

VI - 73 D - 9. "Victory Call" Mitchel Field Officer Thanks Bundles Unit" -  
The Saratogian, Saratoga Springs, New York, January 6, 1945.

# Victory Call #1:73D-9

The Saratogian • Jan. 6 / 1945

Mitchel Field Officer  
Thanks Bundles Unit

By JEAN MCGREGOR

FROM war service agents in other cities this week comes word of deep appreciation to the activities in behalf of the war effort and of service men and women, given by Saratoga Branch of Bundles for America.

CAPT. PHILIP DI BONA, of the Air Army Force Convalescent Center and Regional Station Hospital at Mitchel Field, sends this letter to Miss M. Kathryn Welch, treasurer of Bundles for America:

"In gratitude of your kind contribution of \$50 for Christmas telephone calls for the patients at the Army Air Force Hospital of Mitchel Field, we would like to express our sincere thanks.

"I am sure that the Christmas calls brought great happiness to the patients and their loved ones at home, adding much to the holiday spirit of the hospital."

The letter closed with a Happy New Year from the patients to all members of the Branch.

ANOTHER letter from Mrs. Orme Campbell, national director of Bundles for America Inc., thanks Saratoga Bundles for a generous contribution to the Christmas Fund which filled kits for service men.

"There are many willing hands to fill the gift kits made possible by the kindness of the members of your branch," writes Mrs. Campbell to Saratoga Branch, "and the boys who receive these gifts will be cheered by this thought of them."

National Headquarters at the last minute received a request for 3,000 kits to be filled in the week before Christmas, "so you may understand how very welcome your contribution is and how much it will help out on this project," Mrs. Campbell adds.

"Will you express to the members of your branch our sincere appreciation of their interest in this Christmas project and our gratitude for their splendid support," Mrs. Campbell concludes.

THREE women who have accomplished outstanding services on the home front during the war who deserve our award of the "Faithful Cross" for loyal service over a long period, are Miss Agnes Smedley, author and lecturer, Mrs. Shizuo Hirahara of Round Lake and Mrs. Chester W. Boyd, of the Saratoga Chapter Red Cross.

Miss Smedley by her writings and lectures has contributed top-notch service in the effort to bring a better understanding between Americans and the Chinese. An article in PM entitled Stilwell Scapegoat for Chiang's Defeats, recently caused much comment. Miss Smedley spent 12 years at the battlefield in China and has written four books on the revolutionary movement there and has won the respect and confidence of many important American military men operating in the Pacific war theater.



MISS AGNES SMEDLEY, author of Battle Hymn of China, who spends her spare time working to raise funds for war workers in China. Photo taken in service in China.



SHIZUO HIRAHARA, who is one of those taking up training for the nursing profession, to back up her boys on the war front.

While working on her books, writings and lectures at Yaddo, Miss Smedley spent her spare time, putting over two successful projects for the aid of the Chinese cultural workers. One prize was a silver bowl of Marie Antoinette silver given her by Katherine Anne Porter, now in Hollywood, as the prize, and the other, a beautifully made child's ensemble made by a naturalized American citizen, Mrs. Aino Taylor, whose father was Finnish, and mother Swedish, and husband, Scotch.

MRS. SHIZUO HIRAHARA, whose husband is a civil engineer, is studying for the nursing profession, to back up her two sons by a former marriage who are in the service. These are Jack Lewis, who recently was one of 16 out of 70 to receive appointment to preflight school, and Taylor Lewis, now overseas, and recently wounded in action in France.

Mrs. Hirahara has given many hours of volunteer service also at the Saratoga Hospital during the last year, responding to the appeal of Miss Rose Q. Strait, administrator for volunteer workers.

She recently passed all her exams for hospital training and now is taking four months training at the Glens Falls Hospital.

THE "Faithful Cross" should also go to Mrs. Chester W. Boyd executive secretary of Saratoga Chapter of the Red Cross, particularly for her work in behalf of the U.S. Veterans Facility.

Mrs. Boyd every night at 11 transfers nurses going on duty in the night shift to the Facility and never fails to perform this duty in all kinds of weather, un-mindful of slippery roads and foggy weather.

In fact she acts as an excellent liaison officer for the Facility performing every task which the Facility may call upon her to do.

Whenever veterans home on furlough are taken ill and need hospitalization, she acts in their behalf and brings them to the Facility in all cases except where an ambulance is needed. She has done a great many things for the veterans who have come and gone at the Facility and Major John S. Walsh, chief medical officer and all of the staff express their deep gratitude to her.

ANOTHER important home front service was that given recent-