATEMENT OF TRAVEL (Item 26)
I CERTIFY that the following statement of travel was performed in compliance with orders attached and is correct; that payment therefor has not been received; and that no transportation was furnished by the United States, either in kind or on Government transportation request, except as stated.
On duty at pres. sta. per par. _____ S. O. _____ HQ. _____ dated _____ rec'd at _____ on _____
Ordered home per par. _____ S. O. _____ AAF 554 5 dated _____ rec'd at _____ on _____
_____ 372 SC FT DIX NJ _____ 30 SEP _____ FT DIX _____ 100748

STATEMENT OF TRAVEL PERFORMED (to be filled in by traveler)

DATE	FROM—	DATE	TO—	KIND OF TRAVEL (See rule)	LAND GRANT INCL. IN EST. ROUTE AND DIST. (6)	TRANS. FURN. EXCL. LAND GRANT IN COL. 6 (7)	AUTHORIZED MILEAGE (8)	NOTATIONS
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	
17 SEP	USPS GREENSBORO NC	27 SEP	SC FT DIX NJ	NONE F			464	RECE
1 OCT	SC FT DIX NJ	1 OCT	NEW YORK NY	NONE F			73	RECE
TOTALS								
Rate per mile					\$0.03	\$0.03		
Amounts								
Deduct columns 6 and/or 7								
Other deduction								
NET AMOUNT TO BE PAID							43.96	

Transportation furnished by U. S. Government:
T/R—Gov't trans. (bus, rail, water, air, or highway). G/A—Gov't boat.
G/P—Gov't plane or ship. G/A—Gov't automobile.
No transportation furnished by U. S. Government—None.
Indicate method of travel used by inserting after "None" one of the following letters: Highway (H); Air (A); Water (W); Rail (R); Privately owned conveyance (P).

T/R No. _____ Carrier(s) _____
T/R No. _____ Carrier(s) _____
T/R No. _____ Carrier(s) _____

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 10-42200-1

Although post-traumatic-stress-disorder didn't have a name in 1945, it did have a face. An Army Air Force booklet "published for the information and guidance for all concerned" tried to address the problem by giving the flyers insight into the psychology of returning to a "normal" life. Sadly life would never again be normal for many of these men.



suggest that you stick this away in your flight bag or some other place where you can get at it later. It may come in handy.

Yes, thousands of men have already come back to the States . . .



We've seen a lot of them; talked to them about their experiences and reactions, their problems and feelings.

It's a very interesting thing, this business of coming back from overseas. Everyone thinks his problems and feelings are special ones. And they are—to him. But while they differ in degree, they follow pretty much the same pattern.

We have found one important thing. Those who knew the score . . . what made them tick . . . what they could really expect when they got back . . . did a pretty fair job of handling their own problems and got along by far the best.

Passing on their experience helps others, so we are going to set up a fairly typical guy. Take a look at him and see how it goes.

Well, here is John Brown, for example, or Joe Smith—maybe Jack White or the redhead who

worked along side of you out there. It's been a long time since he left home for an overseas assignment. He felt, like a lot of others, that all he needed to make everything all right again was to get back home . . . just get there and things would click back into place. And sometimes they do . . . but it isn't always that easy.

What he found were people who appeared to be enjoying all the comforts of home—cars rolling along . . . everybody going places, eating, drinking . . . taverns, night clubs, theatres filled to capacity with people who didn't seem to know **"there's a war on,"** . . . and store shelves stocked with merchandise he had almost forgotten existed.

After mud, foxholes, flak, and machine gun bullets, all this came pretty much as a shock to John Brown. Somehow, things seemed to him to have changed, even though everything really was almost the same as it had been before he got shipping orders.

What about John's relatives and friends? Had they gotten along without him? Had *they* changed? Maybe. People don't stand still . . . and things change. War or no war, that's the way life is!

One thing certainly seems to have happened . . .



For him the war was and is mighty real. He's still in it! For him war had been a combination of regimentation, monotony, confusion, danger, hard work . . . and long, black nights. It filled his head and loaded his heart. It became part of his life.

For the people back home the war still seemed to be on the other side. They didn't have to take this stuff. He and his friends . . . including those who won't ever come back . . . were stuck with it while others were not. Brown got disturbed

about it, and people didn't seem to understand his feelings. Many of his friends back home will never really be able to because they haven't been there and done the same things he has.

Yes, as a soldier Brown went to war in love with his country and the people he left behind,

. . . but he came back



It wasn't so much that people treated him like a stranger, but that **he felt like one**. Everything he saw he looked at through the eyes of a soldier. That's what made the difference from the way he remembered home, friends, and things as they were before the war.

War, military regime, combat, had become his job, his daily life. Wherever he went, whatever he did, he had formed new and sometimes strange habits. Learning the business of war wasn't even in his mind a few years back, but now it's his sole occupation.

It created a lot of problems. But there wasn't anything unusual about this. People get upset or disturbed by almost any kind of change.

It was that way with Brown when he went into the army. He had the problem of adapting himself to new conditions, a new environment. His ambitions, his friends, his job, his ideas—all had to be changed.

His former life wasn't always full of everything he wanted, but at least he could be pretty sure of what it was like and where it led. And there was a certain amount of security in that knowledge that helped him along.

When he first got into the army he was not too

sure of anything. As a matter of fact, most of the time he didn't know where he was going or what was coming next.

Coming back home repeated the process all over again. He wasn't too sure of what was coming next; things looked different to him, and he was puzzled by the changes in himself.



He found it tough to relax and adjust himself to the new situation.

Because of the war; an important part of his life was interrupted. It couldn't be replaced, and the unpleasantness he went through didn't help any. In the back of his mind there began to be a feeling that there ought to be some compensation, some repayment for all this. It took a little time, but he found out the only thing that even came close to being repayment was the knowledge that when needed, when called upon to deliver the goods, he was in there pitching with all he had.

That didn't seem like much satisfaction to him at first, but it was the one satisfaction that lasted and grew in importance to him as time went on.

Whatever his feelings were when Brown first went into the army, when his shipping orders came, he knew it was the real thing. In combat the consequences were serious. It was a matter of life and death, not just training for the fight. He stayed keyed up, alert, in a state of alarm, in

CONDITION RED . . .

all the time.

The jolts of tension and strain hit him again and again with no real let-up.



And it happened to everyone—ground crew, operations clerks, supply sergeants, ambulance drivers—everyone at the base felt it as they, too, sweated out every mission, or dodged the bombs. After a while they all got a hangover of combat tension.

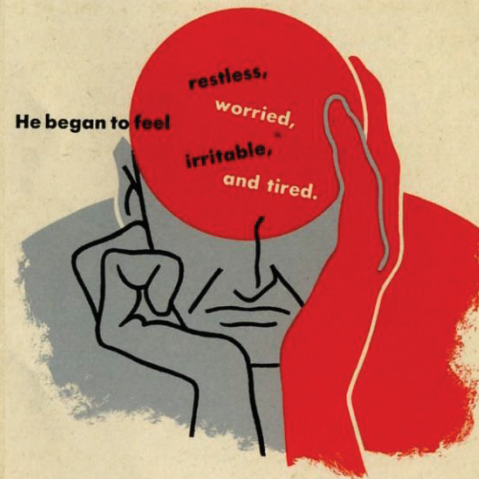
Let's stop and analyze this feeling with Brown a little bit. What caused most of this disturbance . . . called by its right name . . . is *fear*. But . . . it's normal, reasonable fear. That's the important thing to know about it! It makes sense to be afraid under these conditions. Every normal man gets scared at one time or another and feels it.

There's fear of the unknown. Fear of being killed. Fear of possible personal failure when the chips are down. Fear of a lot of things. No one ever really overcomes the *feeling* of fear, but everyone can understand it and use it to good advantage.

What really counts is how fear is controlled.

The responses to fear must be handled so as to be useful and protective. It's the difference in response that makes the real difference in men. Fear can make a man fight harder, shoot with accuracy and speed. It can give a man "second wind," that extra "kick" when he needs it.

At some place along the line, this feeling of fear, this unrelieved "condition red," these tensions of mind and body, demanded a release of energy. And watching flak burst all around didn't give it to Brown. When his body didn't get a chance to burn up the excess energy, his nervous system didn't respond when the "all clear" signal was sounded.



The thoughts of combat kept running through his mind. He couldn't seem to concentrate on anything, tossed around all night and lost so much sleep he could hardly take it the next day.

The things he didn't do began to worry him. Did he do the right things at the right time? Did someone die because of what he did or did not do? His sense of proportion became unbalanced as these feelings bothered him.

It all added up to more tension . . . lots of it . . . and it kept piling up until it became noticeable to Brown and to everyone else. He might have discovered these symptoms himself. However he kept going on his nervous energy, and it was only when the doctor caught up with it that something was done about it.

He wouldn't even admit that he needed advice or treatment because of the notion that it's a kind of weakness. But it's nothing of the sort, as he eventually found out. If he had understood and had been wise to what was going on, he would have had no hesitancy about going to his medical officer about it.

Brown has known for a long time that people are different and that men react in different ways to various situations. Some, he noticed, could take

a lot and not be bothered. Others could go just so far and take so much. But he's seen that in combat or any other job.

The point is that Brown or anybody else may be a ball of fire in one thing but a flop in another. People are good at some things . . . and poor at others.

Find the right job, the right place, and they click!



So, coming back from overseas, when John Brown got the notion that he was all burned out

and not worth a damn anymore, he just came up to bat with two strikes already on him . . . pitched to himself. That didn't make sense!

No matter how much help Brown got, though, in the final analysis it was up to him. The real, permanent solution, he found, **lies with the individual man himself.** But it sure is a big help to understand what is going on inside and why.

Of course it would be fine if he could have had all of his former feelings and values restored by just blowing a whistle. But it wasn't quite that easy. In the first place it takes time, sometimes lots of it, to "decondition" or "detrain" after a session of combat.

That's because there is still a lot of tension to work off. But it makes a big difference how it is done.

Brown tried the unsatisfactory experiment of working it off in the local "gin mill", taking a poke at the first guy whose looks he didn't like, arguing with civilians, police officers, or anyone else who happened to be around. But he found out there was no percentage in that solution. It only made trouble, left regrets . . . and a hangover.

On the other hand, when he went to work on something, got interested in doing something con-

structive, he found that it helped. Getting up a sweat at almost anything relieved his tension.



Knowing that there was still a big job to be done over here . . . and doing something about it . . . also helped restore his sense of proportion and balance. He found that his coming back didn't end the war, not by a long shot. The men on the training bases in the States needed the benefit of his experience and knowledge because he'd been there. Brown passed on what he knew to others who still had to be trained to go over and take his place and the place of others coming back after him.

John Brown had to start thinking about his own future. There was the matter of a decent and secure world to build. That's important, if for no other reason than because he had to live in it. As sceptical as he was, deep down he knew that's really what all the shooting's about and that it didn't make sense to expend all this energy and sacrifice just to let it drop.

There was a lot of talk about reconversion of industry going around. Well, Brown figured, what did he personally want to reconvert to? What kind of life was he looking for? For these and a lot of other personal questions which came up, **he was No. 1 man to supply the answers.**

He found he had to get along with people all

around him and have normal relations with them. That wasn't as easy as it sounds because most of them did not have the same experiences he had nor did they always see things as he did. But he was accepted or rejected for what he is now, not for what he had been through. A realization of this cold, hard fact helped ease him over many rough spots.

There were times when he felt that he needed further medical help. He got it from the squadron surgeon, the psychiatrist, or any other medical specialist necessary. All were available.

Bones mend . . . stomachs stop aching . . . disturbed feelings also mend and settle down. That's what John Brown, Joe Smith, Jack White, and thousands of others who have come back already have found.

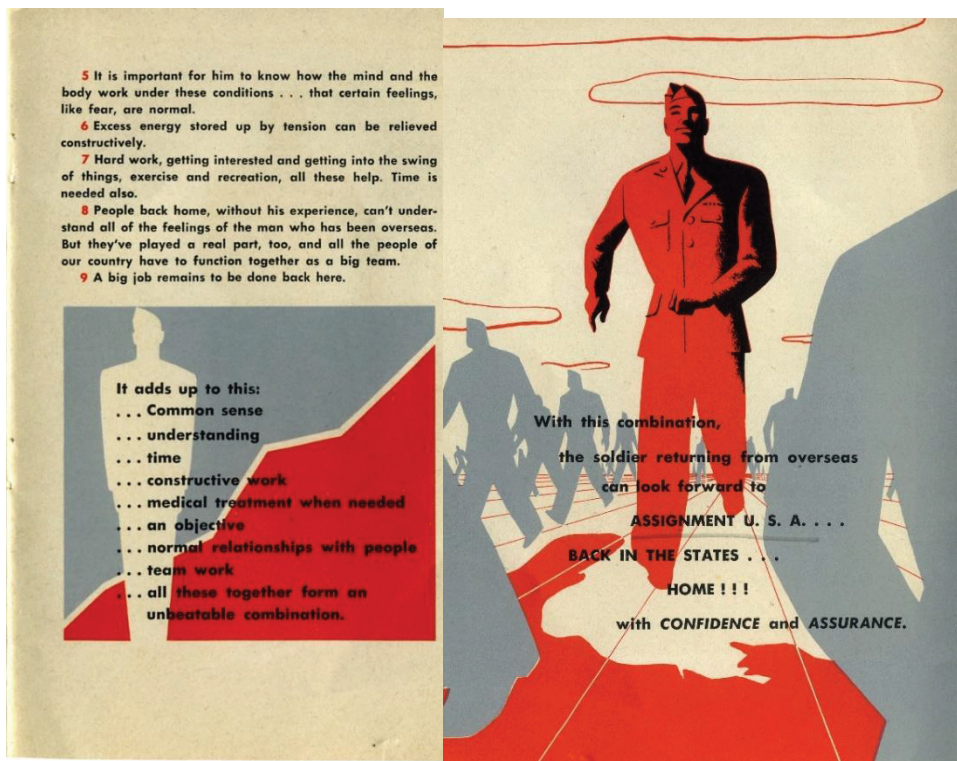
Well, let's see what we have said here:

1 War creates certain conditions which make for uncertainty and disturbances in a man's outlook.

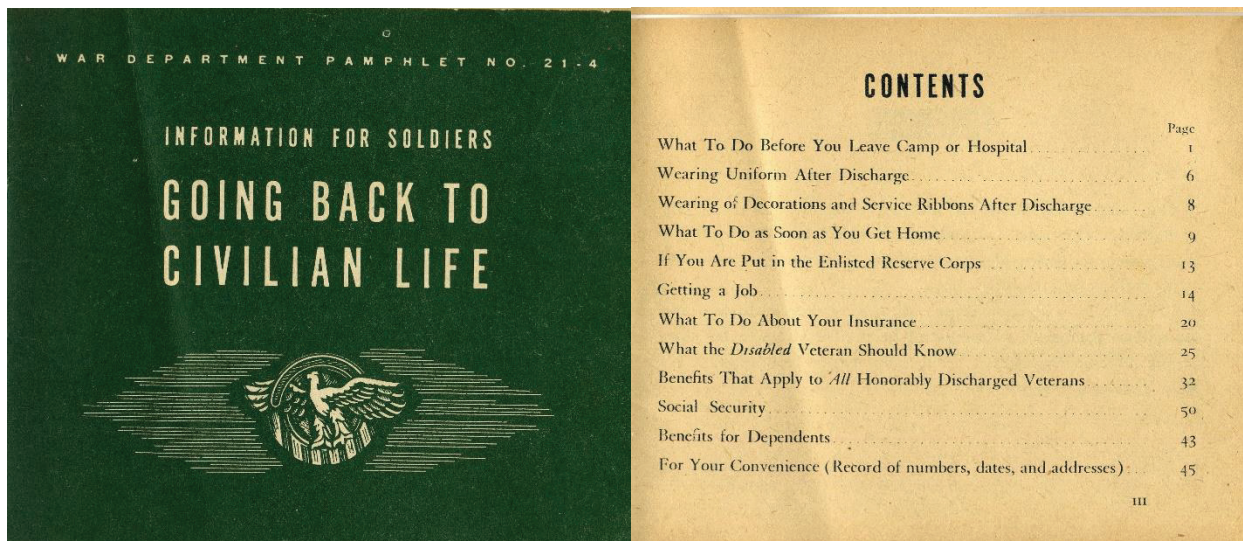
2 Returning home, he isn't too sure of what comes next. He loses the security which comes from having a job to do and an outfit upon which he can depend.

3 Reaction from combat is not the same for every man.

4 Combat creates an unrelieved tension and strain that keeps the soldier keyed up and abnormally alert for long periods of time.



The War Department was also prepared to face an avalanche of requests for support through the GI Bill or Rights program commitments it made to millions of its country's heroes with the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 – a far cry from how it handled its returning WWI veterans. This pamphlet was a great aid to returning armed forces personnel who had to be overwhelmed with the stress of returning home.



How to Use This Booklet

This little booklet is for those who, under honorable conditions, are being discharged or separated from the Army or returned to an inactive status. Its sole purpose is to tell you things you ought to know and to answer some of your questions. After you have read it through, keep it with you as a handy reference.

It won't answer ALL the questions that you could possibly ask. To give all the laws and regulations affecting veterans—and that's you as soon as you become a civilian again—would require a large volume. Even then it wouldn't be up to date for the simple reason that laws are being passed all the time.

Instead of going into a mass of detail, this book gives you the highlights and tells you where to go to get ALL the answers that might apply to your particular case.

At the end of the booklet there are pages on which you can keep a convenient personal record of important numbers, dates, autographs, and addresses.

WHAT TO DO BEFORE YOU LEAVE CAMP OR HOSPITAL



Put Your Affairs in Order. When you entered the Army you took care to see that your civilian affairs were taken care of before you put on a uniform. Now that the process is reversed and you are about to leave the Army, it is equally wise to see that your military affairs are in order.

1

These are usually matters of routine but important just the same. For instance, be sure that you do not keep clothing or equipment that must be returned to the supply officer. If you owe money at a club, mess, library, or other facility, see that these bills are settled. Turn over any public funds or property for which you are responsible. If in doubt, your unit personnel officer or the hospital registrar will put you straight.

Your Mail. It is probable that for some time after discharge from active service, mail will continue to be received at your last military address. To permit prompt delivery of such mail, advise the postal officer at your last station of the civilian address to which you desire mail to be forwarded. Do not have your mail sent to you at a Separation Center or Reception Station as you will be there only a short time.

Your Bonds. If you have been buying bonds by allotment, you can arrange to have them sent to your permanent address (as shown on your bond application) or you may leave them with the Government for safekeeping. In the latter case, the Treasury will send you a receipt for them. If you have paid for only part of a bond, your money will be refunded. If you bought bonds by allotment between April 1942, and 31 August 1944, and have any

2

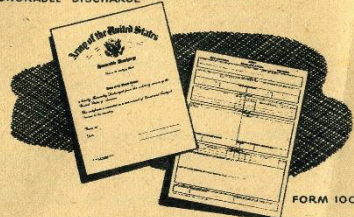
questions about them, write to the Army War Bond Office, 366 West Adams Street, Chicago, Ill. If your bonds were bought after 1 September 1944, or if you paid cash for them, write the commanding officer of the organization to which you were attached at the time of such purchase. Put in your letter all the information you have about the numbers and value of the bonds, the date and where you bought them, your organization and station, and your name and serial number.

Complete Military Record and Discharge Certificate. Upon being discharged, you will receive your Discharge Certificate and a record carrying full details of your military service. If you are being returned to inactive status, you will receive a Certificate of Service instead of a Discharge Certificate. These are very important documents. Be sure to keep them and know where to find them at all times.

Form 100 and Job Counseling. During your final processing for separation from the Army, you will be interviewed and a record (WD AGO Form 100—Separation Classification Record) will be prepared for you. This is a record of your civilian and military training and work experience and indicates those civilian jobs to which your training and experience is

3

HONORABLE DISCHARGE



most related. This record is for your own use in getting a job or applying for training. In addition to this record the Army is providing you counseling and guidance service which can give you information about jobs, training, and opportunities if you desire it. You will further be advised as to the civilian agencies in your community which can be of service to you as a veteran when you return.

4

Personal Affairs Officer. A Personal Affairs Officer will be found at every post, camp, and station or other Army installation in the continental United States, who is prepared to assist you and your dependents, either during service or after discharge. He will provide information and guidance concerning your personal problems, and rights and privileges to which you, as a present or former member of the armed forces (or they, as your dependents), may be entitled. Such officer also will furnish you information as to the proper agency or organization which has jurisdiction over the particular benefits or privileges in which you or your dependents may be interested.

Red Cross. A Red Cross representative will be found at each camp and station, and you may consult him at your convenience concerning your personal problems.

Legal Assistance. If you need legal advice or assistance concerning any personal legal problems, see the Legal Assistance Officer or Staff Judge Advocate at your station, or the Bar Association or Legal Aid Society in your community. Some of the legal problems which may concern you are discussed in this booklet, but there may be other legal matters that you should

5

promptly attend to when you leave the service. Consult your Legal Assistance Officer *before* you leave the Army to find out what you should do about such matters.

WEARING YOUR UNIFORM AFTER DISCHARGE

You are entitled to wear your uniform from the place where you receive your discharge to your home, provided that you go there within 3 months of the discharge date. Remember, on the journey, that civilians may be



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unable to distinguish between you and those who are still in active service. So continue to act in such a way as to reflect credit upon the uniform of your country. To do otherwise would not be playing fair with those who are still serving.

You may also wear your uniform on occasions of public ceremony, such as parades or meetings of veteran or other military organizations. In such cases you may wear the uniform of the highest rank or grade that you held during the war.

Return of Army Clothing. When you leave the service, you will probably want to keep your uniform clothing for wear on ceremonial occasions, as mentioned above. However, if you want to return it to the Army, you may do so in person, or by other means available to you. You may express such clothing to the Army installation where you were discharged or relieved from active duty, or the post, camp, or station nearest to your permanent address, by simply putting it in a container which, together with the clothing, does not weigh more than 30 pounds, and turning it over to the nearest railway express agency for *collect* shipment. Address the package to that Army installation "Attention: Quartermaster, Clothing and Equipage Classification Officer."

7

Lapel Button. All those who served honorably in the armed forces of the United States at any time after 8 September 1939, are entitled to wear the lapel button that signifies such honorable service. If you did not get this button when discharged, it will be issued to you, free, upon presentation of your Discharge Certificate (or Certificate of Service) at any Army installation other than a port of embarkation.

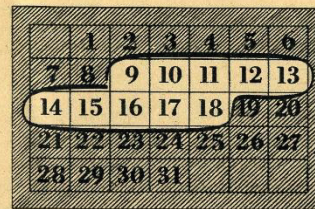
WEARING OF DECORATIONS AND SERVICE RIBBONS AFTER DISCHARGE

You may wear decorations and service ribbons which have been awarded to you, on your uniform on occasions of public ceremony, or on your civilian clothes when desired. These have been awarded you in recognition of honorable service you have rendered and you will want to wear them only on occasions which reflect credit on them and on yourself.

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WHAT TO DO AS SOON AS YOU GET HOME

Report to a Local Board. One thing that you must do immediately after discharge or separation from the service is to go to the local draft board (selective service local board) whether or not you have registered previously and report the fact that you are now separated from the armed forces. You are required to do this within 10 days after discharge. If the board is distant, write a brief letter telling them when and where you were discharged,



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the address where you can be reached, and your Army serial number. You will receive a classification card which will establish your identity and selective service status.

You must keep your local board advised of any change of address so that you may be notified of any change in classification or any other event which concerns you officially or personally. Remember that you have the same obligations as any other civilian. Failure to register or to report changes of address is a Federal offense. Later on you may change your residence and may wish to use the employment facilities of the local board in your new community, which you may do by presenting to them your copy of WD AGO Form 53. Go to the nearest selective service local board for any additional information.

Women. If you are a woman, you are not required to register upon your separation from the service, but should do so if you desire aid in securing reemployment and other benefits.

Record Your Discharge. Since your Discharge Certificate (or Certificate of Service) is a valuable document you will be wise to have it recorded. This means having an exact copy of it made in the official record books

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of the county. To do this you should take it to the county clerk, county recorder, or other appropriate official at your local county courthouse. In most States, it will be recorded without charge. The original will be returned to you and then, if you ever need a copy, you can get a certified one from this official which will be legally usable. In the meantime, keep the original in a safe place. In case you lose your Discharge Certificate, a different type certificate, in lieu of the lost or destroyed Discharge Certificate, may be obtained from The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.

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Your Army Serial Number. Perhaps you think you will never forget it. But don't take any chances. Keep a record of it where it won't be lost. You may need it on many future occasions. Remember that some of the records concerning you are filed under that number by the War Department, and other agencies, and if you lose track of it you may later be caused much delay and unnecessary correspondence.



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IF YOU ARE PUT IN THE ENLISTED RESERVE CORPS

Some men who are released from active service and sent back to civilian life will not be actually discharged from the Army. Instead they will be transferred to the Enlisted Reserve Corps.

If that happens to you, you will receive a Certificate of Service instead of a Discharge Certificate. You will go back to civilian life just like the man who is discharged, with a few exceptions. You can be ordered back into uniform and active duty at any time by order of the Service Command having jurisdiction over you.

The Service Command having jurisdiction over you is determined by your place of permanent residence. You will generally be told which Service Command you come under when you are released from active service. You must report any later change of address to that command. If you are not certain where to make that report, contact your nearest military establishment or any draft board for proper information.

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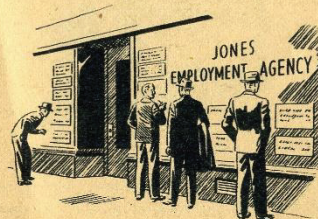
If you are an officer and retain your commission after relief from active duty, you should promptly report any change in your permanent address, through the Commanding General of the Service Command in which you maintain your permanent address, to The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C. State your prior permanent address, your current permanent address, and your Army serial number. You will not be subject to induction as a registrant under the Selective Training and Service Act so long as you hold your commission, but you should advise your local board that you have been relieved from active duty and that you retain your commissioned status.

GETTING A JOB

Unless you are disabled, your first interest after being discharged will probably be to get yourself a job. The Government has made a number of arrangements to help you do this. Form 100 is made up for you to use in finding a job. On it will be all the important information about you which an employer would like to have. USE IT.

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Meet Your Reemployment Committeeman. The Selective Service System maintains a Veterans' Reemployment Program. This program has been organized so that it works in Washington, in your State capital, and in your own community. On your local Selective Service Board there is a man who has been assigned to advise you about getting a job. He is known as a Reemployment Committeeman. When you report to your



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local board after discharge, be sure to meet him. He will want to go over your Form 100 with you. Information on this form becomes useful to him in helping you get your old job back or a new job in line with your special training.

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If You Want Your Old Job Back. If you worked for a private employer and cannot call on him immediately, make application in writing to him at the earliest possible time and keep a copy of your letter. Tell him when you can probably return to work but remember that you must make application for reemployment within 40 days after the date of your discharge.

Your former employer is required to give you your old job back (or its equivalent) if he possibly can, at the same rate of pay and with the same seniority and privileges you previously had, provided you apply within 40 days after your separation from active military service. Moreover, the law says that he shall not discharge you without cause within 1 year of your reemployment.

If you have difficulty, go to your local reemployment committeeman who will do his best to help you. If necessary, he can obtain the assistance of the United States district courts and the Federal district attorneys. This service is free.

If You Want a New Job—Or—If You Were Not Previously Employed. In such a case the United States Employment Service (U. S. E. S.) is ready and anxious to assist you. The U. S. E. S. is a

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nationwide Federal organization that helps people get jobs. Its services are free. An important part of the U. S. E. S. is its Veterans' Employment Service. In each local employment office there is maintained a Veterans' Employment Division which gives special attention to the employment of veterans. Get in touch with any one of its 1,500 local offices when you leave the Army. You will be helped in getting a job in your own community or in any place where there may be a need for a person of your abilities.

Apprentice Training. Virtually all of the 30,207 apprentice-training programs in the United States extend opportunities to returning veterans. Veterans may be employed as apprentices and be paid as they learn, getting not only a steady job but training which prepares them for skilled jobs. Age restrictions and other limitations are lifted for them in many cases. Information may be obtained through your nearest U. S. Employment Service office or the nearest facility of the Veterans' Administration.

If You Worked for State, County, or City. States, counties, and municipal governments are not subject to the laws of Congress on reemployment of veterans but many States have passed laws which will guarantee your

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old job where possible. Most States follow the recommendations of Congress and your local reemployment committeeman may be able to get your job back for you or a job of "similar seniority, status, and pay."

Civil Service Jobs. If you were a Federal Civil Service employee when you entered the Army, you should apply for your old job within 40 days of your discharge. If you do, and are still qualified, you will get your job back or one of "like seniority, status, and pay."

In seeking a new Civil Service job, veterans are entitled to special consideration and preference and this applies, also, in some cases, to the wives and widows of veterans. The Reemployment Committeeman attached to any local board or the Veterans' Employment Representative in the United States Employment Service office will obtain full details for you or put you in touch with the proper authorities.

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WHAT TO DO ABOUT YOUR INSURANCE

The chances are that you took out National Service Life Insurance when you joined the army and that you have been paying for it by having the premiums deducted from your monthly pay. If you possibly can, you should keep this insurance in force when you return to civil life. It is a valuable asset and provides protection for you and your family. If you let it lapse,



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you may have trouble reinstating it, and you may not be able to buy similar protection for the same cost.

To keep your National Service Insurance in force you must do two things. First, pay the premiums direct. Second, convert it, within a certain period as explained below.

Pay Premiums Direct to Veterans' Administration. Since premiums can no longer be deducted from your Army pay, you must now pay them direct. Make your check or money order payable to the Treasurer of the United States and mail it to the Collections Subdivision, Veterans' Administration, Washington, D. C. Pay the premiums even though a premium notice does not reach you. It is most important to give your full name, birth date, present address, policy number (if known) and your army serial number.

If you do not want to pay premiums monthly, you can arrange to pay quarterly, semiannually, or annually. However, any change in the method of payment of premiums must be approved by the Veterans' Administration. In other words, if your premiums have been payable monthly, you must continue to pay them at the monthly rates until you have arranged with the Veterans' Administration to pay them on a quarterly, semiannual, or annual

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basis; otherwise, your policy may lapse. If you wish, you can have the amount of insurance reduced, as long as the amount continued is in multiples of \$500 and not less than \$1,000.

Convert From "Term" to "Life." As originally issued to you, your insurance was known as 5-Year-Level Premium-Term Insurance. This policy was "good" for only 5 years after it was issued. So before the 5 years are up you should convert, or in other words change over, to Ordinary Life, 20-Payment Life or 30-Payment Life.

You can do this while the policy is in force and at any time after it has been in force 1 year, by applying to the Veterans' Administration. No medical examination is required. Although the premiums you pay on your new policy will be larger than you now pay, it will be worth your while to convert, for your original 5-year term policy has no regular cash value. When you get your new policy, however, it will have regular cash value, after the first policy year, against which you can borrow if necessary.

If You Are Disabled. If you are receiving pension payments you may wish to have the premium for your Government life insurance deducted from your monthly disability pension. This can be arranged upon request

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to the Veterans' Administration and will save you the trouble of paying premiums direct.

If you become totally disabled before reaching 60 years of age, continue to pay your insurance premiums. After 6 months of such continuous disability, notify the Veterans' Administration. If disability is so established, further premiums will be waived and those you paid during the first 6 months of total disability will be refunded to you.

Getting Your Insurance Reinstated. Sometimes, the premium for the month of discharge is deducted from the previous month's pay, and where there is sufficient pay, the premium following the month of discharge is deducted from your final pay settlement. This is not always the case. Make a note of the date when the next premium is due (it is shown on your Form 53) and remember that you are given, for an emergency, a 31-day period beyond that date in which to make payment. If not paid within the 31-day period, your insurance will lapse but you can have it reinstated within 6 months after date of discharge by paying the back premiums with interest and filing a simple statement showing that you are in as good health as you were on the due date of the first premium in default.

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Beyond 6 months, you must pass a physical examination before the insurance can be reinstated and this may be obtained free of charge at any Veterans' Administration office.

In a Nutshell. Don't let your insurance lapse. Pay premiums direct to the Veterans' Administration, Washington, D. C. If it does lapse get all or some of it reinstated if you possibly can. Be sure to keep the Veterans' Administration, Washington, D. C., advised of any change of permanent address. If you have any problems contact the nearest office of the Veterans' Administration.

A sample copy of the letter which you should use to send your premium payments to the Veterans' Administration is shown on page 57.

Private Life Insurance. You may have arranged to have premiums on your private life insurance guaranteed by the Government when you came into the service. If such was the case, remember that payments must be brought up to date within 2 years after your discharge. Your insurance company or the Veterans' Administration will answer any questions. If

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your commercial insurance policies had any disability benefits or double indemnity features which were discontinued while you were in the Army, request the company to reestablish them.

WHAT THE DISABLED VETERAN SHOULD KNOW

If you are discharged or separated from the Army with a disability due to service, you may be entitled to disability benefits, including a pension. Such a pension may be paid provided you are not receiving retired pay or retirement pay. If your disability is not pensionable or compensable, there are other Federal and State agencies which may provide some form of rehabilitation or retraining to which you may be entitled.

The Veterans' Administration. As you probably know, benefits and pensions for veterans are the responsibility of the Veterans' Administration. It is this Government agency that will handle your claims, will decide the

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amount of the pension, and will handle all details of this and other benefits to which you and your dependents may be entitled. You should always write to the Veterans' Administration direct and not to the War Department about these matters. Offices of the Veterans' Administration are maintained in most large cities. Ask at your post office for the nearest location.

Filing Your Claim. If you are being discharged because of a disability, you will be advised of your right to file a claim for pension and, if you wish, assisted in making application for this benefit before you leave the Army.

The proper form for making application for disability pension is V. A. 526. You can make a claim on this form *at any time* after discharge or release from active duty. Copies can be obtained at any Army installation, from any Red Cross office, or from any office of the Veterans' Administration. At any of these places you can obtain whatever help you need in filling out the form.

Even though you sign a statement, at the time of your discharge, saying that you do not desire to file application for pension, this will not prevent you from filing a claim at any later date.

Officers released because of disability and not entitled to retirement pay, have the right to file a claim for disability pension and have their rights to this benefit determined by the Veterans' Administration.

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Handling Your Claim. If you need advice or aid in connection with the handling of your claim for a pension or other disability benefit, you may obtain such assistance from your local Red Cross chapter, the nearest office of the Veterans' Administration, or any organization approved by the Veterans' Administration. This service will be furnished free.

If you desire, you may, of course, obtain the assistance of legal counsel. Ordinarily such assistance will not be necessary. However, if you employ a lawyer, remember that fees for legal services in connection with pension claims are limited by law.

Your "C" Number. The first claim filed by a veteran is assigned a claim number. This is commonly referred to as a "C" number. It never changes. All later claims will come under this "C" number regardless of when the disability arises. The Veterans' Administration thus maintains a continuous record in one file. Further claims should never be submitted as if they were original proceedings, but all should bear the first "C" number assigned. To save time and trouble in handling your papers, keep a record of your "C" number just as you should do with your Army serial number.

Veterans' Administration Makes Final Decision—Not the Army. Your Army medical board makes a report on your disability, but the final

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decision as to pension or other benefits rests with the Veterans' Administration. Even though an Army medical board had decided against you, you have the privilege of filing a claim directly with the Veterans' Administration if you disagree and believe that you are entitled to disability benefits.

No soldier needs to be reminded that an undeserving claim wastes the time of officials and delays the rights of other men. But don't hesitate to make application when you believe that your claim is fair and proper.

Pensions Based on Degree of Disability. Pensions are based upon the percentage of disability and run from 10 percent to 100 percent in multiples of 10. For instance, a veteran with a 10-percent disability will receive a monthly sum equal to 10 percent of that granted for total disability. In addition there are special rates and allowances for specific injuries and more seriously disabling conditions. No additional disability pension is payable for dependents.

Hospital Treatment, Medical Service, Veterans' Homes, etc. If you should ever need further hospital care for a disability incurred in line of duty in the service, it will be provided upon request to the Veterans' Administration. You will be given proper hospitalization and free trans-

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portation to the appropriate hospital. Your own ability to pay has no bearing on this service.

If you need medical service or dental care not requiring hospitalization, this too will be provided. This service includes medicine, appliances, bridgework, etc., but, of course, the condition must have been caused or aggravated in line of duty by your military service.

Any veteran who is so disabled as to be unable to earn a living, and is without adequate means of support may apply for admission to one of the numerous Veterans' Homes located throughout the country.

Free Training for a New Job. If your disability prevents you from working at your old job, you can probably be taught a new occupation in which your disability will not hinder you. This teaching is called vocational training and it is enabling thousands of veterans to overcome physical handicaps, to adjust themselves to civil life, and to regain their earning power. You may even be trained to return to your old job in spite of your disability.

While getting this special training you may receive compensation in addition to your pension and there are added allotments for dependents. Expenses for tuition, books, supplies, and equipment are paid by the Government.

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In the various offices of the Veterans' Administration there are advisors who will aid and guide you, who will prepare a program to fit your needs, and make the necessary arrangements for your training. Never hesitate to ask their advice.

Pensions Are Safeguarded. Pension payments to you or to your beneficiaries are not assignable and are exempt from taxation (including income tax), attachment, levy, or seizure, either before or after receipt. These provisions, of course, do not apply to property purchased with these payments.

Emergency Relief. Should you need emergency assistance between the time of your discharge and the time when your case can be adjudicated by the Veterans' Administration, it may be obtained through your local chapter of the Red Cross. Assistance may be by grant or by loan, depending upon apparent ability to repay and is made for such needs as shelter, food, clothing, and fuel, and for help with securing benefits to which you or your family may be entitled. Application for such assistance should be made through the local chapter of Red Cross. If there is need for assistance previous to your discharge, you should consult the Red Cross field director at your station.

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Retirement Pay. If you are an officer of the Regular Army, or an enlisted man of the Regular Army with more than 20 years' service, and incur a disability in line of duty, you may be retired at three-quarter base pay and longevity. In such cases you will be paid by the Finance Officer, United States Army, Washington 25, D. C.

If you are an enlisted man and do not qualify for the benefits stated in the preceding paragraph, then your rights, privileges, and benefits as a disabled soldier have been previously explained in this booklet. If you are an officer other than an officer of the Regular Army and are found by the War Department to be qualified for retirement pay because of disability in line of duty, payments will be made by the Veterans' Administration.

Review of Retirement. Any officer retired or released to inactive service without pay because of physical disability has the right (within 15 years) to request review of the retiring board's decision. Apply to The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D. C.

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BENEFITS THAT APPLY TO ALL HONORABLY DISCHARGED VETERANS



Mustering-Out Payment. Upon your discharge or relief from active duty in the Army, you are entitled to receive a certain sum of money known as "mustering-out payment." Your length and place of service will determine how much you get.

If you have served less than 60 days, you will receive \$100; if you have served 60 or more days in the continental United States, you will receive

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a total of \$200, payable \$100 when you leave the service and \$100 one month later; if you have served 60 days or more and have served overseas, or in Alaska, you will receive a total of \$300, payable \$100 when you leave the service and \$100 one month later and \$100 two months later. You will receive this payment in addition to whatever regular pay and allowances may be due you.

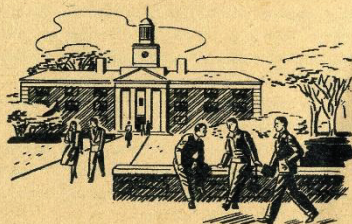
You are *not* entitled to this payment if you receive a base pay of over \$200 per month, or will receive retirement pay, or are discharged at your own request to take a job, or have served only as a student in the Army education-training program (ASTP), or if you left the Army to enter West Point or Annapolis. However, if you have *served overseas* you will be entitled to "mustering-out payment" even though you are being discharged at your own request.

The money you get from "mustering-out payment" will not be taxable or subject to the claims of your creditors.

Vocational Training. In the event that you have a handicap that is not connected with your military service, you may apply for special training to fit you for a job. The broad program is directed by several Federal agencies in collaboration with the individual States.

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Education. Educational aid for veterans is available from the Veterans' Administration provided: (1) You were not over 25 at the time you entered service, or can show that your education or training was interrupted or interfered with by your service, or if you desire a refresher or retraining course; (2) you served 90 days or more (not counting the time in Army Specialized Training Program, which course was a continuation of a civilian course and which was pursued to completion, or as a Cadet in a Service Academy) or were discharged or released from service because



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of an actual service-incurred injury or disability; and (3) you start such education not later than 2 years after discharge or end of the war (whichever date is later).

Length of training: One year (or its equivalent in part-time study). If you complete these courses (except refresher or retraining courses) satisfactorily, you will be entitled to additional education or training not to exceed the length of time you spent in active service after 16 September 1940 and before the end of the present war (not including ASTP). No course of education or training can exceed 4 years.

Types of courses: You may select your own course at any educational or training institution which accepts you as qualified to undertake them, provided the institution is on the list approved by the Veterans' Administration.

Types of educational institution: Public or private, elementary, secondary, and other schools furnishing education for adults; business schools and colleges; scientific and technical institutions; colleges, vocational schools, junior colleges, teachers' colleges, normal schools, professional schools, universities, and other educational and training institutions, including industrial establishments providing apprentice or other training on the job.

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Expenses paid: The Veterans' Administration will pay to the educational or training institution the customary cost of tuition, and such laboratory, library, infirmary, and similar payments as are customarily charged, and may pay for books, supplies, equipment, and such other necessary expenses (exclusive of board, lodging, other living expenses and travel) as are required. Such payments cannot exceed \$500 for an ordinary school year.

Living allowance: The Veterans' Administration will also provide a subsistence allowance of \$50 a month if you have no dependents, \$75 if you have. (This may be reduced, however, if you attend on a part-time basis or receive compensation for work done as part of your training.)

The Army will also help you get school or college credit for what you may have learned while in the service, no matter how you learned it. To make this possible, the United States Armed Forces Institute will prepare for you a record of the courses you may have studied, the service schools you attended, and the service jobs you had. On request it will forward a report of educational achievement to the school or college of your choice and will obtain for you a statement of the amount of academic credit which will be granted you.

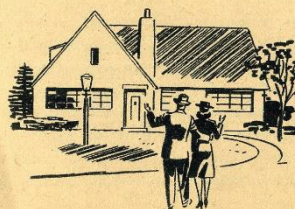
This is called accreditation service and is obtainable by writing to the

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United States Armed Forces Institute, Madison, Wis., and asking for the proper application form. Service is free to enlisted men previously enrolled with the institute. To others, including officer personnel, the fee is \$2.

Some States offer scholarships or other educational assistance to veterans. For particulars write the Department of Education at the capitol of your State.

Loans for Homes, Farms, and Business. Veterans who served on or after 16 September 1940, and before the end of the present war, and who are discharged under conditions other than dishonorable after active service



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condition that you are not able to pay. This does not necessarily mean that you have to be without funds before you can apply. You will be required to file an application setting out the facts, and your sworn statement that you cannot pay for the care will be accepted as sufficient evidence by the Veterans' Administration.

Burial Allowance, etc. A sum not exceeding \$100 may be allowed on the burial, funeral, and transportation expenses of any honorably discharged veteran. Claim must be filed with the Veterans' Administration within 2 years from the date of burial. An American flag for draping the casket may be obtained from the Veterans' Administration or any county seat postmaster.

Headstones are supplied for veterans, without charge, and upon application to the Quartermaster General, Washington 25, D. C.

A veteran may be buried in Arlington National Cemetery and the veteran's wife and certain members of his family may also be buried there. Due to limited space, it is necessary that all are buried in the same grave site. A veteran's wife and certain members of his family may be buried in Arlington prior to the death of the veteran, provided the veteran signifies his intention of being buried in Arlington upon his death. Request should

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be directed to the Superintendent, Arlington National Cemetery, Fort Myer, Va., together with proof of the veteran's honorable discharge from the Army. There are many other national cemeteries wherein veterans and their families may be buried. The same procedure should be followed in these cases as in the case of burial at Arlington.

Financial Assistance and Advice. If you are in need of temporary assistance immediately following discharge, you may apply to the nearest chapter of the Red Cross which will give the assistance you need, or will put you in touch with the appropriate community agency.

Legal Matters. The Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940, as amended, is designed to protect servicemen, under certain conditions, in regard to such legal matters as—

Lawsuits.	Sale of property for taxes.
Judgments.	Eviction of dependents for nonpayment of rent.
Contracts.	Insurance premiums.
Repossession of property.	Rights in public lands.
Collection of certain taxes.	Extension of periods of limitations.
Rates of interest.	

As a former soldier you may be entitled to legal protection under the act

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regarding these matters. Consult your Personal Affairs Officer, Legal Assistance Officer, Local Selective Service Board, Red Cross, Legal Aid Society, or Bar Association representative for advice.

In some cases, Federal and State laws provide for deferment or adjustment of tax payments by veterans. For information on Federal income tax and other Federal taxes go to the nearest office of the Collector of Internal Revenue. Your own State Tax Commission at the State capital will answer questions about State income and other State taxes. Property and school taxes are the concern of your county, city, or township. You may avoid trouble and save yourself money by looking after any delinquent tax matters as soon as practicable after you leave the service.

Pay and Allowances. If you have not been paid in full or have any questions about pay and allowances, write to the Commanding Officer of the Separation Center or hospital from which you were separated as shown on the reverse of the discharge certificate. If you wish aid or assistance in this matter, see your local chapter of the Red Cross.

Allotments. If you have any question on your Family Allowance or Class E Allotments of Pay, write to The Office of Dependency Benefits, Newark, N. J., giving as much information as possible.

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Wills and Powers of Attorney. You may have made a will or signed a power of attorney while in the Army. Upon your release from the service, it may be that those instruments do not adequately take care of your needs as a civilian or conform to the laws of the State wherein you propose to live. It would be wise for you to consult your Legal Assistance Officer or see a competent lawyer about these matters.

War Ration Books can be obtained when you get back by applying at the War Price and Rationing Board for the place in which you live. Apply in person, with evidence of your discharge.

SOCIAL SECURITY

You may come under one or both of two social-security systems upon return to civilian life. Those are (1) unemployment compensation and (2) Federal old-age and survivors insurance.

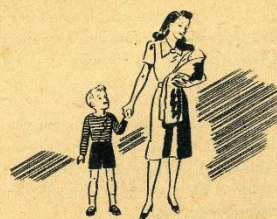
You will come under these systems if you work in a job that is "covered." Most jobs of private firms in business and industry are covered—that is, in factories, shops, mines, mills, stores, offices, banks, etc. Examples of jobs that are not covered are farm work, household service, Government and self-employment, work for educational and nonprofit organizations.

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The key to both insurance systems is a social-security-account-number card. The number on it identifies each worker's social-security account under both systems. You will need a social-security card, therefore, if you take a job that is "covered." If you had one before entering the service, locate it now so you will have it ready to show your employer upon return to work. If you had a card but cannot find it now, apply for a duplicate so that the new card will have the same social-security number as the card originally issued to you. Write to the nearest field office or direct to the Social Security Board, Candler Building, Baltimore, Md.

Unemployment compensation, or unemployment insurance, provides weekly payments to unemployed workers based on their previous work in jobs covered by the system. Each State and Territory has an unemployment insurance system. Most States have preserved the unemployment insurance rights of persons who had worked in "covered" employment before entering the service. If you were in a "covered" job before your military service and if you do not get work immediately upon discharge, go to the nearest United States Employment Service office and ask whether you may file a claim for unemployment payments. Most of these offices take claims for the State unemployment compensation agencies.

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BENEFITS FOR DEPENDENTS

Jobs for Dependents. Special attention and assistance will be given by the local offices of the United States Employment Service and local Veterans' Employment Representatives to members of veterans' families seeking suitable employment. Wives and widows of disabled veterans are given certain preferences for positions in the United States Civil Service.

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Pensions for Dependents. When a member or former member of the armed forces dies of a service-connected disability, his widow, children, and dependent parents may file a claim for pension with the Veterans' Administration. A veteran's own pension for disability is not continued after his death.

Social Security Benefits. In the event of the death of a member or former member of the armed forces who had had civilian employment in private business or industry, survivors insurance benefits may be payable on his social security account. The next of kin should inquire immediately at the nearest Social Security Board office.

Government Insurance. When a veteran dies, the Director of Insurance, Veterans' Administration, should be notified immediately so that all questions of insurance can be settled promptly.

Upon the death of a person who carried Government insurance, the Veterans' Administration when notified will forward the necessary blanks to the beneficiary. In the case of National Service Life Insurance, payments will be made by the Veterans' Administration, not in one lump sum

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but in 240 equal monthly payments if the beneficiary is under 30 years of age; or in equal monthly installments for life if the beneficiary is 30 or over.

Dependents of Veterans Receiving Vocational Training. The pension of a disabled veteran who is receiving vocational training may, in some cases, be increased on account of a wife, husband, children, or dependent parents.

Disabled Dependents. Any disabled dependent of employable age with a vocational handicap may secure through the State Rehabilitation Agency special training and other services necessary to prepare him for a job. Apply to your State Board of Vocational Education, or inquire at the nearest United States Employment Service office as to the location of the State Rehabilitation Agency.

Six Months' Death Gratuity. When a member of the armed forces dies while in service, and not as a result of his own misconduct, the widow receives a cash payment equal to 6 months' pay; if no widow, payment is made to the children; if no widow or children, payment is made to the dependent relative named. If no beneficiary has been named, a claim blank is mailed

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only upon request from a qualified relative. Inquiries should be addressed to the Director, Office Special Settlement Accounts, 27 Pine Street, New York City. Those who receive this benefit are not eligible to receive "muster-out payments."

Back Pay. The balance of any pay account remaining due a person who dies while in service will be paid to the next of kin. Proper forms for filing this claim can be secured from the service involved, but actual payment is handled by the Claims Division, General Accounting Office, Washington 25, D. C., to whom any further inquiry should be made after claim is filed.

* Unpaid portions of muster-out pay may be claimed by a surviving spouse; if none, by surviving children; if no surviving children, by a surviving parent or parents.

Allotments and Allowances. All allotments and family allowances are discontinued upon report of death of men or women in the armed forces.

Prisoners of War and Missing in Action. As long as a serviceman or woman is a prisoner of war or is interned in a neutral country or is listed as

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"missing" or "missing in action," dependents will continue to receive family allowances as previously or in greater amounts in certain cases, and also any allotments that are for their support and have been so designated.

Assistance with Special Problems. There are agencies organized in most communities to meet special needs which arise from time to time for financial assistance, medical care, legal aid, or other personal problems. For advice in such situations, apply to your county welfare office, the local chapter of the Red Cross, or the Veterans' Information Service Center. Information and advice may also be obtained at military installations from the Army's Personal Affairs Officers.

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FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

In Keeping a Record of Important
Numbers, Dates, and Addresses

Name George A. Hofmann
Army Serial Number 0-241310
Highest grade 2nd LT

Selective Service Information

Local Board Number _____

Local Board Address _____

Induction Order Number _____

Date of Report After Separation _____

Reemployment Commitment _____

50

Commission

Date of Appointment 27 March 1943

Reported for Duty 27 March 1943

Dates of Promotions 27 March 1943

Separation

Place Fort Dix, New Jersey

Date of Discharge 1 Oct 1945

Separation or Retirement In Active Duty

Number _____

51

National Life Insurance

Number of Policy _____

Date of Policy _____

Amount of Policy _____

Date Premium Due _____

Amount of Monthly Premium _____

Policy Must Be Converted Before _____

Entry Into Service

Place 15 May 1941

Date Fort Dix, New Jersey

Branch 4th Arm'd Div, Air Corp
14 Mo.

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Military Assignments

Organization 4th Arm'd Div,

Place Pine Camp, NY

Date 25 May 41

Commanding Officer Company, O'Rourke

Organization 596 Sq. 3rd Bomb Group

Place McDill Field, FLA

Date 27 May 43

Commanding Officer Sgt. McLeod, ROBT

Organization _____

Place _____

Date _____

Commanding Officer _____

53

Army Schools Attended

Date 7/26/42-1/1/43 Place Santa Ana, California

Date 1/1/43-3/23/43 Place Deming, New Mexico

Date 4/4/43-5/15/43 Place Carlsbad, New Mexico

Battles and Campaigns

Air Offensive over Europe

Decorations, Citations, etc.

Air Medal, 1 Cluster

American Defense Ribbon

ETO. Ribbon, 1 Battle Star

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Service Wounds

Fracture, Compression of 1, 2, 3, 4
Lumbar Region.

PENSION

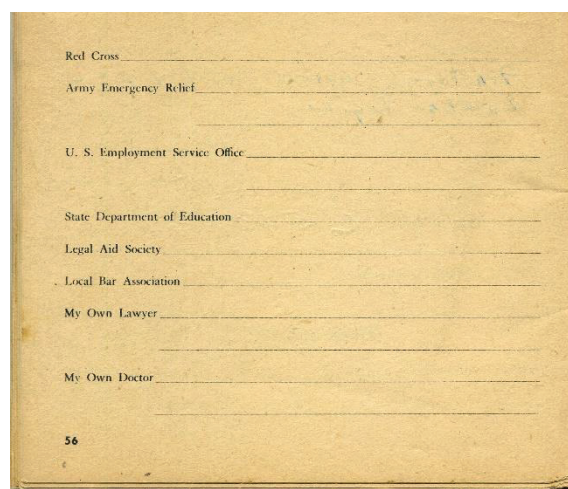
Date of Claim Oct 4, 1945

"C" number of Claim C 5487467

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER**OTHER ADDRESSES**

Veterans' Administration _____

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The War Claims Act of 1948

Of the approximately 130,000 American prisoners of war (POWs) in World War II (WWII), 27,000 or more were held by Japan. Of the approximately 19,000 American civilian internees held in WWII, close to 14,000 were captured and interned by Japan. The War Claims Act of 1948, or Public Law 80-896 (62 Stat. 1240; 50 U.S.C.) is a United States federal law passed by the 80th United States Congress on July 3, 1948. It created the War Claims Commission to adjudicate claims and pay out compensation to American prisoners of war and civilian internees of World War II.- It authorized ten prisoner of war and civilian internee compensation programs, and four war damage and loss compensation programs. Payments and administrative expenses for all but three of the programs were paid by the liquidation of Japanese and German assets seized by the U.S. after World War II. Payments to prisoners of war were at the rate of US\$1 to \$2.50 per day of imprisonment, payments to civilian internees of Japan amounted to \$60 for each month of internment. Civilians were also eligible for compensation for disability or death. The act did not authorize compensation for civilian internees held by Germany.

War Claims Commission - In the United States, payments to WWII POWs and internees were made by the War Claims Commission (WCC), which was established by the War Claims Act of 1948 (50 U.S.C. App. 2001 et seq.). Under Section 12 of the War Claims Act, German and Japanese assets seized by the United States after December 17, 1941, under the Trading with the Enemy Act of October 6, 1917, (40 Stat. 411) as amended, were to be liquidated and placed in a War Claims Fund created on the books of the U.S. Treasury. According to 1959 testimony by the head of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, the total amount of these liquidated assets amounted to \$228,750,000. The 1952 amendments to the War Claims Act (P.L. 303, 66 Stat. 47, 49 [1952]), designated April 9, 1953, as the last day for the Commission to receive claims relative to WWII, and WCC programs were completed on March 31, 1955.

Prisoners of War - A *prisoner of war* is defined in the original Claims Act as "...any regularly appointed, enrolled, enlisted or inducted member of the military or naval forces of the United States who was held as a prisoner of war for any period subsequent to December 7, 1941, by any government of any nation with which the United States has been at war subsequent to such date." Thus, POWs captured by any of the Axis Powers - Germany, Italy, or Japan - were eligible to apply for compensation.

Application Form 611 was provided to the affected groups in May of 1952. It included a brief description of the applicable contents of the 1929 Geneva Conventions Rules shown below to be used as guide for describing forced labor and inhumane treatment.

Peace Treaties with Japan and Germany - The United States concluded a treaty ending the state of war between the United States and Japan in 1951 that included POW compensation provisions. In addition, the War Claims Act (WCA) dealt with U.S. POWs held by all Axis powers, as well as civilian American internees of Japan. Since the United States did not conclude a peace treaty with Germany, only recently has compensation for some U.S. civilian internees of Germany been awarded.

War Claims Compensation - Under the War Claims Act of 1948, POWs held "...by any government of any nation with which the United States has been at war subsequent to [December 7, 1941]" were paid a lump sum payment based on \$1 per day of imprisonment in which a POW was able to prove under Section 6(b) of the law that "...the enemy government or its agents failed to furnish him such quantity or quality of food (as he was entitled to as a prisoner of war under the Geneva Convention on Treatment of Prisoners of War of July 27, 1929)." The 1952 amendments added Section 6(d) that provided for payment of additional \$1.50 per day if a POW were able to prove that he was subjected to "inhumane treatment" or forced to perform hard labor, thus bringing total aggregate payments to a maximum of \$2.50 per day of imprisonment. Detention benefits could also be paid to members of a deceased POW's immediate family. Claims for disability or ongoing health problems due to being a POW of the Axis powers were subsequently handled by the Veterans Administration.

- POWs @\$1 inadequate food rate [filing period 1/30/50 - 3/31/52]
286,315 claims, 179,725 awards = \$49,935,899
- POWs @ additional \$1.50 forced labor rate [filing period 4/9/52 - 8/1/54]
254,228 claims, 178,900 awards = \$73,492,926
- Civilian internees interned or in hiding @ \$60 rate [filing period 4/9/52 - 8/1/54]
23,000 claims, 9,260 awards = \$13,679,329
- American POWs enlisted in Allied forces [completed 8/31/56]
266 claims, 206 awards = \$335,836
- American merchant seamen captured and interned by Germany or Japan [completed 8/31/56]
385 claims, 171 awards = \$333,594
- Interned civilian contractor employees @ \$60 rate [filing period 8/31/54 - 8/31/55]
2,968 claims, 2,222 awards = \$4,082,086

According to the Chief Counsel for the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, there were approximately 39,000 claimants in the category POWs held by Japan, or their survivors, and approximately 81,200 claimants in the category of POWs held by Germany or their survivors.

Although the WCC believed that it had done a good job of publicizing its program and of contacting potential claimants, POW/internee groups, such as the National American Ex-POW Association, Inc. and the Center for Internee Rights, Inc. believed that insufficient efforts were made to find potential claimants. These groups also contended that because many of the effects of internment might not show up until many years after the fact, the cutoff dates for filing claims were too short.

Survival Rates in Japanese and German WWII Camps - The stark differences in reported death rates for U.S. soldiers and civilians in German vs. Japanese camps dramatize the nature of the experience of Japan's camps for POWs and internees. Dr. Stenger's figures list 93,941 U.S. military personnel captured and interned by Germany, of whom 1,121 died (a little over a 1% death rate), and 27,465 U.S. military personnel captured and interned by Japan, of whom 11,107 died (more than a 40% death rate). The Center for Internee Rights (CFIR), an internee

advocacy group, uses the same figures as Dr. Stenger for Nazi POWs and POW deaths. However, CFIR has different figures for POWs of Japan. Using its high figures for both American POWs held by Japan (36,260) and their higher number of POW deaths (13,851) results in a slightly lower percentage of POW deaths, 38.2%. According to the Center for Internee rights, of the 4,749 U.S. civilians held by the German, 168, or 3.5% died; in contrast, of the 13,996 American civilian internees they believe were held by Japan, 1,536, or 11% died. A similar figure of 13,979 for the total number of American civilian internees held by Japan was compiled by the Army's Office of the Provost Marshal General's Prisoner of War Division.

A recent book by Linda Goetz Holmes, *Unjust Enrichment: How Japan's Companies Built Postwar Fortunes Using American POWs*, offers additional information on POW camp experiences.

Holmes highlights information from British signals sergeant Jack Edwards, who was a POW and became part of a British and American war crimes investigating team which in 1946 searched the remains of the Kinkaseki copper mine, Prisoner of War Branch Camp No. 1, Formosa (Taiwan), for evidence. According to Edwards, among the burnt debris of the camp offices he found 15 handwritten transcriptions of broadcast orders dated April 1942 through August 20, 1945 (5 days after the Emperor announced the Japanese surrender), from command headquarters, Tokyo.

Holmes included the text of one of the documents Edwards reportedly found - August 1, 1944, orders from the Japanese vice-minister of war to all POW camp commanders in the occupied territories and home islands. In answer to the question from the head of the POW administration on Formosa asking for clarification as to circumstances under which he should act on his own, according to this document, the vice-minister authorized commanders to kill all the POWs they held if "an uprising of large numbers cannot be suppressed without the use of firearms" or "when escapees from the camp may turn into a hostile fighting force" and "not to allow the escape of a single one, to annihilate them all, and not to leave any traces." Holmes then cites several specific instances - Wake Island, October 1943; Palawan Island, December 1944; Borneo, June 1945 - in which, she writes, camp commanders, believing their camps were soon to be attacked, carried out these orders and massacred all but handful of their POWs. Later in her book Holmes reported the discovery of a copy of a much more official copy of this same execution order in the files of the Japanese Governor General of Formosa, Richiki Ando. Holmes added that documents at the National Archives indicated that although this execution document was not mentioned in open court at the Tokyo War Crimes Trials, it was apparently introduced into evidence in January 1947 by the prosecutor and admitted into evidence by the chief judge without comment as document #2701, exhibit 2015.

The **Geneva Conventions** comprise four treaties, and three additional protocols, that establish the standards of international law for the humanitarian treatment of the victims of war. The singular term *Geneva Convention* denotes the agreements of 1949, negotiated in the aftermath of the Second World War (1939–45), which updated the terms of the first three treaties (1864, 1906, 1929), and added a fourth treaty. The articles of the Fourth Geneva Convention (1949) extensively defined the basic rights of prisoners (civil and military) during war; established protections for the wounded; and established protections for the civilians in and around a war zone. The treaties of 1949 were ratified, in whole or with reservations, by 194 countries.- The Geneva Convention also defines the rights and protections of non-combatants.

WAR CLAIMS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING APPLICATION FOR LIVING EX-PRISONER OF WAR COMPENSATION FOR COMPULSORY LABOR AND/OR INHUMANE TREATMENT

READ CAREFULLY AND FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS

Information regarding the filling out of WCC Form 611, Application for Living Ex-Prisoner of War Compensation, payable under Section 6 (d), War Claims Act, 1948 (Public Law 896, 80th Congress, July 3, 1948), as amended by Public Law 303, 82d Congress, April 9, 1952.

1. WHO SHOULD FILE CLAIM.

- (a) Any person who, being a regularly appointed, enrolled, enlisted, or inducted member of the military or naval forces of the United States, was held as a prisoner of war for any period of time after December 7, 1941, by any enemy government of the United States. Survivors of deceased prisoners of war use WCC Form 660.
- (b) If the person for whom claim is being made is not mentally competent or is incapable of filing for himself, the claim form should be filled out by the natural or legal guardian or person having custody of the ex-prisoner of war. If this application is executed in behalf of an ex-prisoner of war, it is important that question No. 21 be answered.

2. APPLICATION FORM.—This claims application is for compensation for subjection to inhumane treatment by the enemy government and/or because the ex-prisoner of war performed compulsory labor under terms and conditions which violated certain articles of the Geneva Convention of July 27, 1929. Public Law 303, 82d Congress, added subsection (d) to Section 6 of the War Claims Act of 1948, as amended. This new subsection authorizes the War Claims Commission to allow compensation to any ex-prisoner of war (defined in item I of these instructions) at the rate of and not to exceed \$1.50 per day for each day he was held as a prisoner of war on which he alleges and proves in a manner acceptable to the Commission "(A) the violation by such enemy government or its agents of the provisions of Title III, Section III, of the Geneva Convention of July 27, 1929" relating to labor of prisoners of war, or "(B) any inhumane treatment" which term includes, but is not limited to, violation by the enemy government of one or more of the provisions of articles 2, 3, 7, 10, 12, 13, 21, 22, 54, 56, or 57 of the Geneva Convention.

3. PREPARATION OF APPLICATION FORM.—All of the information required in the application must be furnished and the questions must be answered fully and clearly. (Question No. 21 to be answered only if person filing application is the guardian or person having custody of the ex-prisoner of war.) Answers must be written in a clear, legible hand, or typewritten. If you do not know the answer to any question write "I don't know" in the proper space. If you need more space to answer any questions, attach a piece of plain paper, numbering the answers to correspond with the questions appearing in the application. It is important that you give dates, places and periods of time. Veterans organizations and other organizations, which have been accredited to represent claimants before the Commission, are available to assist you, without charge, in the preparation and filing of your application. If this service is not available to you or you desire further information, you should write to the War Claims Commission, Washington 25, D. C.

4. ATTORNEYS AND AGENTS.—Any claimant may, but need not, be represented in the preparation, presentation, or prosecution of his claim by an agent or attorney admitted to practice before the War Claims Commission. The War Claims Commission will furnish, without charge, assistance in

the filling out of your application. An agent or attorney or other accredited person who has been admitted to practice before the War Claims Commission, who has filed a power of attorney executed by a claimant, may receive for his services in assisting a claimant in the preparation and filing of an application form in this class of claim, a fee of one percent (1%) of the amount awarded. Higher fees not to exceed ten percent (10%) of the amount awarded are authorized by the Commission in cases such as those requiring the securing of additional oral or written testimony, or the preparation of an appeal (see Section 10, War Claims Act of 1948, as amended). There are penalties for payment of a greater fee than allowed by regulations.

5. **TIME LIMIT FOR FILING CLAIMS.**—In accordance with the provisions of Section 3 of Public Law 303, 82d Congress, amending the War Claims Act of 1948, as amended, regulations of the War Claims Commission provide that claims under section 6 (d) must be filed on or before April 9, 1953.
6. **ACKNOWLEDGMENT CARD.**—There is enclosed an acknowledgment card which is to be completed and returned to the Commission, together with the application form. In the spaces indicated on the address portion of the card the claimant is to write plainly his name and mailing address. This card will be mailed to the claimant by the War Claims Commission upon receipt of this card and application. *Use enclosed self-addressed envelope in mailing application form and card.*

Special attention is directed to question No. 7 which appears on page 1 of the application form. The claimant should indicate the claim number for prisoner of war \$1 per day benefits assigned to him in the space provided.

DO NOT FORGET TO SIGN APPLICATION

Mail application form and acknowledgment card to
WAR CLAIMS COMMISSION, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

CLAIM MUST BE FILED ON OR BEFORE APRIL 9, 1953

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PART II

INFORMATION CONCERNING LABOR DURING IMPRISONMENT

Before answering the questions in Part II, please read carefully the following provisions from the Geneva Convention of July 27, 1929, pertaining to labor. These provisions are provided to correspond with the consecutive order of the questionnaire.

The enemy government may utilize labor of able prisoners of war, excepting officers. If officers request suitable work, it shall be secured for them as far as possible. Noncommissioned officers shall only be required to do supervisory work. Officers and persons of equivalent status shall be treated with regard due their rank and age. Labor detachments must be furnished good sanitary conditions and food. (Article 21, 27, and 38.)

The enemy government must pay prisoners of war for work performed except work connected with maintenance of prison camps. Wages shall be paid at the rate in force for National troops or native workers. All wages must be paid at the end of captivity. The work day, including the trip going and coming, shall not be excessive or exceed that of civilian workers. Every prisoner shall be allowed rest of 24 consecutive hours each week, preferably on Sunday. Work clothes, whenever required, must be furnished. (Articles 26, 29, 30, and 34.)

Unhealthy or dangerous work is prohibited. No prisoner may be employed at work for which he is physically unfit. (Articles 28 and 32.)

Labor furnished by prisoners of war shall have no direct relation with war operations. Prisoners cannot be employed making or transporting arms or munitions or transporting any material intended for combatant units. (Article 31.)

5. a) Can you report if work during imprisonment? (exclusive of work maintaining prison camp?) — Yes _____ No _____

If so, describe the kind of work you performed and your physical condition at that time. How many were worked with guns? how many carried? carried 750 to 1000 lb loads with 3 other POW's; carried 10 rail cars of water per irrigation streamer filled with dynamite supplies; assistants. Airfield construction buried with sand & gravel; machine hand sars loaded with 800 to 240 lbs of shells, etc. 1st and 2nd sars. Shell plant built. Sars loaded with 1000 lbs POW containing 1000 to 15000 lbs of ore, rock, scrap iron etc. MINE SITE 1st and 2nd sars. Shell plant 1st and 2nd sars. SARS 1st and 2nd sars. Physical conditions: weight varied between 85 to 100 lbs. Respiratory system healthy. Digestive system healthy. General health excellent. b) If you were an officer or noncommissioned officer, was your rank respected in the matter of the kind of work you were required to perform and others?

Description of rank positions at time of imprisonment:

(1)

G-10000-1

24. If you have paid or agreed to pay any person for assistance and/or advice in the presentation or filing of this claim, state names and addresses of each person or persons and the amount of the fee paid or agreed upon. (See item No. 4 of general instructions.) Not applicable

25. If this application is being executed in behalf of an ex-prisoner of war who is incompetent or incapable of filing for himself, give your name, mailing address, and state capacity in which claim is executed Not applicable

I CERTIFY that the foregoing statements are true and that they are made with full knowledge of the facts that penalties involving fines and imprisonment are prescribed by various statutes of the United States for making a false statement.

IF DISCERNABLE WRITE BY (X) MARK, WITNESSED SIGN HERE.

Note: No witnesses are necessary when this application has been signed by each (1). If signed by two persons to whom the person making the claim is personally known, make the donor known:

1. _____
(Signature of witness)

_____ (Address)

2. _____
(Signature of witness)

_____ (Address)

Victor William Warfield
(Signature of claimant)

28 August 1962
(Date)

By _____

Title _____

(Note: If this application is executed by a person other than the ex-prisoner of war, please sign the name of the ex-prisoner of war in the space indicated "Signature of claimant," followed by your name and the capacity in which you sign.)

DO NOT FORGET TO SIGN APPLICATION

Mail application form and acknowledgment card to:

WAR CLAIMS COMMISSION, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

CLAIMS MUST BE FILED ON OR BEFORE APRIL 8, 1953

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-58822-2

(4)

(6)

**Application For Living Ex-Prisoner of War Compensation for
Compulsory Labor and/or Inhumane Treatment**

Section 3 – page 5

14. (a) Describe the living conditions and sleeping facilities (crowded conditions, heating, ventilation, bedding, fire protection, etc.) –

Frankfurt, Germany – solitary confinement: soup, bread and water; no washing facilities

Sagan, Germany – slept nine to a room, triple bunks; little to no heat; poor bedding, one blanket

Nuremberg, Germany – poor living and sleeping facilities; overcrowded conditions due to the evacuation of Sagan camp; no heat, poor ventilation, no bedding

Moosburg, Germany – overcrowded conditions due to evacuation of a number of prison camps crowding into this camp; no heat, poor ventilation, no bedding

(b) What clothing, linens or footwear, if any, were furnished you?

Sagan camp only camp where linen was supplied. No footwear furnished at all.

15. (a) Were sanitary measures taken to assure cleanliness and healthfulness of camps and to prevent epidemics? **No** If the answer is no describe the conditions of the camp.

Sagan camp only camp where sanitary measures were taken due mostly to the resourcefulness of the prisoners.

(b) State whether toilet facilities were adequate and if sufficient water was provided for bathing to maintain cleanliness.

Adequate toilet facilities and sufficient water (except when supply was cut off by German guards). This was only at Sagan camp

(c) Were you allowed to exercise in the open air?

16. Describe what medical care, supplies or facilities were available.

17. Were you permitted to retain personal effects and objects, other than arms, military equipment and papers?

18. Describe here any other conditions to which you were subjected that may be relevant to provisions of the Geneva Convention of 1929 and to the humane treatment of prisoners of war (for ex. abuse, ridicule, humiliation, subjection to attack, bombardment, etc.)

During transportation to prison camp I was forced along with other prisoners to walk around the city of Frankfurt for about two hours during which time we were cursed, spit at, and almost attacked by angry German civilians.

On the way into the prison camp we were strafed by our own planes with no shelter available.

During solitary confinement I was continually told I was an American spy and would be treated accordingly unless I answered their questions.

Nuremberg camp was about half a mile from target areas. Bomb shelters were not available. Target attacked almost every night.

19. (a) Having read the requirements of the Geneva Convention of 1929 outlined above with regard to labor and/or inhumane treatment of prisoners of war, do you allege that the enemy government which held you prisoner continually failed to comply with these requirements? Yes

(b) If you believe your answer to (a) above should be "yes" for most of the period of your imprisonment, but you wish to except certain periods when you received treatment in compliance with the Geneva Convention of 1929, give dates of such periods.

Only on entry into Sagan camp did we receive treatment which seemed to be in compliance with the Geneva Convention

<p>WAR CLAIMS COMMISSION WASHINGTON 25, D. C. OFFICIAL BUSINESS</p> <p>PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID PAYMENT OF POSTAGE \$200 (GPO)</p> <p>George H. McManis 21 West 104 St New York City 25 New York</p>	<p>Claim No. 71222 Date SEP 10 1952</p> <p>The War Claims Commission is in receipt of your application for compensation for forced labor and/or inhumane treatment as a prisoner of war.</p> <p>If you change your mailing address, please notify this office of your new address promptly in writing and signed by you.</p> <p>All correspondence relative to your case should bear your claim number.</p> <p>War Claims Commission, Washington 25, D. C.</p> <p>SFO 16-50078-2</p>
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