

USA

ROUND

LA-CROSSING



331ST
INFANTRY

SOUVENIR

MARCH
1946

EDITION

J.W. 1504

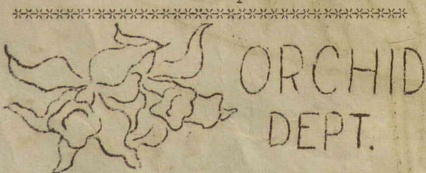
Staff for La Crossing

1st Lt. J. Levinsohn-----	Transport Services Officer
Pfc. H. Warshauer-----	Editor
Sgt. W. Greenhalgh-----	Associate Editor
T/4 I. A. Cross-----	Feature Writer
Pfc. B. Kay-----	Reporter
T/5 C. F. Dahlstrom-----	Roving Reporter
Cpl. P. Alperin-----	Post Laureate
Cpl. J. K. Wilson-----	Artist
Pfc. D. Greenberg-----	Production Chief
Pfc. A. T. Rankin-----	Asst Production Chief
T/4 R. Laurent-----	Mimeographer
T/5 J. Vana-----	Mimeographer
T/5 B. K. Schlutow-----	Typist

A MESSAGE FROM THE TROOP COMMANDER

As each passing day brings us closer toward home, we realize that soon we will once again be civilians and glad to be called "Mr" instead of "soldier". Each of us naturally is happy over going home, but each of us also feels a sense of pride in the uniform he is shedding. Some will go on wearing the uniform with the same pride and esprit de corps that makes for a great army. So whatever your future plans--the Mr. or the uniform--I want to take this opportunity to thank you personally for your cooperation in the "rough" times we've had in preparing for this homeward voyage, and to speed you on into the future with a hearty "Bon Voyage" and may God be with you.

John O. Mohnney,
Capt Infantry
Troop Commander.



In this last issue of the La Crossing we want to express our thanks to all the men on the ship who have helped to make this journey as pleasant and as comfortable as possible.

To the men of the Transport Command, who suffered with us silently but long, and made available to us full usage of the ship's special service material.

To "Handsome" Vic Leshewitz, ship's electrician and comedian, for his hard work and many laughs.

To Alex Kalmanowitz, for cookies and oranges on the side.

And to all of the ship's crew, who cheerfully put up with 986 landlubbers underfoot and were courteous, helpful, and, most of all, sympathetic.

A MESSAGE FROM THE SKIPPER

The crew of the SS La Cross Victory joins me in wishing you all a speedy return to civilian life. Best of luck.

Capt R. E. Lindquist,
Skipper

THE TRANSPORT COMMANDER SAYS

To all Army personnel I want to say--that it has been a pleasure to have had you aboard and here's wishing you smooth sailing and good luck.

Capt J. H. Fendrick
Transport Commander

ORDER for DEBARKATIONBy Motor to Camp Kilmer

Casuals

Headquarters Company

By Ferry Train to Camp Kilmer

Dog Company

Easy Company

Fox Company

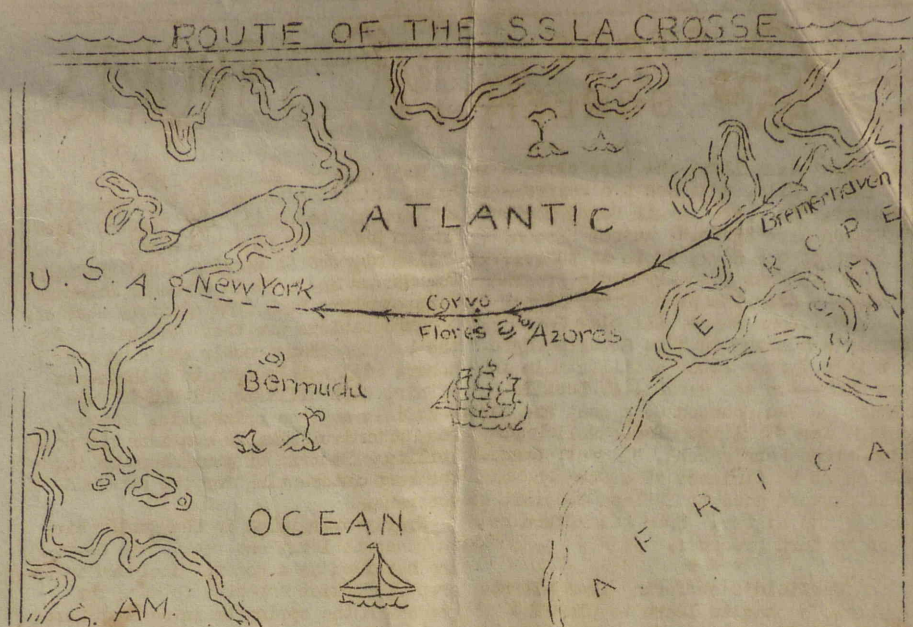
George Company

George Company will take over the police of the ship.

Your newspaper predicts our arrival

as between noon and five P.M. Thursday,

March 28, 1946



LOG OF THE S.S. L. CROSS

- 17th March - 5:12 P.M. - Left Bremerhaven, Germany.
- 18th March - noon - Traveled 293 miles - sea moderate
- 19th March - noon - Traveled 335 miles - sea moderate
- 20th March - noon - Traveled 364 miles - sea moderate
- 21st March - noon - Traveled 376 miles - sea rough
- 22nd March - noon - Traveled 409 miles - sea moderate
- 23rd March - noon - Traveled 350 miles - sea moderate
- 24th March - noon - Traveled 360 miles - sea moderate to rough
- 25th March - noon - Traveled 330 miles - sea rough
- 26th March - noon - Traveled 353 miles - sea rough

Remaining estimated distance to New York is 705 miles. Expected arrival on Thursday, 28th March, between noon and five P.M.

RADIO NEWS

chill's argument as convincing, since a positive agreement has been reached."

Now, March 26 - Premier Joseph Stalin today that the Russian Army is being withdrawn from Iran under terms of a positive agreement between Iran and Russia. In reply to a demand by Winston Churchill that the Iranian question be brought before the Security Council without delay, Stalin replied, "I cannot regard Churchill's argument as convincing, since a positive agreement has been reached."

London, March 26 - Two members of the British Parliament are on their way to Iran to verify the evacuation of Russian troops. Palestine, March 26 - There were outbursts of machine-gun fire here when a ship attempted to smuggle in unauthorized Jews.

(cont'd on next column)



STAGE AND SCREEN

Johnny Weissmuller, who wore clothes in his latest film, advances to uniforms in his next. He plays an Air Corps Captain in "Seven Were Saved." Russel Hayden, out of the Navy, is in it too..... Lucille Ball has a weekly radio program ending—a dramatization of "My Sister Eileen."... John Payne will play Gene Tierney's husband in "The Razor's Edge." but it's Tyrone Power she'll remain in love with—on the screen.... Lucille Bremer and Van Johnson do a song and dance routine for "Till the Clouds Roll By." It's Jerome Kern's song, "I Won't Dance." As soon as he finishes "The Strange Woman" Louis Hayward goes to England to visit his mother and sister. Upon his return he hopes to turn producer.

John Garfield's suffering from vibrato trouble. He has to learn to play the fiddle for "Humoresque," and the fiddling doesn't come easily to him... "Griff," the last season, and infielder Henry Majeski dog featured in "It Shouldn't Happen to a Dog," has gone Hollywood since he's been in pictures. The pooch's name has been changed to "Rodney"... Jerome Cowan gets a top role in "Mr. Ace and the Queen."... Marjorie Woodworth has been added to the cast of "High Gear," which will feature the Bowery Boys, the one-time Dead End Kids.... Flu suspended "Angel on My Shoulder," but star and victim Anne Baxter is back.... Director Andre De Toth is going to borrow Ann Miller from Paramount for the "So Far From Home" lead.

David Selznick has contributed a three minute short, a plea for religious tolerance, featuring Ingrid Bergman, Katherine Hepburn, Jennifer Jones, Van Johnson, Walter Pidgeon, Shirley Temple, Jimmy Stewart and Eddie Cantor—they have a half a minute each to do their stuff, but they do it.... Lauren Bacall films from now on will co-star husband Humphrey Bogart. They are together again in "The Glass Room," a murder mystery. La Bacall too successful in "Confidential Agent" declined to retire, but the stings of the pictures were too much for her, and now she swears she will stay until she makes a good picture. Desi Arnaz is delaying his South American trip to make a series of Technicolor shorts at Warner's.

Harry James says he will not act in pictures except as a band leader and trumpet r... Veteran character actor Albert Basserman came to Hollywood for a two month job, but will probably stay for two years.

SPORTS

Ballplayers with aging limbs and weak bats, tolerated as one of the necessities of wartime baseball, will have no place in the 1946 campaign -- not with Ted Williams, Joe Di Maggio, Dick Wakefield, Joe Gordon and a flock of other big-name fence-busters back from military service.

Expectations are that the battle for the batting championship and slugging honors will settle down to a three-man affair, with Williams, Di Maggio, and Wakefield as the principals. However, some optimists like to consider the possibility of a trio of youngsters making the race interesting for the returned veterans.

Nearly every club in the junior circuit has at least one rookie who is being heralded as a comer. Included in the crop of rookies expected to make the grade in the spring training tests are: Karl Drews, a 19 game winner for Newark the last season, and infielder Henry Majeski, both the property of the New York Yankees; Chet Hadjuk, Chicago White Sox first baseman, who played coach Mickey Cochrane with his father at Great Lakes the past two seasons; Arnie Andres, Boston Red Sox third baseman, a former Indiana University star who also played with Hadjuk at Great Lakes; Bob Dillinger, St. Louis Browns' third baseman; and Johnny Caulfield, Philadelphia Athletics' shortstop.

In view of the fact that he has a headache trying to separate the gold from the dross as he views a flock of big name stars back from military service, manager Joe McCarthy of the New York Yankees probably fails to appreciate Umpire Bill Grieve's favorite story. But here it is: According to the American League arbiter, Marse Joe dreamed he had gone to heaven. There he found himself surrounded with the greatest ball players of all times, each miraculously at the peak of his career. The old managerial urge rose in McCarthy, raising the problems of whom to play. "While he was meditating, the telephone. It was Satan. 'Hey, Joe,' said the Devil. 'How about playing us a game?'" "I'd love to see this team of mine in action," answered McCarthy, fully. "I've got Ruth, Cobb, Gehrig, Spivey, Wagner, Matthews, well, even the best star who ever lived. How could I even hope to beat us?" "Ha!" shouted Satan. "You forget that I have all the umpires."

YOU DON'T EAT

Wandering the deck for news the other day, your roving reporter found slim pickings in the way of interviews as the decks were washed clear of G.I.'s. However, rounding a thing-a-ma-jig (the nautical term escapes him at the moment) he found one lone G.I. standing there looking out to sea with a far away expression in his eyes. He was a kind of oldish guy, one of those people you meet and wonder about - what is - how did he get in the Army?

Getting into conversation with him, he seemed willing to talk so we asked him what was on his mind when we came up. He said he was reminiscing. Now reminiscing is something for the rocking chair days and it can be a boring thing to you guys but we are passing this story on to you for what it is worth.

"You know," he said, "A guy who has been in the ET O for a year or two and sampled the war in his off moments has really 'had it'. There has been a hell of a lot of experiences crammed into a few months, more and varied than he would ever have in a life time at home. I have

comparing Europe to the States and having seen both, I am beginning to realize why my folks and millions of others came to America. True, I have seen the Continent at its worst but traveling around I have a pretty good cross-section of its people, its customs, its culture, its social views, and all the complex things that go to make up a country. I have about decided that Europe is - they say it is - a hot-box of intrigue, petty jealousies, racial hatreds, distrusts, and as for culture, they are all basking in the glory of a few great men who did outstanding things centuries ago. In other words, they are in a rut."

"I can say that, in spite of the fact that I have been deprived of the home life and its comforts for a while, I wouldn't have missed it for anything. I have learned a lot, broadened my views on life, and the most important thing is that I have come to really appreciate my home. It is no longer just a place to hang my hat. In other words, I've taken off the blinders."

With that, he lit up a smoke and resumed that far away look, with a faint trace of a smile on his face.



WELL! WELL! IF IT ISN'T
MY OLD FIRST SERGEANT

STALE-MIT PARADE

An American negro soldier and a German corporal met face to face. It was one or the other. The negro reverted to his trusty razor, and made a mighty swipe at the German's throat.

"Ha!" gloated the German, "You missed me!"

"Missed you, hu h?" echoed the negro, "Brudder, jes' you wait 'till you tries to turn yo' head!"

Adolph Hitler was preparing his wardrobe for a second dismal winter on the Russian front.

"Mein Führer," suggested one of his retainers, "Remember what Napoleon did when he was in Russia. He wore a bright red uniform so that in case he was wounded his men would not notice that he was bleeding."

"Excellent idea! Excellent idea!" ruminated Adolph. "Just throw me my brown pants."

Lieutenant (in a rage): "Who told you to put flowers on the Colonel's desk?"
Orderly: "The Colonel, sir."
Lieutenant: "Pretty, ain't they?"

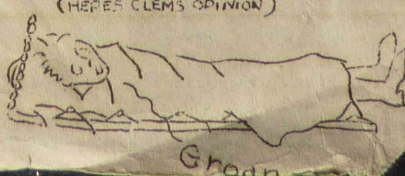
Who Says The Navy Has All the Sailors

No need to wonder why the nine lads from Linz, Austria never get seasick. No braggin' tho' they are old salts from way back. Two years overseas in a Harbor Craft Unit operating tug boats on the Bristol Channel, then to Cherbourg, Antwerp and finally Linz. Fellas, when the ships crew falls just give a call to George Company, and sound the alarm for the following:

M/Sgt Portner - Marine Engineer
T/Sgt Peterson - Ship's Mate
T/Sgt Woodruff - Ship's Master
T/Sgt Wise - Maritime Mate
T/Sgt Kozecki - Ship's Master
S/Sgt Namm - Engineer
S/Sgt Walker - Boatsain
S/Sgt Larkin - Engineer
S/Sgt Steadman - Seaman A B

The Captain says it's "moderate" -
The Gee Eyes say it is "rough" -
But then what's one mans opinion against 988.

(HERE'S CLEMS OPINION)



"HEAR THIS!" "HEAR THIS!"

"Anybody on board ship seen Charlie Noble?— Charlie Noble report to Pfc Rankin at the Newspaper office— immediately! I repeat! — Blah — Blah — Blah! —"

And thereby hangs a tale — From deck to hold, to bridge to bow, our boy did more mileage, than the roving reporter, looking for Charlie Noble. Seems that "Vic" the electrician decided to fix Rankins wagon for some wholesome heckling the past few days—told him that Charlie had a super duper stencil for the last showing the ship coming into New York Harbor — banners streaming, and all the fan fare.

The search went on for hours as our hero, being the executive type, enlisted the aid of the crew. He's still looking as we go to press.

P.S. Charlie Noble is the nautical term for the stove pipe over the galley stove.

NEWS SHORTS FROM HOME

Worcester, Wyo. — Watch your step when you go walking, and it'll pay good dividends, according to Hy Jones' way of thinking. To prove his theory, Jones, cashier of the First National Bank here, has a new \$25 victory bond. In 1936, Jones was crossing a street at Granite City, Ill., when he found a quarter. A few steps farther, he found two dimes. Since then, he has saved what money he found while walking. Recently he purchased the bond with the accumulated finds.

Estherville, Ia. — Dr. J. P. Clark, driving through town in search of a place to put duty first when he saw a large crowd gathered about what appeared to be an accident on somebody's front lawn. Pushing through with his emergency kit, Dr. Clark reached the auctioneer just in time to bid the place in for \$6250.

New York — James Davis, 34, is being held on a grand larceny charge, accused of trying to steal a 40-passenger bus from a garage of the New York City Omnibus corporation. Davis, a longshoreman told Patrolman George Cappacciso, who arrested him in the garage, "It couldn't be me. I don't know how to drive a bus." Cappacciso told the court that there was some truth to this assertion, since Davis attempted to drive the bus out of the garage through a heavy steel door that happened to be shut.

POOPDECK POETRYSENTRY DUTY

T/3 P. Breakstone

The world is dark, and all around,
The rain is down on sodden ground.
The night is cold, unfit for men;
And yet a man was out in it then.

A sentry walked his lonely post,
Freezing, drenched, yet duty bound,
Listening closely for any rare sound.
Was this France? Was it Guam? Was the enemy seen?
It's New Jersey; he's guarding the brass hats latrine.

* * *

HER TWO

Those two she had
Really caught my eyes,
They seemed to stand out
Though the usual size.
Brother, I tell you
They really looked nice.
I couldn't help
From looking twice.
I gazed on them
With great desire,
In my hungry eyes
There burned a fire —
She was a —
I'm a private, you see,
And her corporal stripes
Looked good to me.

AMERICAN A

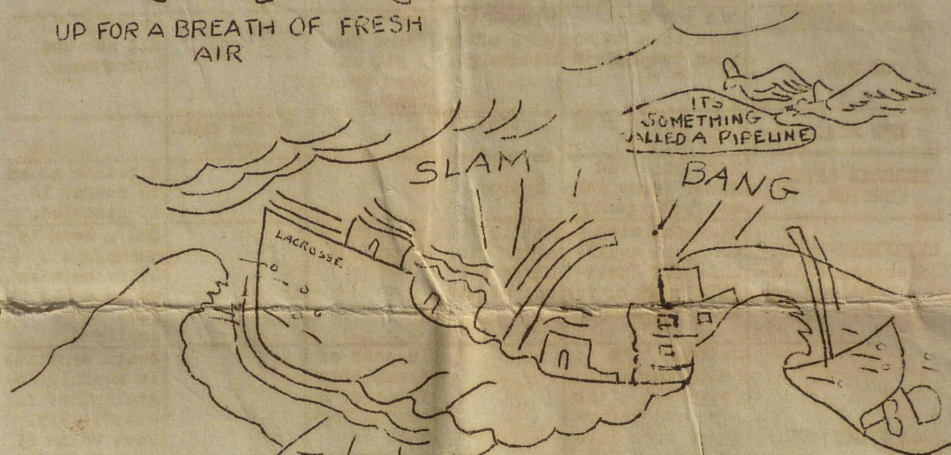
Paul C. Howe, editor of the Bennington Evening Banner (Vt.) ran this announcement across the front page recently: "The Banner hereby announces that it plans to return to the ancient newspaper custom in Vermont of accepting payment of subscriptions in butter, eggs, etc., if shortage continues."..... The Veterans' Administration has announced that Mrs. Esther Hill Morgan, 88, is receiving a monthly \$20 pension — she is the daughter of John Hill, a private in the War of 1812.....The National Distributing Agency for ring stones reports that girls are buying engagement rings for their boy friends at an increasing rate. Last year the girls bought 312,000 engagement rings, compared with 725,000 bought by the men....Miss Marjaret Wilson of Adams, Mass. died recently just five months short of her 109th birthday. When she was 105 she vowed that if she lived long enough to see the Allies win the war and take care of "Heel Hitler", she would publicly thank God. SHE DID.

Life aboard the SS Lacrosse Victory

LATRINES GAINED NEW POPULARITY THE FIRST ROUGH DAY



UP FOR A BREATH OF FRESH AIR



ONLY MODERATE SEAS WERE ENCOUNTERED



HERE IT IS!
HERE IT IS!

-BLOB-COMPANY
CHEGGW



K.P.
WAS FULL OF
SURPRISES



SHAVING WAS A GYMNASTIC
FEAT

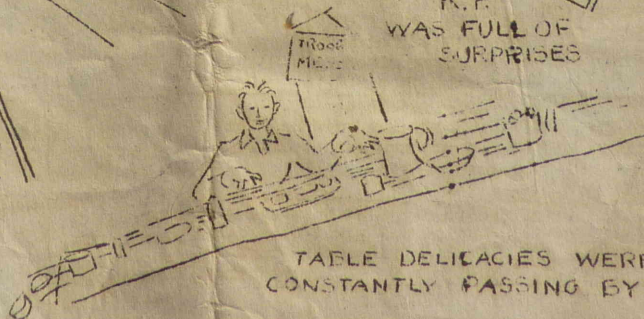


TABLE DELICACIES WERE
CONSTANTLY PASSING BY

J. Wilson

G I - 30C 1774
INFORMATION ABOUT GOVT. BENEFITS FOR OVERSEAS WIFE OF WORLD WAR II

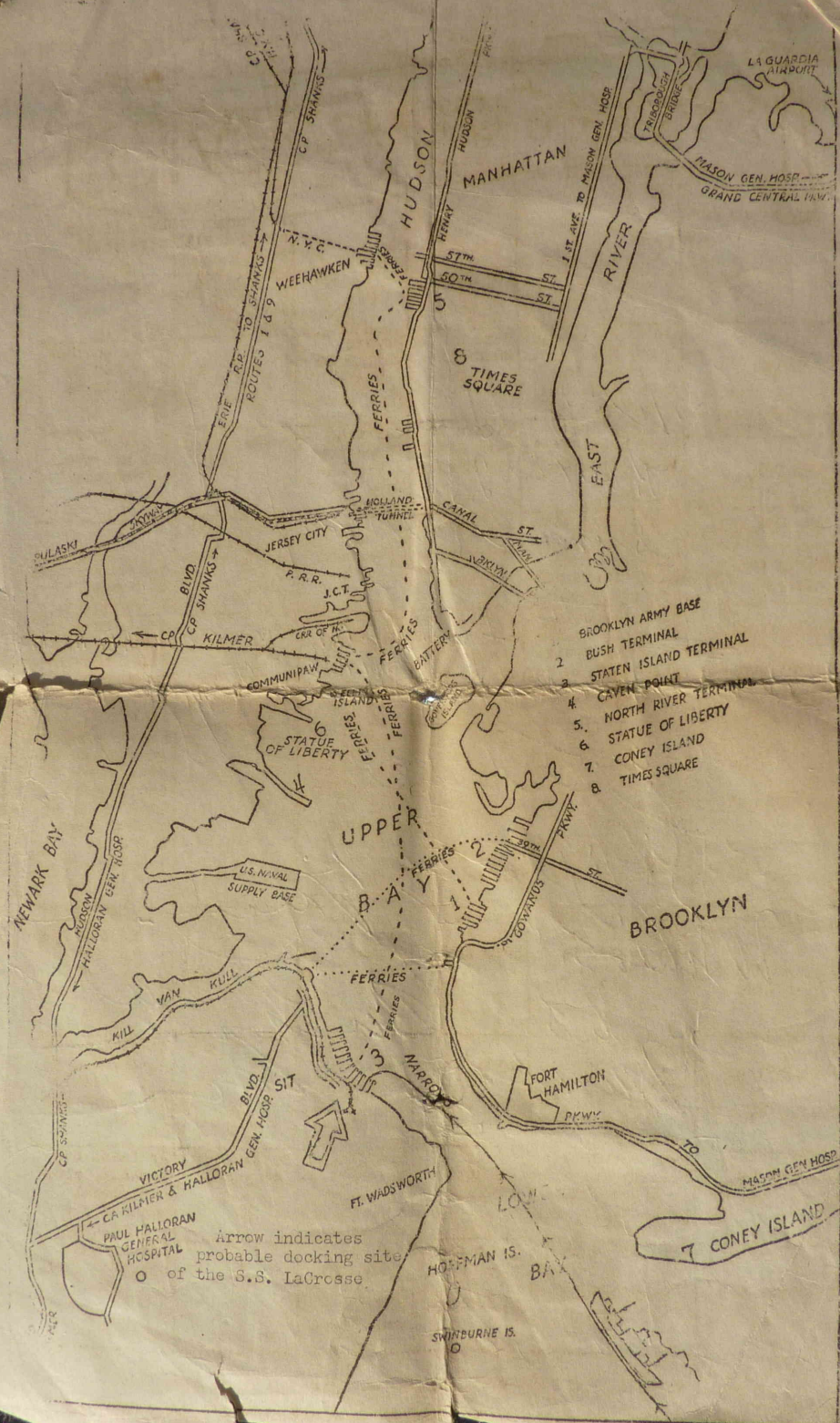
BENEFIT	REQUIREMENTS	WHEN TO APPLY	DURATION OF BENEFIT	PERIOD OF TRAINING	MONEY BENEFITS ALLOWANCE, ETC.
BUSINESS - GOV. PAY.	*		Three (3) payments.		\$500 in installments of \$100.
BILL OF RIGHTS	Under 25 when entered service or education interrupted. (everyone gets 1 year) * *	Within 2 yrs after discharge or 2 yrs after end of war.	Courses must be completed by 7 yrs after end of war.	Up to 4 school yrs. depending on length of service. Army schooling taken off G I Bill time when Army Credits are used for civilian credits.	Free tuition, books, plus \$50 a month. (\$75 a month if you have dependent. Less if you have job).
EDUCATION.					
LOANS.	Used for home, farm, business. Prove you are good risk. Max. interest - 4% **	Same as for education. (above)	Repaid within 20 years		Govt. guarantees 50% on loans up to \$4000.
EMPLOYMENT	Old job must have been "other than temporary" * *	Within 90 days after discharge.	Can't be fired for 1 yr. unless "misconduct".		Entitled to all accrued increments.
OLD JOB.					
NEW JOB.	Registered with USES. * *	Anytime.		Varies with course.	
FEDERAL CIVIL SERVICE.	Take required exam. (some jobs are for Vet only) *	Anytime.			5 points added to score. 10 if disabled.
READJUSTMENT ALLOWANCES. (unemployment compensation).	Register with USES, be available for "suitable" work or for free training. * *	Within 2 yrs after discharge or end of war.	52 weeks (maximum)		\$20 a week if unemployed. Diff. between wages & \$25 if partially employed.
GI INSURANCE.	Present term policy may be converted after 1 yr and before 2 yrs from date of issue. * * *		In case of disability for over 6 months. Payment of premiums suspended for duration of disability		Death benefits in monthly installments to beneficiary. Face value of policy from \$1000 to \$10,000.
PENSIONS	Disability incurred in or aggravated by service. * *	Anytime. Use VA Form 526.	For duration of disability (subject to exam by VA at any time)		From \$11.50 to \$265.00 per month.
WIFE CONNECTED DISABILITY					
NON-SERVICE CONNECTED DISABILITY.	Permanent disability; income less than \$1000 (\$2500 if married or have minor children.) * *	Anytime.	For duration of disability		\$50 per month (increased to \$60 after 10 yrs or at age 65).
VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION.	Pensionable disability incurred or aggravated by service. * *	See next column.	Training to be completed within 8 yrs after end of war	Up to four (4) years.	At least \$92 a month, plus additional amounts for dependents.
WIDOW AND CHILD CARE.	Wife of EM in 4 lowest pay grade (below grade of S/Sgt.) @	As soon as wife covers pregnancy.	During pregnancy, child-birth and infant care for 1 year.		Doctor and hospital fees.

SEPARATE DISCHARGE

OTHER THAN DISHONORABLE DISCHARGE

UNRECEIVED

WIFE MUST BE IN ACTIVE SERVICE AT TIME OF APPLICATION FOR THESE BENEFITS.



Arrow indicates
probable docking site
of the S.S. LaCrosse.

