

## 1942: The First Year – Overview

Within this Chapter, **1942: The First Year for War**, this **Overview** provides the progress of the war in Europe and the Pacific, as well as the country's first year in World War II, and the related community events of 1942.

The United States' first full year of fighting in Europe, North Africa, and the Pacific was 1942. While the US controlled the Pacific high seas, Japan held most South Pacific islands, eastern China, and the smaller Asian countries. It continued to mount attacks in Southeast Asia (Singapore, Java, and Burma), the South Pacific (the Philippines, Solomon Islands, and New Guinea), and even the American-controlled Aleutian Islands off the coast of Alaska. As the Philippines fell to the Japanese in spring 1942, the American and Filipino armies were forced to surrender. The subsequent Bataan Death March commenced with at least two Pulaski County men among the captives. The US finally reached a turning point in the Pacific war against Japan at the Battle of Midway, near the Midway Atoll, in June. Later that summer, the Allies landed on Guadalcanal, a strategic island among the Solomon Islands, east of New Guinea. They would fight the Japanese for the next six months to liberate these islands. Meanwhile, Germany suffered a setback in its campaign against the Soviet Union in the winter of 1942–1943.

We lost twelve of Our Boys that first full year of war. In 1942, at least two Pulaski County soldiers were doomed to the sixty-plus-mile Bataan Death March with 10,000 Americans and 66,000 Filipinos. During that week-long forced march with no food and water, at least 500 Americans and well over 5,000 Filipinos died. John died of exhaustion during the march, but his father did not learn of his fate until 1945. He was the first war casualty from Pulaski County. Clarence survived the march, but in 1944, he was lost while on board a sinking Japanese prisoner ship. Clarence was predeceased by his wife and daughter some years before in Montana, heightening the grief of surviving loved ones.

Writing of Arthur's disappearance, a reporter stated, "I can still see their beaming faces," referring to Arthur and an air mate who had attended their high school alumni celebration, along with the reporter, in their hometown just after receiving their aviation wings. Arthur was missing in action later in the year of the reunion and remained on the list of missing for 17 months.

The day of November 8, 1942, was awful for Pulaski County with four deaths across North Africa and Europe. Father Falter, connected to Pulaski County, died during a North African landing attempt with his unit. Also, on that day, David died, after finally passing his post-Pearl Harbor physical, as did Jack and James.

A profile of each fallen serviceman is in the chapter section, "The Dead".

That year, Mike earned a Silver Star for valor after saving his bomber and crew.

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

It's a Small World (War II) for brothers, cousins, and friends to meet far away from home. In the middle of the Atlantic, in Panama, in camps in Illinois, North Carolina, and at a canteen door in Los Angeles. (Sponsored by the United Service Organizations (USO), canteens were places of "Good Girls, Good Food, and Good Fun". Stateside servicemen could eat, socialize, and dance with local volunteer "junior hostesses" under the watchful eyes of married "senior hostesses". Near war zones, the USO provided entertainment to troops.)

Dale told of the Pearl Harbor attack a year later at a Winamac Kiwanis meeting.

Stan had his oil tanker torpedoed twice in three months.

The war brought disruption to young lives, young and old. Darwin and Earl had to sell their farms because they were entering the service. Urban had just opened his funeral home and was running for coroner when he was drafted. Jake, 42, said goodbye to two granddaughters when he enlisted.

In Ireland, Dr. John renewed his friendship with a college classmate, and now, war correspondent, Ernie Pyle.

These stories and more are in the chapter section, "War Stories". The Draft during the first full year of war is detailed in that section as well.

There was more war news besides Our Boys in the newspaper. Back home, rationing began with tires. Vehicle owners were urged to register their tires to protect against theft. Potential buyers started by completing a form on which the tire seller must have attested that the replacement was necessary, after which the ration board would decide. A limited number of tires and tubes were available for sale each month. In those years, tires were thinner, and each tire contained a circular tube that held the air supporting the car. By the end of the year, sugar, coffee, and fuel oil (for home heating) were also rationed. Gasoline rationing also began, and with no new cars and tire rationing, travel was minimal.

In 1942, alien residents were required to turn in firearms, shortwave radios, and cameras, and to carry identity cards.

In 1942, the top wartime-related item was US Defense "War" Bonds and Stamps. These were loans of money by citizens to the federal government to fund the war.

About 36 miles north of Winamac, the government opened the Kingsbury Ordnance Plant. Kingsbury became a major employer for the region, including Pulaski County. The plant primarily produced artillery shells and the point-detonating fuses that enabled other ordnance to explode on impact.

Zoe had eleven nephews in service.

## **1942: The First Year – Overview**

The war-related news available to the folks back home are in this chapter's section, **Community Climate**.



## 1942: The First Year – Community Climate

This is a summary of the news in print available to most residents of Pulaski County in 1942. The primary news sources were two competing local weeklies that focused solely on local news, except for government news related to farming. A nearby daily newspaper provided state, national, and international news, including progress in the war. There was no internet, no television, and minimal news on the radio and in movie theatres.

Not all who attempted to enlist were successful. Many had bad or missing teeth, which caused them to fail the pre-induction physical, but that restriction was reduced early in 1942. Many others had mental problems or deficiencies that caused them to be rejected. Most accepted these failures, for now. Many tried again a year or so later and passed. Many were recalled after restrictions were loosened. Some never reapplied—one committed suicide.

In 1942, nearly all the headlines in the *Logansport Pharos-Tribune* were war news. Most of it was bad, with no victories, however small.

Of the war news, over a third concerned Japan. Most of which were Japanese successes in Southeast Asia, including Burma, Java, Singapore, and the Philippines. Another quarter was related to the German drive into eastern Russia. About ten percent was associated with the German drive into North Africa, primarily Egypt, Libya, and Tunisia. Another ten percent was related to activity on multiple fronts, e.g., "Major Battles [in the Pacific and Egypt] Still Undecided" and "Pound Axis [Libya, Germany, and Japan] by Land and Sea". About 10% was related to other activities in Europe, including bombing runs on Germany. There was a trace of headlines about war news in the U.S., including reports of spies and rationing. There were even references to an invasion of Europe, even though that would not happen until 6 June 1944.

### International News

Far and away, the most frequent headline related to Germany's invasion of Russia.

In late January, the first contingent of U.S. Armed Forces for the European war arrived, based in Northern Ireland, a part of Britain.

The fall of the Philippine capital, Manila, and the Bataan Peninsula, including Fort Corregidor, brought bad news in 1942.

In March, Japan threatened Australia and India.

In April, the U.S. and Japan battled in Burma.

In June, U.S. General Dwight D. Eisenhower became Supreme Allied Commander in the European Theatre of Operations.

In June, Japan threatened Singapore. Also in June, there were concerns about the attacks on the isolated Aleutian Islands of the U.S. territory of Alaska. This brought the threat of war violence stateside, beyond the deaths of local boys in the Philippines and the Solomon Islands.

By October, the U.S. controlled Solomon Islands.

The fall brought German forces to North Africa to aid the Italians, who had been attacking countries in East Africa.

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Headlines mentioning BOTH the Pacific and European fronts appeared at least once a week. The memory of World War I had been one of a distant war across the Atlantic, rather than of a war across both oceans bounding the US, which was certainly worrisome to the residents of Pulaski County.

And a blow was struck with the fall of France and its resultant Nazi-endorsed Vichy government.

### National News

In January, FDR requested \$77 billion for the war.

### State News

As had happened during the First World War, the Indianapolis 500 was cancelled due to the war

The Indiana State Fair was cancelled due to the war.

Recycling was essential for the war effort. The Indiana State Defense Council reported that Indiana was 4<sup>th</sup> nationally in the collection of scrap metal, rubber, paper, and kitchen fat.<sup>1</sup>

Finally, in 1942, farm prices rose above pre-Depression levels.<sup>2</sup>

Thirty-six miles north of Winamac, the Kingbury Ordnance Plant opened in March 1942. Employing over 20,000, it made artillery shells, fuses, and other weapons.<sup>3</sup>

### Local News

Aside from letters from Our Boys, the primary way the folks got updates on the war was through the two competing local weekly newspapers, the Pulaski County Democrat and the *Winamac Republican*. They rarely published news about the war, let alone other state, national, and international news. Except for news about Our Boys, news from outside the county was limited to issues affecting the farmers. The rest of the content was local news. There were two daily newspapers from the large city of Logansport in adjacent Cass County, about 20 miles south. Those dailies, *Logansport Pharos-Tribune* and *Logansport Press*, carried international, national, and state news, as well as local news from their own county.

The war-related topics that appeared in the two local newspapers were minimal and, in no way, in-depth. Some related items appeared in the distant daily, along with expected details about campaigns and battles.

### Markets

Except for cows and sheep, most commodities had increased about 50% over the start of 1941.

| Wednesday's Markets       |               |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Cattle —</b>           |               |
| Steers                    | \$4.00-\$7.00 |
| Stockers and feeders      | \$3.00-\$5.00 |
| Cows                      | \$2.00-\$5.00 |
| Canners and cutters       | \$1.00-\$2.00 |
| Veal calves               | \$12.00 down  |
| Sows                      | \$9.40 down   |
| Hogs                      | \$11.20 down  |
| Sheep, per cwt.           | \$2.50        |
| Lambs, per cwt.           | \$5.00-\$6.00 |
| Wheat, bu., new, No. 2    | 1.13          |
| Oats                      | .53           |
| Rye, new                  | .69           |
| Corn, new, No. 3, 70 lbs. | .69           |
| Soybeans                  | 1.60          |
| Buckwheat                 | 1.20          |
| Hens                      | 15.20         |
| Old Roosters              | .12           |
| Eggs, per doz.            | .28           |
| Butterfat                 | .33           |

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 1 Jan 1942: 8.

| THE MARKETS              |              |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Choice Hogs              | \$11.20      |
| Choice Light Sows        | 9.40         |
| Veal Calves              | 12.00        |
| Lambs                    | 5.00 to 6.00 |
| Sheep                    | 2.50         |
| Wheat                    | \$1.13       |
| New Corn, No. 3, 70 lbs. | .69          |
| Oats                     | .53          |
| Rye, No. 2               | .69          |
| Soybeans                 | 1.60         |
| Buckwheat, clean, cwt.   | 1.20         |
| Hens                     | .14 to .19   |
| Eggs                     | .28          |
| Roosters                 | .12          |

Winamac (IN) Republican 1 Jan 1942: 4.

### News about Our Boys

Details of battles were never reported in the *Democrat* and *Republican*. But there was news about "Our Boys" from letters back to their families, and some of these letters intermittently made it into the paper. In January, the *Republican* began the regular column, "Our Boys in Service". The *Democrat* followed in March with the regular column, "Men in Service".

## Our Boys in Service

William O'Connor received word Wednesday that his son Mark is now a member of the Signal Corps at Mitchell Field, N. Y.

Marion Gudeman, son of Commissioner and Mrs. Joseph B. Gudeman of White Post township, enlisted in the marines and has been stationed at Parris Island, S. C.

Leroy Hansen of Hanna signed up with the Marines Saturday at Gary. The young man is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hansen of Rich Grove.

Charles Frain, who enlisted in the Navy last September, has been advanced to seaman second class and is now in the Bugler's school at San Diego, Cal.

Misses Burnice and Hilda Kopkey received word Tuesday from their brother Claude that he had arrived safely at Camp Moultrie, S. C. He also stated that Clement Kruzick and Francis Roe, both Winamac boys, were stationed at the same camp. Kruzick had been stationed at Fort Moultrie and Roe had been stationed at Camp Shelby, Miss.

*Winamac (IN) Republican* 15 Jan 1942: 1.

## Men in Service

Raymond Siebert received his final OK Monday for training as a cadet in the army air corps and is to report at Lafayette next Monday to be given the oath, after which he will be on immediate call. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Siebert and graduated in 1940 from the Winamac high school.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Freeman received word this week that their son Bernie Freeman, stationed with the radio air corps at Shaw Field, S. C., had been advanced to rank of corporal. Cpl. Freeman recently graduated from Scott Field radio school.

Harry Kocher and Howard Brown, stationed at Great Lakes Naval Training School, visited here during the week end with relatives. They were transferred Wednesday to Philadelphia.

Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Frain have received word that their son Charles has reached Hawaii. He enlisted in the navy last September.

Pvt. Art Clouser of Fort Benjamin Harrison spent the week end in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Clouser.

Pvt. Vincent J. Shank has been transferred from Keesler Field, Biloxi, Miss., to Scott Field at Belleville, Ill.

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat* 19 Mar 1942: 1.

The *Democrat* started publishing photos of those in service, usually three per Front-Page issue. The *Republican* didn't follow suit until 1943.

## 1942: The First Year – Community Climate

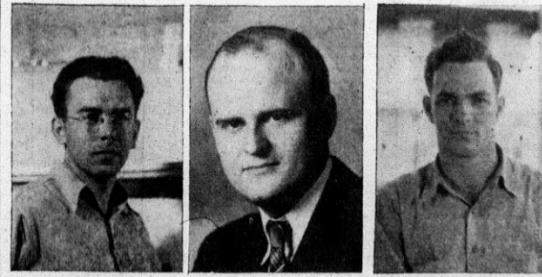
### PICTURES OF MEN IN SERVICE

The Democrat wants to print a picture of every Pulaski county man in the Armed Services. Relatives and friends of the men are requested to lend photographs long enough to be copied, then returned to the owners. These may be brought or mailed to The Democrat office, together with branch of service and rank, date of entry into the service, and names of parents or next of kin. Any good photograph will answer the purpose, but snapshots are not desirable unless they show the face unusually well. There is no charge.

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 17 Sep 1942: 1.*

### Men In Service (sample)

#### *Pulaski County Men in Armed Forces*



Petty Officer Elmer Howard of the Navy, son of Bert Howard of Winamac.

Cpl. John Kruger, pharmacist in the Army medical corps, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Kruger of Winamac. His wife, Mrs. Maxwell Kruger, is also of Winamac.

Staff Sgt. Herb Link, Air Corps mechanic, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Link of Valparaiso. Sgt. Link formerly lived in Winamac.

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 24 Sep 1942: 1.*

# Our Boys: A Community During World War II

## The Republican finally comes around

Over the next year or so, the Republican also published a regular column, "Hoosier Home Front".

### Hoosier Home Front

Every day the impact of the war grows heavier on the Hoosier civilian home front, both industrial and agricultural. Almost every day it is necessary to give up more of the things of peace so that Indiana may produce her share of the weapons of war and food for our armies.

But the process has just begun. In the end it may require more sacrifice than we can now imagine. Leon Henderson, price administrator, has warned that we are necessarily heading for a new low standard of living because of war effort.

How does that come about in Indiana? Well, a good many hundreds of persons who a few months ago were producing civilian goods now are making powder in the greatest powder factory in all the world—in Indiana.

A good many hundreds of carpenters and other construction workers who, not so long ago, were building dwellings and new filling stations and commercial buildings now are engaged in constructing a new and even larger powder factory and a new, huge army cantonment—here in Indiana.

One of the largest hosiery mills in all the world—here in Indiana—recently scrapped more than a million dollars worth of perfectly good machinery for knitting silk hose and today is installing machinery to make parachutes and other textile weapons.

The great auto factories of Anderson and South Bend and the great refrigerator plants at Evansville have dropped their peacetime business and are converting their plants to make war goods.

And those who know in Washington warn that these changes came and more will come, because we have learned bitterly the folly of half-way measures even since Pearl Harbor.

The amazing extent of the war effort might be illustrated this way: The location and estimated tonnage of scrap metal of every auto graveyard in Indiana today is a matter of record—an army secret—and a War Production Board field man is seeing to it that this scrap gets to the mills and back into the war assembly lines—a temporary ceiling on prices of used egg crates has been fixed by Washington in order to control the price of eggs (for Indiana prices are fixed at Grade 1, 26 cents; Grade 2, 21 cents; Grade 3, 16 cents per case)—manufacturers of sporting firearms have been ordered to make no further deliveries of 12-gauge shotguns, except for official war use—more than a half million burlap bags will be returned to the wool growers by the mills for this year's clip, a move to conserve burlap.

These and hundreds of other orders, touching almost every conceivable thing, from the glycerine content of soap to the conversion of million dollar industries, cannot fail to alter the life of every individual in some way. And more are coming.

But there's a silver lining department, too. Washington has announced that Hoosier homes and institutions will be able to buy tin cans for use when canning season starts, that the Hoosier "bread basket" farmers will be able to buy fertilizer for his fields at prices no higher than "any seller of fertilizer at retail did business during the five day period from February 16-20 inclusive." This price regulation will be in effect for 60 days and then be supplanted by a permanent ceiling—March tire and tube quotas for Indiana are substantially larger than those provided for rationing to eligible vehicles in the preceding month. This may help take care of some counties where huge construction projects for war have created localized tire-tube headaches. Indiana's March quota for passenger cars, motorcycles and light trucks is 2929 new tires and 2452 new tubes for passenger cars, motorcycles and light trucks; and 7450 new tires, 8373 new tubes, and 3207 retreaded tires for trucks and buses.

And if anyone still thinks the war effort hasn't touched him, and still hopes to escape, let him remember—sugar rationing is just around the corner.

*Winamac (IN) Republican 5 Mar 1942: 6.*

## 1942: The First Year – Community Climate

### Aliens

In 1942, alien residents were required to turn in firearms, shortwave radios, and cameras, as well as carry identity cards.

In the dark days after the Pearl Harbor attack, racism prevailed at times. Along the West Coast, nearly all citizens and aliens of Japanese heritage were moved to internment camps until the end of the war. In contrast, internment of German and Italian residents of any US coast was considered on an individual, case-by-case basis, and very, very few were interned. Below are three of the six news items on resident aliens from 1942.

### Sheriff Reminds Aliens To Turn in Fire Arms

All Axis aliens have been ordered to deposit any cameras, short wave radio sets, receiving and transmitter sets and fire arms at the sheriff's office, Sheriff Addison Daugherty reminds. This order is in accordance with a ruling of the attorney general's office. The sheriff states that he would like to have all the property turned in immediately, and the owner will be given a receipt for it.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 15 Jan 1942: 1.

### Axis Aliens Must Have Identity Certificates

All German, Italian and Japanese nationals residing in the United States are required to apply at the nearest county seat or first or second class postoffice for a certificate of identification, it was announced this week by the Department of Justice in Washington.

Such aliens living in this section of the country will file their applications for identity certificates between February 9 and February 28. The requirement applies to all

enemy nationals fourteen years of age or over who have not yet taken the oath of allegiance before a Federal judge, the final step in acquiring American citizenship. The regulations provide that after a careful check has been made of each application, the applicant will be provided with a certificate of identification bearing his photograph, index fingerprint and signature. He will thereafter be required to carry the certificate with him at all times.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 22 Jan 1942: 6.

### In Prohibited Area, Jap Aliens Prepare to Move



Thousands of alien Japanese in California, Oregon, Washington state and southern Arizona are busy disposing of or arranging security of their property and valuables as they await evacuation by the Army from the West Coast. It was expected that the first batch of aliens would be sent to the Army's reception center in southern California or to inland points within a few days. Above, Mrs. Alice Tatsumi of San Francisco, one of those affected, packs up in her home.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 17 Mar 1942: 10.

# Our Boys: A Community During World War II

## Rationing

Rationing started with tires. Next came sugar. And since no sugar, why not coffee? And soon gas. America's habits were changing. Below are eight of almost 50 news items related to rationing in 1942.

### RULES SET FOR TIRE RATIONING

#### Strict Program Will be Established to Conserve Rubber.

Plans under which Pulaski county will co-operate with state and federal agencies under the new tire rationing orders were laid Tuesday evening at a meeting of the Civilian Defense Board.

W. D. Pattison, Ellis S. Bees and William F. Hoover were made members of a County Tire Rationing Board, with the first named as chairman. Accompanied by Frank H. King, County Director of Civilian Defense, they will attend a meeting at Indianapolis on Sunday, January 4, to take the oath of office as agents of the federal government and receive instructions. Members of this committee, like others on the Defense Council, serve without pay.

The Defense Board meeting, held in the office of Auditor D. C. Boulden, was attended by almost the entire membership. In addition to the director were Donald Crise, Carl Olson, Addison Daugherty, George Collins, John Saitha, Miss Corinne Gilsinger and Mrs. Ha Holdemann, all of Winamac; Archie Hiatt of StarCity, Dr. C. C. Buyer of Francesville, Ted Rosenburg of Medaryville.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 1 Jan 1942: 1&2.

#### Finances Discussed.

Among various items discussed were steps to meet expenses of the board. A committee was appointed to interview members of the county council relative to an appropriation of county funds to meet the need.

The new tire regulations, as issued last week end by Price Administrator Leon Henderson for the guidance of local tire rationing boards which begin operating January 5, bar issuance of tire purchase certificates except to owners of motor vehicles which fall with in seven sharply defined classifications, covering essential services for health, safety, and industrial and commercial operations.

#### Motorists to "Double Up"

Simultaneously, Henderson urged the millions of motorists who will be unable to buy new tires to stop unnecessary driving immediately and "double up" in driving to work. Only retreaded, recapped, or other used tires on which no rationing limits have yet been set, will be available to them.

The regulations provide that purchase of certificates for new tires may not be issued unless an applicant certifies that the tires or tubes sought will be mounted on:

1. Vehicles used by physicians, surgeons, visiting nurses, or veterinarians, principally for professional services.
2. Ambulances.
3. Vehicles used exclusively for fire fighting services, enforcement of specific laws affecting public

(Continued on Page Two.)

### RULES SET FOR TIRE RATIONING

(Continued from page One.)

#### Health and safety, garbage removal or other sanitation services, or mail delivery.

#### Buses Not Affected

4. Vehicles with a capacity of ten or more passengers operated exclusively to carry passengers as a part of services rendered to the public by regular transportation system, as school busses, or to carry employees to and from any industrial or mining establishment or construction project except when public transportation facilities are readily available.

5. Trucks used exclusively for ice and fuel delivery, transportation of materials for construction and maintenance of public roads, public utilities or production facilities, defense housing, and military establishments; trucks used by essential roofing, plumbing, heating and electrical repair services, or waste and scrap dealers; by any common carriers; and for transporting raw materials, semi-manufactured goods and finished

products—except that no certificates may be issued to transport such raw materials, semi-manufactured or finished goods to the ultimate consumer for personal, family or household use.

#### Tires for Tractors.

6. Farm tractors or other farm implements—except automobiles or trucks—for which tires are essential to operation.

7. Industrial, mining, and construction equipment—except automobiles and trucks—for which tires are essential to operation.

No exemptions other than those specified in the seven classifications of eligibles are provided for persons who use their automobiles in the conduct of their business.

Motorists and truck owners on the eligible list who seek new tires must fill out application forms. These forms then must be taken to an inspector—dealers or garage men appointed by the local rationing boards—who must inspect and report on the condition of the applicant's tires. If the inspector finds the tire or tires are unsafe and cannot be repaired, reconditioned or retreaded he will certify the need for a new tire to the local board. The board must then review and take final action on the application.

Henderson estimated recently that the nation's supply of new tires was sufficient to last about two months under normal, unrestricted demand.

### Pick Out Your Own Initial for Sugar Registration Next Week

Next Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, May 4 to 7, are the days upon which all persons in the United States who desire to purchase sugar during the coming year will be required to register and obtain their War Ration Books.

One school in each township will be open from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. each day. The public is asked to observe the following schedule in making application for rationing books in order to avoid congestion at the registration centers. Since the elementary teachers are to do the registering, there will not be enough force on hand to take care of an unlimited number of individuals, hence the necessity of adherence to the schedule:

Persons with family names beginning with A, B, C, D, E and F will register on Monday; G, H, I, J, K and L on Tuesday; M, N, O, P, Q and R on Wednesday; S, T, U, V, W, X, Y and Z on Thursday.

Places of registration by townships, and city administrators, are as follows:

Beaver—Center school, Claude Pugh.  
Cass—Center school, Esther Clark, Franklin—Beardstown school, Rudolph Cords.  
Harrison—Fairview school, Clancy Murphy.  
Indian Creek—Pulaski school, Albert Harsbarger.  
Jefferson—Center school, Loren Ezra.  
Monroe—Center school, Everett Roller.  
Rich Grove—Denham school, Mary O'Connor.  
Salem—Francesville school, George Gerichs.  
Tippecanoe—Monterey school, Ernest Brown.  
Van Buren—Star City school, Dwight Surber.  
White Post—Medaryville school, Ralph Harris.  
Winamac—High school, Earl D. Roudeshus.

Elementary teachers and others will assist the city administrators.

One adult member of each family unit will register for all members of the family. Persons not members of a family unit will register for themselves.

The age, height, weight and color of eyes and hair of each member of the family must be listed on the individual application as filled out by the registrant, who also lists the same data upon the individual ration books.

The registrant also must specify the total amount of white and brown sugar owned by the family unit at time of applying for the ration card. Heavy Federal penalties are provided for failure to list the correct amounts.

Each person is permitted to have up to two pounds of sugar on hand at time of registration. Thus, a family of four may own eight pounds of sugar without penalty. Above this amount, stamps equivalent to the excess will be removed from the individual ration book, up to six pounds. Families having more sugar on hand than six pounds per person, will not receive books.

Upon completion of an application for a war ration book for each member of the family, the registrant fills out an equal number of books. Before these books may be used, each one must be signed by the name of the person to whom authorized, or in the case of a child by one of his parents or guardian.

Each book contains 28 stamps, each of which is good for one pound of sugar every two weeks. The first stamp will authorize its holder to buy one pound of sugar in the period May 5 to 16; the second will be valid for the May 17-30 period; the third for May 31-June 13, and the fourth, June 14-17. The amount allowed for each stamp after June 27 will be announced later.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 30 Apr 1942: 1.

## 'There' a Jap in Every Vacant Seat'

That slogan is being used in the West to remind auto drivers that they can help the tire situation by sharing their cars with friends who wish to make the same trip.

As a means of exchanging information relative to proposed trips, The Democrat is making its front window and its telephones available to the public. So . . .

- If your car is to go a certain place on a certain date, and you wish to take passengers, bring or phone those facts to The Democrat and they will be posted on a bulletin board in the window;
- If you need to go a certain place on a certain date, come to the window to see if a bulletin has been posted for such a trip by some other person, or call by phone to ask.

There is no charge for this service, which is in the nature of a community experiment. Phone 66 or 65.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 28 May 1942: 1.

## Iced Beer Restricted By Decision

Supreme Court Prohibits Drug Stores, Groceries and Confectionaries Selling Iced Beer

INDIANAPOLIS, June 4—(UPI)—The sale of iced beer by Indiana drugstores, grocery stores and confectionery shops was forbidden today following a decision by the state supreme court upholding the constitutionality of the 1941 iced beer amendment to the state liquor law.

Under the high court ruling in favor of the law, returned late yesterday, dispensation of iced beer is restricted to taverns and bars.

The supreme court ruling revised a decision returned last July by Marion County Superior Judge Herbert M. Spencer on a suit contesting the law's validity. Judge Spencer's ruling on the case, filed by a group of Indianapolis druggists and grocers seeking an injunction to prevent enforcement of the law, was appealed to the high court by the Alcoholic Beverages Commission.

The plaintiffs contended that the meaning of the word "iced" in the law "so uncertain and indefinite as to render its application void."

"We are of the opinion that the phrase iced beer, or cooled....is not indefinite and there need be no uncertainty as to what is prohibited," the high court declared.

Holding that the law was not discriminatory, as decided by the lower court ruling, the supreme court opinion pointed out that by the nature of the plaintiff's business, "the sale of beer may be regarded as merely incidental while it is the principal business of those apparently favored by the law."

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 4 Jun 1942: 4.



THAT THOSE WHO FIGHT MAY EAT

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 20 Jun 1942: 8.

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### Coffee Rationing Starts Dec. 5

After midnight Saturday night, grocers will not be allowed to sell coffee until rationing gets underway on Dec 5. Coupons in the back of the war ration book No. 1, or the sugar rationing book, will be used for the coffee rationing. Stamp No. 27 will be the first used and will be good for one pound of coffee for each adult over 15 years of age. This pound will run, however, for five weeks or until Jan. 3. No additional registration or forms will be necessary for this rationing.

Winamac (IN) Republican 26 Nov 1942: 1.

### Gas Rationing Points Explained

With the preliminary work of issuing gas rationing books completed the Rationing Board has moved back from St. Peter's school to its headquarters in the Court House.

A statement on some points, which are still not clear to some gas users follows:

All coupons from A, B, C and D books must be endorsed on the back with the car license number and state before they can be accepted by the gas seller.

A coupons are good for 32 gallons of gas any time up to Jan. 21.

Winamac (IN) Republican 10 Dec 1942: 1.

Each coupon in A, B, and C books is good for four gallons of gas.

Coupons in F1 and F2 books are each good for five gallons of gas. Coupons in E and R books are each good for five gallons of gas. They must contain the name and address of the user. These are for non-highway use such as tractors, stoves and for cleaning purposes.

T coupon books for trucks are issued only on presentation of certificates of War Necessity. However, those who have not received this certificate may receive an allotment of gas for the month of December. Except as above, the local rationing board has nothing to do with the amount of gasoline allotted. The amount is stated on the War Necessity certificate.

### WAR RESTRICTIONS WILL CHANGE EATING HABITS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14—(UPI)—American housewives must begin to make more drastic changes in their housekeeping habits. Official forecasts indicate that the war will invade the kitchen in a big way in 1943.

Drastic cuts in canned food supplies, "points" rationing of meat and curtailment of fats for soap manufacture are only the major specific changes on the horizon. Rationing of dairy products also is likely.

"No one will need to go hungry," according to Food Administrator Claude R. Wickard. "We will be the best-fed nation in the world."

But he and other officials trying to feed the United Nations warned that some eating habits of the American people must change. Wickard's theme will be that the United States is going to have to give up some of its food luxuries and concentrate on essentials. An educational campaign will start soon.

Food Administrator Wickard said the prospects were good that American civilians, American armed forces and the Allies would have enough food to meet needs—"I emphasize needs as against what people might like.... I'm not saying that you may not go hungry for some of the things you would like."

Along with the assurance that no one need be hungry came a denial of a report that the government plans to limit movement of

food to 500 miles or eliminate larger stores to concentrate sales in smaller establishments. But agriculture and office of defense transportation officials will recognize transportation as a major food bottleneck.

President Roosevelt delegated to Wickard the power to establish priorities on the transportation of foods. And officials here expect an attempt soon to eliminate so far as possible long hauls of non-essential and luxury foods.

Much transportation now is wasted. Officials said, for example, that beef is shipped into Nebraska from Chicago, while Omaha packers send theirs to Illinois; Buffalo millers send flour to the midwest and vice versa.

Severest blow to many American housewives—long accustomed to kitcheneettes and can openers—will be the cuts in canned foods. Officials doubted the disappearance of the tin can. But Americans were expected to have to cut consumption of canned foods from 46 to 33 pounds each in 1943. Some quarters expected the cuts in canned food production to be followed by rationing.

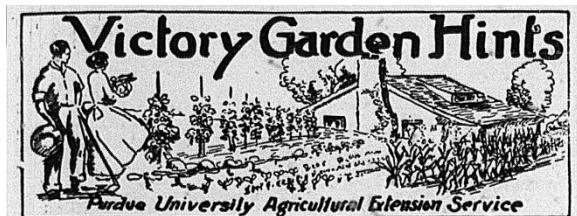
Officials indicated that no total weekly meat ration yet has been set. Originally it had been hoped to fix it at about 2½ pounds weekly. Increased demands by the armed forces and lend-lease may make the eventual ration considerably smaller. The weekly meat ration in Great Britain and Germany is about 12½ ounces.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 14 Dec 1942: 12.

## 1942: The First Year – Community Climate

### Victory Gardens

Tips on creating "Victory Gardens" began to appear since shortages were expected.



#### PLAN COUNTY GARDENS

Representatives of the county extension committee, Civilian Defense Board and county war board met in the Court House Monday night to lay plans for the county garden program. The following people were present at this meeting: Mrs. Ray Harpster, president of the County Home Economics clubs; Walde Huddleston, chairman of the county extension committee and the War board; Frank King, chairman of Civilian Defense Board; Mrs. E. C. Gorrell, member of the defense board; Luther Blinn and Mrs. O. G. Kelley representing the Farm Bureau; Mrs. George Hoesel, AAA field woman; Everett Stanley and E. G. Fry of the county war board; Mrs. Benner, home agent, and C. E. Olson, county agent.

The following objectives of the garden program were discussed:

1. A garden for every rural family, at least one-tenth acre per person.

2. Gardens should be planned to provide the year's vegetable sup-

ply for the family. Plan to provide as much of the fruit supply as is economical.

3. More home canning and storage should be practiced to conserve the national tin supply and to provide the year's supply of health food.

4. To save the commercially canned food supply for other people.

Another purpose of this meeting was to correlate the activities of the various organizations of the county so that it would be one uniform program to be worked through the county extension office.

Mrs. Ray Harpster was selected as the county garden chairman. New leaders in each township will be selected and it is hoped that the educational program can be carried to more people of the county through this organization. Everyone that is able to produce a victory garden in 1942 is urged to do so. Boys and girls of 4-H club age are urged to join the 4-H garden club.

Winamac (IN) Republican 19 Feb 1942: 1.



All garden vegetables are benefited by having a liberal amount of fertility in the soil. The fertility should be readily and also slowly available to the plant to care for plant growth requirements throughout the season, according to Purdue university agricultural extension specialists.

Unless there are sufficient mineral elements in the soil, the plants may become dwarfed and fall short of full development as well as production. There are several ways of supplying the soil with the essential plant foods and Hoosier gardeners are urged to use whatever is available.

Manure could be applied profitably at the rate of twenty to forty loads per acre with lesser amounts of the more concentrated kind, such

as poultry and sheep manure. Manure should be applied during the late winter and early spring and at least two weeks before plowing. Manure supplies quite a few of the necessary mineral elements as well as organic matter.

If manure is not available, 300 to 500 pounds per acre of 0-20-20 (phosphate and potash) fertilizer broadcast over the garden just before plowing will be beneficial to any garden soil. When this material is plowed under, the plant food will be in the bottom portion of the seed bed.

Nitrogen may be supplied as a top or side dressing to the growing plants. Neither seed nor roots of transplants should come in direct contact with the commercial fertilizer.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 26 Feb 1942: 1.

### Good Plan Saves Work In Victory Garden



Four Steps to a Well Planned Vegetable Garden.

A carefully planned layout will save many hours' work in planting and cultivating your Victory Garden. Make your plan during the early months before the soil can be turned.

While good vegetables will grow in crooked rows or even if the seed is broadcasted over beds, the work of cultivating and caring for the plants is immeasurably reduced if the seed is sown in straight rows.

Take the trouble to stretch a line, and mark the row with exactness; it will save hours when the time comes to push a wheel hoe down the aisle between them.

Rows running north and south are best to let sunshine reach the soil after the plants are well grown. Distance between the rows may vary considerably. In small gardens, well supplied with plant food, rows of low-growing crops may be as close as 6 inches.

The best distance for crops not exceeding 2 feet in height is 18 inches, which enables you to cultivate each aisle in one trip with the wheel hoe.

Your plan should provide for the whole season. This means in some cases, two or more crops grown in the same row. Where several successive crops of the same vegetable are desired, there are two

methods of getting them. Either sow at about the same time early, midseason and late varieties, which will come into yield at different times, or make several sowings of the same variety, ten days or two weeks apart.

Where directions say sow in a drill, it means a shallow furrow. Sowing in hills does not mean in elevations, unless you live in a section of heavy rainfall. It means a series of spots, evenly spaced, at each of which several seeds are sown, as contrasted with the continuous row which is termed a drill. Vine crops are usually sown in "hills," and they need room to spread.

Plan your garden so that early sowings are made at one end, and the rows are added in regular order, as planting proceeds, so that the planted area is always complete without vacant space. This simplifies cultivation and irrigation.

Remember that to sow in straight rows, to thin out properly so your plants have room to grow, to cultivate faithfully so that weeds never grow, and protect your plants against insects and diseases—these four points carefully observed will make your garden one of professional quality.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 23 Mar 1942: 10.

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### Civilians in the line of fire

One resident received two letters from a pen pal in England. Her English friend described the German Blitz and shortages. Below are two of the nine items related to firsthand civilian experiences with the war in 1942.

During another Kiwanis luncheon, a retired Navy officer described his years in Europe and Russia. He described the mistrust people in European cities have with each other based on nationality, and all universally mistreated Jews.

Another resident received a cablegram from England. She got news that a brother-in-law had died. Nearly a year before, her brother had died when the Germans bombed a hospital.

The *Democrat* heard from one former resident who described Honolulu ten months after the Pearl Harbor attack. Instead of money, it appears that island residents are paid with script that was not good elsewhere. Travel to the mainland is severely restricted. And domestic help was very expensive.

## British Letter Tells of German Blitzes

WHEN The Republican editor returned June 26th from a ten-day tour of Ontario as guest of the Canadian Weekly Press Association he brought back with him a number of copies of Canadian newspapers.

While leafing through these strange newspapers, Mrs. James Holland, wife of The Republican foreman, came across the name of Mrs. Edna Pendergast of Thames Ditton, England, a small village in Surrey 10 miles from London.

Deciding that it would be an interesting experience, Mrs. Holland wrote Mrs. Pendergast a letter on June 30th. Monday she received a reply which was mailed at Kingston on Thames August 21.

By reading between the lines one can get an idea of what the people of Great Britain are going through. The letter as passed by British censor No. 5357 follows:

Dear Erma,

Thank you for your letter which arrived this afternoon. It was a pleasant surprise and I am greatly intrigued to know how my name came to be mentioned in the Gananoque paper. Unfortunately my sister-in-law has been seriously ill and is in a hospital in the north so I shall have to wait to elucidate the mystery. It can't be connected with the holiday I spent in Canada years ago though the connection brought back many happy memories of the kindness and hospitality I received then.

I am trying to visualize you as I write but although you have given many details I'd better wait till I receive the snap before making further guesses.

We too are a family of three; myself, my husband, Jack, and son Michael who will be four in January. We were married seven years before Michael was born so you'll see I'd be a bit touchy about mentioning ages. A char I once had asked me if I remembered Queen Victoria's jubilee but I was properly indignant about that as I wasn't born then. I am tall, brown haired—grey in parts, but I might blame Hitler for that—and according to my passport, blue eyed. No other distinguishing marks. Jack is also tall, brown haired and grey eyed. He is Irish but not a follower of De Valera. Michael is going to be tall, is fair, blue eyed and 100% boy. He is angelic now being asleep but awake is most mischievous and is pretty intelligent, friendly and

affectionate, in fact he is on intimate terms with the whole neighborhood.

I'll follow your lead and describe the place we live. Thames Ditton, as you can imagine, is on the river and we used to spend a lot of our time in and on the Thames. Now our spare time is all filled with gardening, like all our neighbors we have dug up our gardens to grow vegetables and have a promising crop coming along. Next year we hope to share an allotment and grow more. Our village is quite quaint and picturesque. A village green where the local cricket team play their matches—decorated with the usual stumps to discourage aeroplanes landing—and many quaint old Queen Anne cottages and houses. The local inn dates back to 1350 and parts of the church are very old. Hampton Court is only a short distance down the river; and the parks near are lovely—if a bit scarred in places. I haven't been up to town (London) since the first autumn of the war so know only of the damage by hearsay. I couldn't bear to see parts I was fond of in ruins. Seems a bit of one's old life gone. I'm very fond of old places.

I'm afraid you haven't chosen a very exciting person to give you war experiences. We have had some experiences of blitzes but have been fortunate in being in the country for the worst parts. We were actually in the country staying with friends at their

(Continued on Page 5)

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Winamac (IN) Republican 2 Oct 1941: 1.

# Wartime England by One Who Is in the Midst of It

Following is the second letter received by Mrs. James Holland, wife of The Republican foreman, who began a correspondence with an English woman whose name she obtained from a Canadian newspaper brought back from Canada by The Republican editor last summer. It's intimate touches may give our own women some idea of what they may expect if the war continues indefinitely:

Thames Ditton, Surrey, England,  
December 20th, 1941

My Dear Erma:

I have wasted a couple of sheets of paper starting this letter and now feel that I must go right ahead no matter how badly I phrase what I want to say. First please forgive me for being so long in answering your letter. I did enjoy getting it and must thank you for the photographs which are a great help in getting acquainted. I am badly off for snaps, enclose a few of Michael. I rarely have one taken of myself —only by accident and though I have had several tries have not yet found any views of the district. I will try again and send them later, the few remaining in the shops give no idea of the place at all.

As you prophesied in your first letter we are now in this war together, and let us hope that soon we may get going and make such a job of it that our children do not have to face such horrors and anxieties. There is not much flag-flapping about this war, it is too grim and terrible. I have been thinking a lot about you lately for you must be terribly anxious about your brother. So many of our friends and Jack's relations are at sea, his uncle who is a captain in the merchant navy—and who incidentally was torpedoed and taken prisoner in the last war—is still at sea. Jack's father was commodore skipper of the Howard line.

I like the sound of your house and the looks of it, and I should like to raid your cupboards. I'm afraid it makes me envious for catering has got a lot more difficult since I wrote last and though we get enough to eat the proverb about "enough being as good as a feast" doesn't seem much consolation. I seem to remember saying that I could get fish—I can, but with great difficulty, as our local shop has closed through lack of supplies. I wonder if you'll find as we have done, that item by item things disappear from the shops, silly little things affect one. I grew my hair as I heard that permanent waving would stop—now as I can't get hair grips I shall have to have my hair cut again as I can't do it up. It's marvelous how one finds substitutes for things that once seemed essential but I can find no substitute for these wretched hair grips.

Of course you will not get this in time for me to send Christmas greetings but we shall think of you then and hope that Jimmy is enjoying his Christmas. It was kind of you to send the gloves to Michael, they have not arrived yet but we are hoping. We decided to give presents to children only this year, this was difficult enough as toys are scarce and very expensive. Michael asked Father Christmas for an Indian suit and the Three Little Piggie book, luckily we were able to get both. I got a small tree but if we had not had decorations left from another year it wouldn't look very festive. We want to make as good a show as we can as Michael is so looking forward to these Christmas festivities. I made a cake, I haven't any icing sugar or almonds but hope to be able to frost it and decorate it with the things from other years. We got a jelly too—first for a year I should think—but so far haven't been able to get any sweets at all. Turkeys are four and sixpence (nearly a dollar?) a pound so we compromised and got a goose, this is to cost twenty-

(Continued on Page 8)

## Letter from England Reveals Some Shortages

(Continued from Page 1)

four and sixpence for quite a small bird so we shall have to carve it with a razor. Probably next Christmas we shall look back on all this as a lord mayor's banquet but if we are well and truly socking the Hun then, who cares! I felt I must make as good a contribution to the Rusisan Red Cross as possible as my Christmas present, as they have put up such a magnificent fight and they have shown such marvelous spirit.

I too have been buying a few clothes, am horrified to find that my coupons are almost gone, socks and stockings are a great drain on coupons, wearing out clothes is catastrophic in fact "fair" wear and tear in anything is. Michael recently decorated the walls of the hall with some fine surrealist sketchings and I suppose — always provided the walls still stand—we shall see the traces for some years to come.

Yes, I was surprised to receive The Winamac Republican and see my letter in print, I have no leanings that way. I suppose we all play our part in some way, most wives whose job seems to be looking after a home and children wish they could do something more spectacular. Maybe we won't like it so much when our children are looked after in creches (day nurseries) and we are at the factory bench.

I wonder if Alexander Woollcott has been on your radio lately. I did enjoy the fine talks he gave here, he is a most polished and witty speaker and seemed friendly to this country.

In looking them over my snaps don't seem worth sending but it's all I can find at the moment and are quite good of Michael. Your Jimmy looks a bit to love and I'm sure is great fun.

Let me hear from you soon, in the meantime, all our best wishes for the New Year. I feel we shall have a lot of sticky times to go through but in spite of the set backs and anxiety we are experiencing now soon perhaps we shall be able to share a satisfaction in seeing the job going as we want it to.

Goodbye and good luck, yours sincerely, Edna Pendergast.

### European morale

At Indiana University, 150 miles to the south of Winamac, a newspaper reporter told an audience about Germany. He said that the average German's morale dropped when the US entered the war. Still, the leadership, particularly the Gestapo, was intimidating to the average German as well as the news media.

## *Newsman Relates Experiences During Internment in Germany*

The fear of defeat, which began when Hitler declared war on America, and the resulting death of the German people at the hands of the conquered nations of Europe stalks the people of Gestapo-ridden Germany and makes the Nazi war machine more dangerous than ever, Jean Graffis told an Indiana university audience last week.

"This fear, combined with the tremendous reserves built up by the Nazis, means that it will be at least two years before we can expect the German machine to crack, no matter where the attack is launched," he said.

Graffis, who left France only a month ago under an arrangement for an exchange of war prisoners with the Axis powers, is a newspaper man, and related to several families in this county. He is a son of the late Cecil Graffis, brother of W. H. Graffis of the Star City vicinity. Mrs. Cecil Graffis of Temple City, Calif., is a sister of Mrs. Geneva Dunn of Winamac.

A graduate of Indiana university in 1931, Graffis went to Paris in June, 1939, as representative for an American news agency, being a passenger on the first flight of an American Clipper plane to Lisbon.

### Morale At Low Point.

German morale, he said, is at a low point today. It began when America came into the war and is increased by air raids, loss of sleep, improper diet and the realization of the people that they were misled by the promises of Hitler.

"The people of Germany are ready to quit, now that the United States is in the fight, but they can't because of the Gestapo," the speaker said. "The common people are miserable. They felt a great sentimental attachment to the people of America."

The Hoosier war correspondent said he counted ninety-five air raids by Russian and British planes on Berlin during his stay of fourteen months in the German capital and great damage was done to the industrial area surrounding the city. Officials, he added, were careful to see that correspondents viewed none of the damage. Graffis said the accuracy of the Russian bombers was far greater than that of the British who "tried hard enough but just couldn't hit the good targets."

"The German people were more

(Continued on Page Two)

## NEWSMAN RELATES NAZI EXPERIENCES

(Continued from page One.)

jittery during an air raid than any I had ever seen. They would curse me and the other American newspaper men because they believed some of the planes were American."

### Received "Raw Deal."

Graffis said he and the other American correspondents interned in Germany received the "raw deal" of the internment arrangement. As compared with Axis officials and nationals housed at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., the Americans in Germany were placed in an old hotel and given poor food. He drew a picture of the war prisoners wadding up German bread and throwing it at each other for amusement.

"They forbade us, under threat of fine and imprisonment, to fly a kite or pick dandelion greens so that we could make a salad and stop an epidemic of scurvy. The Gestapo watched every move we made."

"The methods of the Gestapo are very cruel and barbarous," he continued. "I know of persons whose arms have been broken in seven or eight places and of others whose eyes had been gouged out because they had information the Gestapo wished."

Graffis, who saw the French coast a month ago, said Hitler has set up a strong line of fortifications, forty-five miles deep, from Norway to Spain, in anticipation of an invasion. In these lines are big guns taken from the French, barbed wire, entrenchments and tank traps. Nevertheless, he believes the French people will aid actively any invasion of the continent by the Allies.

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

During another Kiwanis luncheon, a retired Navy officer described his years in Europe and Russia. He described the mistrust people in European cities have with each other based on nationality, and all universally mistreat Jews.

### Tells Vividly of European Chaos

Lt. George Franklin Schultz, USN retired, of Columbia City, gave a most interesting talk on Europe and Russia in particular at the Tuesday noon Kiwanis luncheon.

Several years ago the speaker was selected by the Navy department to go to Russia to learn the Russian language and gather information. As our country at that time did not have diplomatic relations with Russia, Mr. Schultz was listed as a naval attache of the American embassy at Berlin, and from there traveled into Russia at various times and thru quite a bit of European Russia. However, he was unable to obtain permission from the Russian government to travel to the Pacific over the trans-Siberian railroad.

His vivid description of Russia, Finland, Lithuania, and other European countries held his listeners enthralled. He told of the age-old hatreds of the numerous small as well as larger European countries, which are the cause of almost continual warfare. In fact, at least in Europe, war is the natural state while peace is only an interlude. Even in peacetimes, peo-

ple who live in the same city and mingle on the streets every day pass each other up with scorn for one may be a German, another a Swede, another a Finn or a Lithuanian. They can tell each other's nationality by their features, cut of their clothes and other characteristics. Jews are universally looked down upon and mistreated in continental Europe. When he first went to Russia he could not get any reply when he attempted to converse with people on the trains (they thought he was a German) until he would mention something about America. Then the response was immediate and favorable for many had friends or relatives here and they thought the United States was paradise on earth. War or no war Europe is in a continual turmoil from national jealousies.

In a reply to a question following his address, Lt. Schultz said he believed the war would last two or three years yet. Possibly not heavy fighting, but more or less battling.

President McCaskey announced that Ladies night would be Tuesday evening, Oct. 20 at 6:30. He also named the Public Affairs committee to arrange for the annual community Halloween party. At a meeting Tuesday evening at the Davis plumbing shop it was decided to hold the celebration Friday evening, Oct. 30, at the gymnasium.

Winamac (IN) Republican 8 Oct 1942: 1.

Another resident received a cablegram from England. She got news that a brother-in-law had died. Nearly a year before, her brother had died when the Germans bombed a hospital.

The *Democrat* heard from one former resident who described Honolulu ten months after the Pearl Harbor attack. Instead of money, it appears that island residents are paid with script that was not good elsewhere. Travel to the mainland is severely restricted. And domestic help is very expensive.

## 1942: The First Year – Community Climate

### War Bonds

In 1942, the top wartime-related item was US Defense "War" Bonds and Stamps. These were loans of money by citizens to the federal government to fund the war. Unlike taxes, bonds were financial instruments with repayment assured by the federal government. Citizens were encouraged to spend 10 percent of their income on Bonds. Month after month, the newspaper ads appealed to patriots, children, racists, and mothers. Here are seven of the dozen or more items related to war bonds published in 1942.



Winamac (IN) Republican 1 Jan 1942: 1.



Winamac (IN) Republican 23 Apr 1942: 3.

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II



Winamac (IN) Republican 30 Apr 1942: 6.

★ *What You Buy With* ★

# WAR BONDS

★

A "Jeep" costs the army \$900. Soldiers call them "Four-by-Fours," but the official name is reconnaissance car. "Jeeps" can maintain a speed of 45 miles an hour, transport a half ton of supplies or six men.

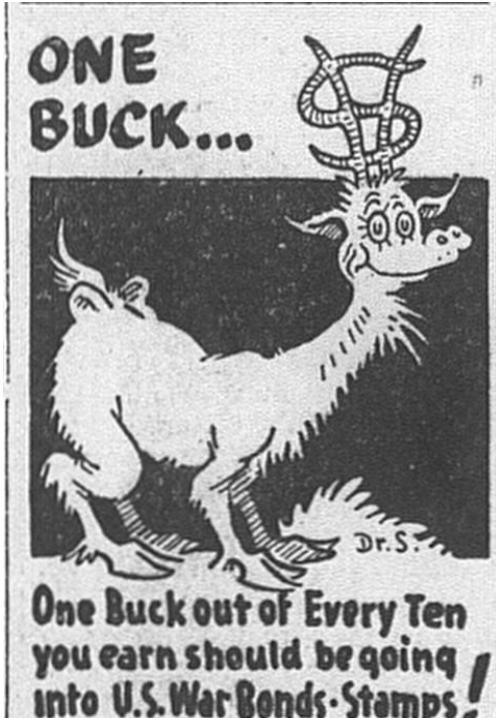


We need thousands of these practical little cars. You and 47 of your neighbors buying an \$18.75 War Bond can buy one jeep. Do it today, for the army needs thousands of them. Top the quota in your county and buy War Bonds every pay day.

— V —

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 4 May 1942: 2.

This drawing was the work of Ted "Dr. Suess" Geisel before he enlisted in 1943.



Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 2 Jul 1942: 2.



Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 23 Jul 1942: 5.

## 1942: The First Year – Community Climate



*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat* 3 Dec 1942: 5.

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### The Stateside Threats

In 1942, a German submarine sank an oil tanker off the coast of New Jersey. Japanese planes sighted over Long Beach, CA, were particularly troubling because that city had a significant retirement community from Pulaski County. Two sets of four Germans were caught landing in rubber boats in Long Island and Florida with explosives. Six of them were electrocuted; the other two, after assisting the government, were given life sentences, one of which was reduced by FDR to 30 years. Here are five of the ten items related to the enemy stateside appearing in 1942.



This U. S. Army Aerial photo shows the 7,451-ton tanker R. P. Resor burning to wreckage off the New Jersey coast last week end near Asbury Park. She was torpedoed by a U-boat. Two of her crew of 43 were rescued, the bodies of four have been identified, but the rest are still missing.

Winamac (IN) Republican 5 Mar 1942: 8.

[Threats off Long Beach, CA were particularly worrisome for many residents of Winamac. For decades, many Pulaski County residents had retired to Long Beach, CA. Going back to at least the 1920s, there were frequent reports of an annual reunion picnic of former residents currently living in or near Long Beach.]

### Japs Over Long Beach

According to a letter received by Mrs. Etta Hoch from her daughter, Mrs. Robert Hetzel of Long Beach, 29 Jap planes made two flights over that city recently and two were brought down by Army aircraft.

Winamac (IN) Republican 12 Mar 1942: 8.



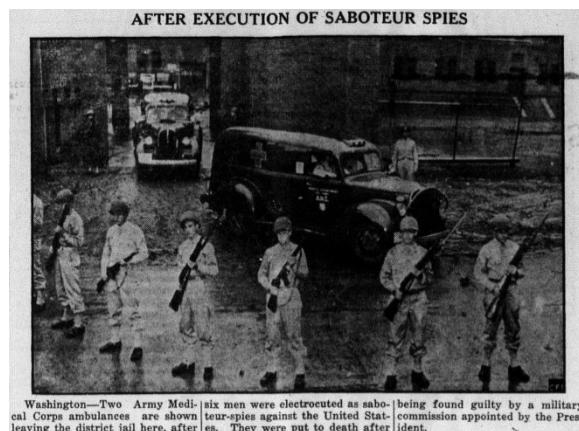
New York—After the 8th and last German saboteur landed by submarine on the east coast, had been caught, the FBI revealed an amazing story of the desperate Nazi plan to wreck U. S. war industry. The Nazis, in batches of four, were landed at Amagansett Beach, L. I., and 17 miles south of Jacksonville Beach, Florida. Each of those caught are, top, left to right—George John Dasch, Heinrich Harm Heinck and Richard Quirin. Bottom, left to right, Werner Thiel, Ernest Peter Burger and Herman Neubauer. Burger was the only naturalized U. S. citizen. He is an ex-member of the Michigan National Guard.

Winamac (IN) Republican 9 Jul 1942: 6.

## 1942: The First Year – Community Climate



Winamac (IN) Republican 23 Jul 1942: 6.



Winamac (IN) Republican 13 Aug 1942: 8.

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### Induction restrictions relaxed

Residents read about additional Draft Registrations and about loosened induction requirements in 1942. At the start of the draft in the fall of 1940, the pool was single men between 21 and 35 for one year of service. By the end of 1942, the pool consisted of single men between 18 and 45, plus some married men for the duration of the war, plus six months. Here are seven clippings from about one hundred items related to the Draft in 1942.



The Pulaski County Selective Service board is shown "At Work." Millard Crane is on the left, Carl Feikert in the center and Dan Kelly on the right. Standing are Loran Warner, former clerk of the board, and Dr. H. J. Halbeck, medical examiner.

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat* 8 Jan 1942: 3.

#### Change Requirements

The War Department has announced that requirements for Air Corps pilot training has undergone several major changes, which include:

Selection of candidate on simple aptitude tests instead of educational examination or college credits.

Lowering of physical and minimum age requirements to accept applicants 18 to 26 years old.

Opening of appointments to married men if dependents are self-supporting.

Appointment and enlistment of successful applicants by local examining boards.

Placing of trainees in some branch of the Air Corps instead of returning them to civilian status if they "wash out" as pilots.

*Winamac (IN) Republican* 22 Jan 1942: 1.

### **Men to Be Reclassified**

New Army physical standards which materially reduce dental and eye requirements for inductees will soon be made effective in Indiana. More than 20 per cent of the men rejected for physical disability under the old standards were turned down because of defective teeth. The new requirement is merely that he be able to eat and digest Army "chow." Registrants, who have no disqualifying physical defects except a lack of the required number of teeth, are well nourished, of good musculature, are free of gross dental infections and have sufficient teeth to subsist on the Army ration, will be placed in class 1-A.

The eye requirement will read: Registrants whose visual acuity is below 20-100 but not below 20-200 in each eye without glasses if correctible to 20-40 in each eye.

With the increased shortage of farm labor and in order to insure the maintenance of essential agricultural activities, local boards will be asked to give full importance to the consideration of claims for deferment of men engaged in agriculture. Such consideration should include thorough analysis of the status of each man with respect to his agricultural employment and should be based upon full information regarding those agricultural products, which are essential.

Arrangements have also been made to inform all agricultural employers of the importance of limiting requests for occupational deferment to those cases where men are clearly necessary to the production of essential products and cannot be replaced at the time of classification.

*Winamac (IN) Republican* 26 Feb 1942: 8.

# **MEN AGED 45-65 REGISTER APRIL 27**

Men between the ages of forty-five and sixty-five are to register with selective service boards of the country on April 27, it is stated in a bulletin received this week at the office of the local board.

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat* 2 Apr 1942: 1.

### **REGISTRATION FIGURES.**

1263 men within the ages of 45 to 65 registered in Pulaski county Monday, as shown by figures compiled by the local Selective Service office. No official word has been received as to what will be done with the list, but it is supposed that the men will be given serial numbers by the local board.

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat* 30 Apr 1942: 1.

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### Married Men To Be Called In December

State Selective Service headquarters have announced that Indiana local boards will induct married men in order to fill their December calls.

Col. Robinson Hitchcock, state director, said, "Substantially all local boards in this state have reported that the supply of available single men will be exhausted by the November calls. National headquarters has been informed that the induction of married men is scheduled for December."

Some single men who are key workers in essential industries will not be inducted at the present time, Col. Hitchcock explained, as trained replacements for them can not be found immediately. However, he asserted that these men, if otherwise eligible, will be called as soon as they can be replaced.

He also reminded registrants that their financial contributions to dependents, except in a few highly unusual cases, are no longer considered by local boards in the process of inducting men. Monetary allowances made available by the Government will provide for the fundamental needs of such dependents except in a small number of grave personal hardship cases, he said.

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat* 12 Nov 1942: 2.

### Pulaski Draft Group Leaves

Selectees Examined at Indianapolis Induction Station for Army Service.

WINAMAC, Ind., Dec. 3—A group of Pulaski county selectees left today for Indianapolis for their final physical examination and induction into the army.

The list follows: Albert Ray Reinholt, Lloyd Leon Cloud, Arthur Raymond Doyle, Howard Lam Good, George Warren Dennis, James Robert Sloderback, Francis Gilsinger, Arthur Poor, Kenneth Seidel, Gareth D. Goble.

Earl Edwin Rans, Roland Harry Gutz, Edward Lebo, Kenneth Gerald James, Harry Humphrey Pearson, Jr., Lester Paul Spoor, Frank Lester Hurlburt, and Wilfred Elbert Myers, all of Winamac.

Norman Jefferson Hettinger, Murrel Shell, Ralph Herman Woodke, and Chester Lamar Crissinger, all of Star City; Harold George Bailey, Herbert Byroad, George Raymond Settee, Benjamin Jacob Getz, and Clark Mahew Beatty, all of Francesville.

Charles Milton Peigh, George Melvin Coppess, William Francis Prall, and Clarence Cornelius Doll, all of Medaryville; Regis Raymond Bauer, Glenn William Ecswell, and Rex A. Good, all of Monterey; and Albert F. Blenke, of Denham.

*Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune* 3 Dec 1942: 15.

## 1942: The First Year – Community Climate

### Kingsbury Ordnance Plant

About 36 miles north of Winamac, the government opened the Kingsbury Ordnance Plant. Kingsbury became a major employer for the region, including Pulaski County. The plant primarily produced artillery shells and point-detonating fuses that enabled other ordnance to explode on impact. Here's one of the eight items related to the Kingsbury Ordnance Plant in 1942.

#### ***Kingsbury Plant Finished; Shell Production Now Bustling Activity***

Construction of the Kingsbury ordnance plant is now complete. Henceforth all activities will be those of production only.

This was the official announcement made last week by Major Edward J. Thomas of the U. S. Army, commanding officer at the plant. Bates & Rogers, the construction contractors, are now out of the picture save for a few odd jobs of cleaning up, and all efforts are now in charge of Todd & Brown, plant operators engaged by the government to turn out munitions as ordered by the army. "More than 13,000,000 man hours of work are represented in the construction of over 500 buildings which constitute this shell-loading plant," Major Thomas stated in making the announcement to a group of representative citizens who had been invited to drive over the plant last week end. "But more important than the actual physical application of brain and brawn to the completion of this project, is the spirit of the men who did the job.

#### **Soldiers of Production.**

"They, as soldiers of production worked day and night to back up the men in our country's armed forces," the major added. "They worked in hot sun, drenching rains and zero cold to build this plant, which is a vital cog in the Arsenal of Democracy.

"Now others work from dawn to dawn turning out the completed shells that our fighting men need on both oceans and in our own country."

On November 2, 1940, when the Army assumed supervision of the Kingsbury project, there were thousands of acres of Indiana farmland, purchased by the government, to be converted into a modern shell-loading plant. Construction began a week later.

In the sixteen months that have passed since that date, railroad lines for transportation of production within the reservation have been laid, extensive enough to reach from the plant to Chicago. A similar number of fence miles have been strung, for each of the various units within the project are carefully separated.

#### **No Visitors Permitted.**

Only operators and those directly concerned are admitted to the individual lines and areas.

Power plants, telephone and fire alarm systems, sewer and water lines, comparable to those in a fair-sized city, have been installed to bring light, heat, sanitation, and means of communication to the many buildings essential to the production of shells at the plant.

Each of these buildings has been placed on its special location within the area, in accordance with closely followed rules of "safety distance."

The Major also expressed his personal pleasure over the loyalty shown by workers engaged on the project. "This great task has been carried on," he said, "with a maximum of attention to production, without sacrifice of safety or quality of workmanship, and through the spirit of oneness that has existed among the contractors at the site."

"Now," he declared, "it's full speed ahead on production — production of shells for our armies. All of the workers at Kingsbury are pledged 100% to the challenge recently given them by Under Secretary of War Robert Patterson. He, and the rest of America, can count on us to rally to the slogan carrying the same initials as the name of the plant: 'Kingsbury Ordnance Plant will Keep on Producing.'

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 5 Mar 1942: 2.

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### Recycling

War demanded materials that consumers had been used to retaining or discarding without thought. Scrap metal, including tin cans, was to be collected and recycled. Even souvenir bayonets from World War I were requested. Another requested item was phonograph records, which could be recycled to produce new records or used for explosives and flares. Below are five of the thirteen items related to recycling.

**Indiana 'Gets in the Scrap'**



*(Wide World)*

**Scrap Metal**



*(OEM Photo)*

**Scrap Rubber**

**INDIANAPOLIS**—Indiana, getting behind Clarence A. Jackson, chairman of the Indiana Salvage Committee and State Defense Director, has gone all-out in the drive to make sure that small amounts of vital material do the work of a lot in the victory drive. Take rubber, for instance. When past all possible use, rubber articles can be put through a reclaiming process. So the Indiana Salvage Committee is organizing drives to collect discarded rubber goods and worn-out tires.

"The salvage drives are producing fine results," Jackson says. "They'll do even better when people realize that every Hoosier patriot who scrapes up an old bike tire is furnishing the equivalent of enough rubber for a soldier's gas mask, and that 150 old auto tires collected by a group of 'scrap savers' contain an amount

of rubber equivalent to the rubber used in a flying fortress."

Like rubber, scrap metal is vital to the victory program, and the Indiana Salvage Committee is urging industry and individuals to "get in the scrap." Typical of Indiana industry's cooperation is the Schenley Company plant at Lawrenceburg, where a salvage committee with members from every department has been set up to scrutinize all scrap so nothing will be wasted if local "scrap saving" officials can find a use for it. At the same time, Indiana citizens are scouring attics, basements and garages for things to contribute to salvage drives.

"Every time Hoosier citizens help salvage 252 lawn mowers," Jackson says, "the government is assured the equivalent of enough scrap steel for another three-inch anti-aircraft gun, while the steel in 61 old refrigerators collected in Indiana is equivalent to that needed to send an additional tank to some distant battle front."

*Winamac (IN) Republican* 18 Jun 1942: 4.

### Old Record Campaign Under Way by Legion

The American Legion has announced the following depositories for broken and obsolete phonograph records, sought in their campaign "Records For Our Fighting Men."

Winamac—Fry & Lange's furniture store and Kelly's hardware.

Monterey—Bauer's store.

Star City—**Stephens' store.**

Medaryville—Clarke's drug store. The campaign, extending through August 2, is being made as a means of providing new records and record players for men in the armed forces. The shellac in them, a much needed war material, will be sold and the proceeds will buy new records.

George Thompson, in charge of the drive for this post, stresses that no one is being asked to give up new records. Only those which are no longer of any value are being sought.

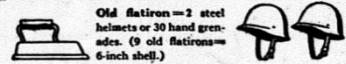
*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat* 23 Jul 1942: 1.

## VITAL SCRAP MATERIALS NEEDED – THINGS THEY MAKE

A clear picture of the importance of your scrap in the war may be had from the following data, prepared by the Conservation Division of the War Production Board.

### 1. SCRAP IRON AND STEEL

(The following items will provide an amount of scrap equivalent to the scrap normally required to produce the steel used in the opposite military items.)



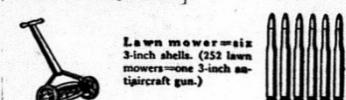
Old flatiron=2 steel helmets or 30 hand grenades. (9 old flatirons=6-inch shell.)

Electric iron=five 37-mm. antiaircraft shells. (9 electric irons=1000 .50 cal. cartridges.)

Old wood or coal kitchen stove=ten 4-inch shells. (10 stoves=1 scout car.)

Set of chain saws=twenty 37-mm. antiaircraft shells. (75 sets of chains=one 16-inch projectile.)

5 bathtubs=one ½-ton truck.



Lawn mower=six 3-inch shells. (252 lawnmowers=one 3-inch antiaircraft gun.)

Golf clubs: 1 old set of golf clubs=one .30 caliber machine gun. Refrigerator=twelve .45 cal. submachine guns. (61 refrigerators=one light tank.)

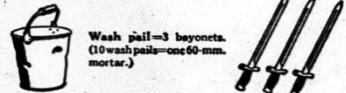
Old radiator=seventeen .30 cal. rifles. (17 old radiators=one 75-mm. tank gun.)

11 old washing machines=one ½-ton truck.

Kitchen sink=25 three-inch shells. (175 old kitchen sinks=one medium tank.)

Large ash can=two .30 cal. rifles. (6 large ash cans=one antiaircraft director.)

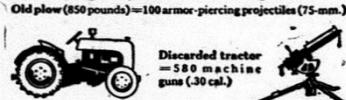
Garbage pail=1000 .30 cal. cartridges. (111 garbage pails=one 75-mm. howitzer.)



Wash pail=3 bayonets. (10 wash pails=one 60-mm. mortar.)

Old disc (40 pounds)=210 semi-automatic light carbines.

Old plow (850 pounds)=100 armor-piercing projectiles (75-mm.)



Discarded tractor=580 machine guns (.30 cal.)

| FARM ITEM  | MILITARY EQUIVALENT        |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1 Tractor, under 30 H.P.=                          | 10 37-mm. tank guns        |
| 1 Tractor, over 30 H.P.=                           | 4 16" projectiles          |
| 5 Tractors, over 30 H.P.=                          | 1 medium tank              |
| 2 Two-disc tractor plows=                          | 1 75-mm. tank gun          |
| 1 Two-bottom tractor moldboard plow=               | 1 75-mm. howitzer          |
| 1 Spike or spring tooth sections harrow=           | 4 4" shells                |
| 1 Disc harrow=                                     | 10 antiaircraft directors  |
| 1 One-horse cultivator=                            | 2 60-mm. mortars           |
| 12 Two-row tractor cultivators=                    | 1 light tank               |
| 12 Mowers=   | 1 3" antiaircraft gun      |
| 5 Hayrakes=  | 1 armored scout car        |
| 1 Hand cornsheller=                                | 3 6" shells                |
| 1 Hand garden planter=                             | 4 .30 cal. rifles          |
| 1 Combination corn and cotton planter, single-row= | 7 .45 cal. submachine guns |
| 10 Grain drills=                                   | 1 light tank               |
| 1 Fertilizing distributor=                         | 10 .50 cal. machine guns   |

### MILITARY USES OF STEEL

| ITEM                    | STEEL USED (LBS.)           | SCRAP THAT CAN BE USED (LBS.) |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 3-inch antiaircraft gun | 20,000                      | 10,000                        |
| 37-mm. tank gun         | 750                         | 375                           |
| .30 caliber machine gun | 25                          | 12.5                          |
| .50 caliber machine gun | 100                         | 50                            |
| Medium tank=27 tons     | 56,000                      | 28,000                        |
| Light tank=15 tons      | 32,000                      | 16,000                        |
| Hull-Heavy Cruiser      | 13,270,000                  | 6,635,000                     |
| 35,000-ton battleship   | 36,000,000<br>(18,000 tons) | 18,000,000                    |
| 100-pound aerial bomb   | 50                          | 25                            |
| 500-pound aerial bomb   | 250                         | 125                           |
| 2,000-pound aerial bomb | 1,000                       | 500                           |
| 75-mm. howitzer         | 2,060                       | 1,030                         |
| 155-mm. howitzer        | 8,900                       | 4,480                         |
| 3-inch shells           | 13.5                        | 6.75                          |

### HOW TO TURN IN YOUR JUNK

Sell it to a junk dealer. Give it to a charity. Take it yourself to the nearest collection point. Or consult your local Salvage Committee. If you live on a farm and have no method of disposing of scrap, phone or write your County Agent or consult your farm implement dealer.

| ITEM                     | STEEL USED (LBS.) | SCRAP THAT CAN BE USED (LBS.) |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| 4-inch shells            | 40                | 24                            |
| 6-inch shells            | 100               | 54                            |
| 16-inch Navy shells      | 2,000             | 1,000                         |
| 5-inch Navy shells       | 62.5              | 31.25                         |
| 3-inch trench mortar     | 110               | 55                            |
| 20-mm. aircraft cannon   | 111               | 55.5                          |
| ½-ton truck (milk-buggy) | 3,070             | 1,065                         |
| 4-ton truck              | 18,000            | 9,000                         |
| Hand grenades            | 4.2               | .54                           |

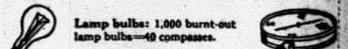
absorbing cushions and machine gun insulation for 500 tanks (or it could be used to make 1,500,000 gas masks and 500,000 army raincoats.)

180 tons of rubber previously used for pencil erasers will make over 200,000 army gas masks.

Rubber previously used for garden hose will provide for tires on carriages of 8,500 "75's" and 6,800 37-mm. antiaircraft guns and 600 pontoons for army bridges.

### 3. COPPER AND BRASS

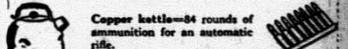
(The following items will provide an amount of scrap copper equivalent to copper used in opposite military items.)



Lamp bulbs: 1,000 burnt-out lamp bulbs=40 compasses.

Washing and ironing machines=eight 4-lb. incendiary bombs. (25 washing and ironing machines=one 37-mm. tank gun.) Refrigerator=1 refrigerator=40,000 37-mm. antiaircraft explosives. 2 refrigerators=one 60-mm. mortar.

Vacuum cleaner=31,000 .30 cal. cartridges or 110 rifles.

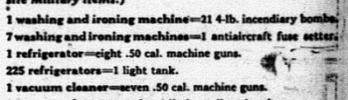


Copper kettle=84 rounds of ammunition for an automatic rifle.

Electric cords: Ten 6-foot electric cords will provide the copper equivalent to copper used in 1,000 37-mm. antiaircraft explosives.

### 2. RUBBER

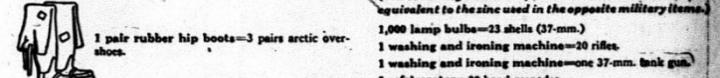
(The following items will provide an amount of reclaimed rubber equivalent to the rubber used in the opposite military items.)



125 old tires=1 Flying Fortress.

1 bicycle tire and tube=6 radio sets, or 1 gas mask.

Garden hose (25 ft.)=6 collapsible water bags or 6 auxiliary tires for pursuit planes.



1,000 pairs galoshes=1 medium bomber.

### MILITARY USES OF RUBBER

Heavy bomber=1,825 pounds. (One tire uses over 100 pounds. Self-sealing tank uses 1,429 pounds.)

Medium bomber=804 pounds. (Self-sealing tank uses 528 pounds.)

Pursuit plane=255 pounds. (One tire uses 17½ pounds. Self-sealing tank=177 pounds.)

Scout car=304 pounds.

Light tank=489 pounds. (Tracks alone use 317 pounds.)

Gas mask=1.11 pounds.

Gun carriage for 37-mm. gun=.61.1 pounds.

Gun carriage for 57-mm. gun=.62.1 pounds.

2½-ton army truck=446 pounds.

Motorcycle=10.7 pounds.

Pair of ski boots=.31 pounds.

Pair of hip boots=.262 pounds.

10-ton pontoon bridge uses 3644 pounds.

Aircraft tires range from 17 to 100 pounds each.

165,000 pounds of rubber go into making a 40,000-ton battleship. 100 pounds go into the tire of a big bomber.

Rubber used for one month's manufacture of baby pants can make 2,800 rubber lifeboats for ocean-going planes.

A single month's rubber supply to the comb factories is enough to put tires on 1,700 eight-wheeled 2½-ton army trucks.

9 automobile tires use the equivalent of the rubber needed for one tire on a four-engine bomber.

6,000,000 pounds of crude rubber previously used for 30 million rubber bands per year can put bulletproof gas tanks into 300 heavy bombers and make tracks, engine mounts, shock-

absorbing cushions and machine gun insulation for 500 tanks (or it could be used to make 1,500,000 gas masks and 500,000 army raincoats.)

180 tons of rubber previously used for pencil erasers will make over 200,000 army gas masks.

Rubber previously used for garden hose will provide for tires on carriages of 8,500 "75's" and 6,800 37-mm. antiaircraft guns and 600 pontoons for army bridges.

3. TIN CANS—(needed only in certain areas) Tin reclaimed is used for babbitt metal in the bearings of airplane engines and for solder.

Steel reclaimed from tin cans is used for all machines of war.

10. WASTE PAPER—(needed only in certain areas) Paper

reclaimed is used for all machines of war.

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Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 10 Sep 1942: 6.

## Bayonets from Other War Go Into Scrap Pile

Two bayonets that "Juck" Falvey of Winamac picked up on the Argonne battlefield in World War I have been added to the collection of scrap steel for the present war. A picture printed in the Chicago Times last Friday showed the weapons being added to the scrap pile at Carnegie-Illinois Steel mill.

"Juck" recalls that while he was soldiering in France, he received a letter from Eli Delano, then a Winamac lad, requesting a couple of bayonets as souvenirs. The soldier secured them, one off a French gun and the other a German gun. They reposed in his pack during 4000 miles of travel, and were presented to Eli when Falvey reached home.

Mr. Delano now lives in Chicago, at 5253 W. Kamerling, and is employed as an auto mechanic. Although he cherished the bayonets highly, he recently decided that they had better do their bit in the war effort. Mrs. Delano took them to the office of the Chicago Times, and reporters on the paper saw to it that they reached a scrap metal furnace.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 19 Nov 1942: 1.

## 1942: The First Year – Community Climate

### Farm workers needed

Even as more of Our Boys leave for service, the farms they left still need to be tended, particularly the harvest.

### Youths Asked To Register for Summer Farm Labor

High school students over fourteen years of age are being registered by the United States Employment Service as part of its nation-wide drive to supply necessary farm labor to harvest crops this year, said Dawson Price, manager of the Logansport office of the United States Employment Service.

In order to have an adequate supply of farm labor to harvest crops in this county, persons who can do either part or full-time farm work are asked to register at the office of County Agricultural Agent C. E. Olson in the court house. This office will be open Monday through Friday for the convenience of all those who want to apply for farm work.

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 11 Jun 1942: 8.*

### Asked to Register for Farms

In order to have an adequate supply of farm labor to harvest crops in Pulaski county, high school students over 14 and other persons who can do either part or full-time farm work are asked to register at the office of the County Agent on the second floor of the Court House in Winamac.

*Winamac (IN) Republican 11 Jun 1942: 1.*

### WANTED

#### BOYS: 4TH OF JULY DOUGH—

If you want some money for the Fourth come to Mathews Nursery Friday morning with a good sharp hoe and a strong arm for weed pulling. Boys from 11 to 15, 25c per hour. I. J. Mathews.

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 2 Jul 1942: 7.*

### Older People Wanted

Word from the United States Employment Service office at 408 1/2 East Broadway, Logansport, is to the effect that registrations for work by people 40 or 50 and over are wanted as many employers wish to hire older people.

Anyone who applies, whether young or old, is asked to report every 30 days in order to keep their name on the active list.

*Winamac (IN) Republican 22 Oct 1942: 1.*

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### Shortages back home

Lack of labor isn't the only issue for farmers. The timing of extra labor, equipment shortages, and other matters needed to be addressed.

## Some Say Freezing of Farm Labor "Too Late" Now To Help Situation

### Cross-Section of Problems and Conditions Facing American Farmer Are Given in Survey Made in Thirty Agricultural States.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** In the following story, first of a series of three, the United Press surveys the increasingly critical farm manpower crisis. In the first article the U.P. reports a consensus of farm opinion that the flow of farm workers into the armed services and war industry endangers the nation's food production at a time when farms are called upon for far greater productivity. The second article will summarize findings on factors likely to reduce the food output such as transportation, shortage of farm machinery and ceiling prices. The third will concentrate on the dairy industry, hardest branch of farm production.

By: BRUCE BLOSSAT  
United Press Staff Correspondent  
CHICAGO, Nov. 17—(UP)—The threat of national food shortage in 1943 today focused attention on farmers X, Y and Z.

X, Y and Z are typical of the country's war-restricted agriculturalists. They are a composite of the cases of thousands of farmers surveyed by the United Press in 30 agricultural states.

What is happening to them is happening all over the United States as the manpower crisis dips deeper into farm labor to fill the ranks of the armed services and the equally vital ranks of war industry.

Agricultural leaders have called upon them to increase their production—more butter, eggs and milk, more beef cattle, more hogs, sheep and poultry, more grain, more vegetables, more of everything from the farm.

America's farmers are loyal soldiers of production but their spokesmen pointed out in responding to this survey that unless the government intervenes to stop the drain on farm manpower, there will be serious shortages in many staples next year.

#### Average Conditions

Here is how the war has struck the typical farmers:

Farmer X—has been compelled to close up the north 40 and may close the south 40 next year because his sons are in the army and his hired man has been lured away to a nearby ordnance plant by higher wages and shorter hours. Even with machinery he cannot cultivate the same amount of ground.

Farmer Y—has sold part of his dairy herd for slaughter as beef and will sell more next year unless he gets more help to handle milking machinery and other dairy equipment. He says price ceilings on dairy products are so low now that he may have to let some of his remaining help go.

Farmer Z—has stopped tilling all but a small part of his acreage. He continues to live on his farm but drives 40 miles to work in a war plant. He takes care of his own food needs but doesn't contribute to the nation's food supply.

Multiply X, Y and Z by tens of thousands and you have the reason why farm officials assert that drastic action to keep workers on the farms is necessary if America is to supply its own food needs as well as the huge demands from overseas. Some authorities even said that a government order freezing vital labor on farms would come too late now to prevent shortages.

#### Must Return Workers

Elmer Kruse, Ohio AAA chairman, said "even if the government checks the labor exodus now, it will be too late. It will have to find some way to get labor back on the farms."

George Ross, director of the North Carolina state marketing service, said freezing of farm labor on farms "at so late a date is like locking the barn door after the horse has left."

The U. S. department of agriculture estimates more than 1,500,000 men have been drained from farmlands in the past year.

The Kansas agricultural war board said 3,600 farms would like completely idle and 10,200 partially idle next year, increasing the amount of unused acreage from 52,000 acres in 1942 to 193,000 in 1943.

Farm agencies forecast a 20 per cent drop in cultivated acreage next year in Colorado and Ohio. Minnesota officials said sales of farms were five times above normal. Georgia said several thousand farms would be abandoned; Pennsylvania said 5,600 and Missouri said 2,500. Oklahoma and Florida set probable abandonment at five per cent of tillable acreage, and Nebraska fixed the figure at two per cent.

Sales of dairy cattle already have reached record heights in many states, although the number of productive animals sold for slaughter is not yet large. Agricultural experts agreed nevertheless that the high turnover of dairy herds was disrupting production at a time when demand was the greatest in the nation's history. Most dairy cattle sales were made to farmers with already large holdings.

#### High Wages Blamed

Both farmers and farm officials attacked as inadequate government efforts to stop the draft of essential farm help. They said the chief magnet drawing key men off farms was high wages in war plants.

Herman Ihde, chairman of the Wisconsin board of agriculture, put it this way:

"You can't have farmers and their families working 13 hours a day for a few cents an hour and factory workers getting \$80 a week at shorter hours."

California farm officials said a survey showed that war industry took 83 per cent of the men who left dairy farms. Ohio officials set the figure at nearly 80 per cent. Pennsylvania and Colorado said industry had taken 60 per cent, Alabama 57 and Connecticut 50.

Prairie Farmer, the farm weekly published in Chicago, has thundered regularly for drastic government action. Associate editor Dave Thompson said his surveys of farm opinion indicated this would be a good approach to the solution:

1. Freezing of all vital labor on farms, as now provided for dairy, livestock and poultry workers under amendment to the teen-age draft law.

2. New higher farm wage ceilings to compete with industry.

3. A large shift of manpower from unproductive lands in eastern Kentucky, the Ozarks, northern Wisconsin and southern Illinois to high-yield farm land.

4. More intensive recruiting of men among the unemployed.

5. Wider use of students, women and children in peak periods.

6. Greater cooperation in use of machinery.

**Editors:** Tomorrow, special factors which restrict farm production.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 17 Nov 1942: 6.

## MANPOWER IS ONLY ONE OF MANY PROBLEMS FACING U. S. FARMERS

**EDITORS:** This is the second of a series based on a United Press survey, dealing with the farm manpower shortage and other factors, threatening a national food crisis.

By BRUCE BLOSSAT  
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

CHICAGO, Nov. 18—(UP)—The manpower shortage is not the American farmer's only wartime headache.

He believes farm price ceilings are too low; he fears that rising costs of labor may squeeze the profit out of his products; he can't get new farm machinery except in rare cases; he thinks a pinch may be felt next year even in repair parts, although the government has allotted him ample supplies this year.

He has been assured that he'll get tires and gasoline to keep his truck rolling to market, but in some cases he lives so far from town he wonders if he'll really get enough to do the job.

These worries are reflected in a United Press survey on farm opinion gathered from 30 states. They show the farmer harassed by wartime disruptions at a time when he has been called upon to stock the nation and its Allies with more food than he ever produced before.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 18 Nov 1942: 3.

## DAIRY FARMERS UNABLE TO MEET HIGHER GOALS

**EDITORS:** This is the last of a series, based on a United Press survey, dealing with the effect of the manpower shortage and other factors on the nation's food supply.

By BRUCE BLOSSAT  
(United Press Staff Correspondent)  
CHICAGO, Nov. 19—(UP)—The American dairy farmer has drawn one of the toughest war assignments on the home front.

The government has asked him to produce more milk, butter, cheese and other products from the dairy herd to meet an ever rising demand by the nation's fighting men, its war workers and its Allies.

The dairy farmer has produced results so far, but the dislocations of total war have mounted until they now are a threat to continued record yields. Dairy farms already are falling short of goals in some states.

Agricultural department officials recognized the situation yesterday by recommending government control of distribution of dairy products to meet a threatened shortage. A department spokesman said rationing of butter and cheese might be necessary in some areas.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 19 Nov 1942: 6.

This is what farm leaders said about these special factors impeding the nation's food supplies.

### Price Ceilings

Government farm officials and leaders of agricultural associations asserted that the farmer's uncertainty over prices ranks next to the manpower crisis as a discouragement to crop output.

The dairy industry, with its high labor costs, will suffer most from ceiling prices, the experts agreed. Dairying was expected also to be hardest hit by the loss of skilled labor.

"Ceiling prices on farm commodities are, without doubt, adversely affecting agricultural production," said the Kansas State Board of Agriculture. "The uncertainty of future markets will cause many farmers to curtail rather than expand their operations."

Leo F. Card, Michigan commissioner of agriculture, said, "If price ceilings aren't lifted, they will wreck the whole picture. I'm not so sure they haven't wrecked farms going. It already."

### Farm Equipment Shortages

The Department of Agriculture at Washington warned that the machinery problem may become increasingly acute under present government plans to limit 1943 output of new machinery to 20 per cent of 1940 production.

Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard advised farmers to share equipment with neighbors, and many states were reported already practicing large-scale pooling.

Sharing plans were counted on to avert serious trouble in Iowa and other rich midwestern states possessing large amounts of relatively new, well-maintained equipment and heavy allotments for spare parts.

Oklahoma, however, foresaw a two and a half per cent crop reduction next year as a result of machinery shortages, and Kansas, California and Alabama also predicted trouble in meeting production goals.

C. J. Borum, Michigan crop statistician, said farmers often paid exorbitant prices for used equipment in an effort to keep their farms going.

"I have heard of tractors four and five years old being sold for as much as they cost new," he said. "A recent report told of a used hay loader which sold for \$8 in 1941, \$33 this spring and \$68 this fall."

The farmer's increased reliance on machinery makes careful operation and maintenance essential, farm leaders said. Here the man-power situation interferes, because the older men, women and students who have replaced trained hands are reported generally inefficient and especially inept at handling costly equipment.

### Rationing

In most of the nation, agriculture officials expected liberal allotments of tires and gasoline to the farmer as an indispensable home front soldier.

But leaders in some western and midwestern states feared that ration boards might not take into full account the great distances and frequently inadequate railroad networks which handicap the farmer in the more sparsely populated sections.

(Tomorrow—The threat to the dairy industry.)

—V—

3. Shifting government demands confuse the dairymen, forcing him to change production plans on short notice to provide milk and less butter or more butter and less cheese.

Federal, state and private farm agencies asserted that the dairy farmer must have outside help to do his job in face of these obstacles. They recommended freezing of remaining workers on the farm and a boost in price ceilings to prevent dispersal of production as well as poor dairy cattle for beef.

Here are representative dairy situations in various sections, as disclosed by the United Press survey:

### Many Slaughter Milk Cows

California—Dairymen said that in the Los Angeles area, third largest milkshed in the nation, 50 per cent more dairy cows are going to slaughter than a year ago. Mounting costs and loss of labor are blamed.

Texas—J. E. McDonald, commissioner of agriculture, said the abandonment of dairies as a result of the farm labor shortage is unquestionably more serious than ever before in the history of Texas. There is imperative necessity for a well-balanced program giving proper attention to labor in dairying and agriculture generally."

Nebraska—Farm officials said dairy output was down seven and a half per cent for the first nine months of 1942 as compared with 1941. Twenty-five dairy herds, including the state's largest, have been sold recently. A milk shortage is expected in the face of strong demand from military bases and war plant areas.

Wisconsin—Walter H. Ebling, crop statistician, said "more dairy cattle are being sold for slaughter than a year ago, but most sales represent culling of poor producers. If labor continues to get shorter, however, culling will get into producing herds."

Pennsylvania and Delaware—Statisticians said dairy output was down 10 per cent in each state.

Dairymen expressed hope that the amendment to the 'teen-age draft law authorizing draft deferment of essential dairy workers would prove a major stroke in averting widespread shortage of dairy products.

The Farm Security Administration, after a dairy farm labor survey, recommended as further means of avoiding a crisis that universities train men and women as farm hands, that dairy farmers cooperate more closely in emergencies and that labor be prevented from moving off farms to other jobs if sharp production decreases appear likely.

—V—

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### Bombing Range planned

Just north of Winamac, land was being prepared for a bombing range. Here are two of the six items related to the bombing range.

#### LAND PICKED FOR AIR TARGET RANGE

##### Army Selects About Four Square Miles North of Winamac

Location of a target practice site for U. S. airplanes, on about four sections of land lying a few miles north of Winamac, became practically assured this week with the filing of condemnation proceeding for several pieces of land not now included in the Federal park area.

Army officials from the Great Lakes station have been here on several recent occasions, explaining briefly that the practice site is desired mainly for use of aviators being trained at Baer air field near Fort Wayne. The students do not drop actual bombs, it is stated, but use dummies which show where they have landed on the target field.

##### Area Nearly Square

The site selected is approximately in the form of a square, measuring two miles on each side, plus three quarters lying north of the square. U. S. 35 runs along its east side. The Grover Mays home is on the northeast corner, and the Lowell Taylor residence on the Russell Dilts farm at the southeast corner. The location of the former Center school in Franklin township is the northwest corner, and the southwest corner lies a mile east of Ripley.

It includes about a dozen pieces of land that were not taken in when the government purchased what is now the Winamac Recreational Area. Owners of these pieces have not been disposed to accept the purchase prices based on appraisals secured by Army officials, hence the condemnation proceedings instituted in Federal court at South Bend.

##### Eighteen Parcels

Among the pieces thus sought to be obtained are the Grover Mays farm of sixty acres near Beardstown, and the 160 acres owned by Russell Dilts on which the farm home stands, but not the barn farther south. There are two 160's, one owned by the Mulvaney family and one by the Providence Mutual Life Insurance Co.

Other tracts include the Zieliński eighty, the Clough forty-five, forty-eight belonging to Levi Weaver, Henry Phillipson, T. O. Mays, Mrs. Daviditis, Miss Agnes Grabner, Mrs. Frances Stark; also twenties, owned by A. Harrell, E. McKinney, Letitia Lytle and J. Henry Hoover.

The Recreational and Demonstration area already owned by the U. S. government includes about three square miles north of the site above described, extending as far north as the road which runs past Bethel church. If all of the area west of the state highway is used for the target range, approximately 4500 acres will thus become available.

Abstracts to the eighteen parcels are being prepared by the Freeman Abstract Co., which was awarded the contract upon competitive bids obtained by the War department.

#### Asked to Vacate Road for Range

Consideration was given a petition to vacate a road in Franklin township filed by Grover Mays and others. The road begins at 35 at the north edge of the Maple Leaf farm and runs three miles west and north. There is only one house on the road and it runs through land which the Government is taking over for the Baer Field Bombing range.

Winamac (IN) Republican 10 Dec 1942: 1.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 22 Oct 1942: 1.

**All in the Family**

Zoe, 82, had 11 nephews in the service.

## **Has 11 Nephews in Armed Service**

Miss Zoe Pattison, 82, of North Monticello street is justly proud of her 11 nephews in the armed service.

Her nephews are:

Edgar Pattison, son of the former Fred Pattison of Peru, in the Navy.

Richard Holm, son of Mr. and Mrs. Magnus Holm of Indianapolis, in the Merchant Marine.

Great nephews are:

James F., Charles Robert and Joseph Orpurt, sons of Mr. and Mrs. George Orpurt of Peru, in the Navy.

John Eddie and Richard Pattison, sons of Mr. and Mrs. John Pattison of Peru, in the Navy.

Roger Pattison, son of Orville Pattison of Clovis, N. M., in Army Air Force Reserve.

Vernal Tuttle, Clifford Tuttle and Therman Tuttle Jr., sons of Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Tuttle of Clovis, N. M., the first two in the Army Air Corps and the latter in the Naval Air Corps.

These men are scattered in Texas, New Mexico, Louisiana, Florida, Illinois and on the high seas.

*Winamac (IN) Republican 19 Nov 1942: 1.*

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### News for the Future

There were events, great and small, that were unknown to residents of Pulaski County in 1942 but became particularly important in the future.

At a January conference, senior Nazi officials developed the plan for the "Final Solution to the Jewish Question", i.e., genocide.

At another January meeting, China, Britain, the US, the Soviet Union, and 22 other nations signed the Declaration of the United Nations, which led to the establishment of the United Nations as a world organization.

President Roosevelt forced Japanese Americans into internment camps.

In April, as the Philippines fell to the Japanese, the "Bataan Death March" began. During the week-long forced march of over 60 miles for 75,000 Filipino and American troops, between 500-650 Americans and 5,000-18,000 Filipinos were killed or died of exhaustion. More than three years later, Pulaski County learns that one of its own, John Shank, was among the casualties.

The Battle of Midway halted the Japanese advance into the Pacific beyond Southeast Asia.

Anne Frank, 13, made the first entry in her new diary, and soon thereafter, the family went into hiding for two years.

The Manhattan Project began, leading to the atomic bomb.

## 1942: The First Year – Community Climate

### The popular music of 1942 included:

|   |                     |                                       |                              |
|---|---------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| White Christmas                           | Bing Crosby         | I Had the Craziest Dream              | Harry James                  |
| Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree            | Glenn Miller        | A String of Pearls                    | Glenn Miller                 |
| Strip Polka                               | Kay Kyser           | There Are Such Things                 | Tommy Dorsey & Frank Sinatra |
| Juke Box Saturday Night                   | Glenn Miller        | Jersey Bounce                         | Benny Goodman                |
| Strip Polka                               | The Andrews Sisters | Deep in the Heart of Texas            | Alvino Rey                   |
| (I've Got a Gal In) Kalamazoo             | Glenn Miller        | Mister Five By Five                   | Freddie Slack                |
| Tangerine                                 | Jimmy Dorsey        | Praise The Lord & Pass the Ammunition | Kay Kyser                    |
| Moonlight Cocktail                        | Glenn Miller        | I Said No                             | Alvino Rey                   |
| Sleepy Lagoon                             | Harry James         | Who Wouldn't Love You?                | Kay Kyser                    |
| (I Got Spurs That) Jingle, Jangle, Jingle | Kay Kyser           | Pennsylvania Polka                    | The Andrews Sisters          |

### The most popular movies of 1942 were:

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Mrs. Miniver             | Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon                    |
| Random Harvest           | Ronald Colman and Greer Garson                     |
| Yankee Doodle Dand       | James Cagney                                       |
| Reap the Wild Wind       | John Wayne, Ray Milland, and Paulette Goddard      |
| Road to Morocco          | Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, and Dorothy Lamour          |
| Holiday Inn              | Bing Crosby and Fred Astaire                       |
| Wake Island              | Brian Donlevy, MacDonald Carey, and Robert Preston |
| The Pride of the Yankees | Gary Cooper  |
| Kings Row                | Ann Sheridan and Robert Cummings                   |
| For Me and My Gal        | Judy Garland and George Murphy                     |



## 1942: The First Year – The Dead

### DeForest "Dee" Dye

"... It may be a long time before you hear from me again.", Dee wrote in his last letter to his momma.

Born: 9/8/1914

Entered: 01/10/1939?

Branch,SN,Rank: USN,2915578,SK3

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 3/1/1942

Parents: Geneva Bonnie Gordon (Daniel) Dye

On 3 March 1942, Dee Dye, 27, was reported missing in action after the sinking of his ship, USS Ashville, by the Japanese during the Battle of the Java Sea. On 25 November 1945, he was declared dead. He served 41 months, including in the Pacific war zone. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He lived in Medaryville for a time. He was memorialized on the Walls of the Missing at the Manila American Cemetery, Taguig City, Philippines.



DeForest Dye (Collection of jewen96) -  
[www.ancestry.com/mediaviewer/collection/1030/tree/34923713/person/29782603047/media/9d58ba8a-d460-42f5-bd00-322a8c8a0e4a](http://www.ancestry.com/mediaviewer/collection/1030/tree/34923713/person/29782603047/media/9d58ba8a-d460-42f5-bd00-322a8c8a0e4a)

So many, many rumors and false reports of sinking of this naval vessel, or that one, have gone the rounds that one hardly needs repeat the warning to "accept only official reports from Washington as correct news."

One such report has been circulated here about the U. S. S. \_\_\_\_\_ with a Valparaiso boy aboard. A Chicago paper, a week ago, carried a story about the bombing and sinking of this ship. At that time the same report came over the radio. But, up to within a few hours ago the boy's mother had had no official confirmation of the news or radio story. She herself did not hear the radio report, or read the news item. Is she hysterical? Has she abandoned herself to grief? NO!

True to the traditions of American Motherhood Mrs. Geneva [Dye] with her family, bravely faces the future, hugging to her heart Dee's 1941 message "remember that no news is good news." In the last letter she received from him—dated Christmas day—from somewhere out in the Pacific, he wrote:

"The propeller has churned a great deal of strange waters since my last letter to you. The country we are now seeing is the most beautiful I have ever seen. It may be a long time before you hear from me again."

Over the phone, as Dee's mother finished speaking came a soft little sound: "That's the baby, the new little grandson, James Coolman." And in the grandmother's voice was the happy note our voices carry when a new little soul comes to make itself a part of the family. Blessed babies!

(Valparaiso IN) Vidette-Messenger 17 Mar 1942: 2.

Webpage (newspapers.com).

### 'Missing,' Says Navy of Former West Side Boy

(Medaryville Correspondence)

Friends here have received word that DeForest Dye of Valparaiso has been announced by the navy department as missing in action in the Pacific war zone. DeForest attended Medaryville high school a few years ago, living in the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Guild at the time.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 26 Mar 1942: 8.

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### **Fred Emanuel Koepkey**

Born: 12/12/1915

Entered: 7/11/1940

Branch,SN,Rank: USN,3756432,MM2c

Died: 3/1/1942

Parents: Joseph Frank and Emma Matilda Anderson Koepkey

On 1 March 1942, Fred, 26, was missing in action during the Battle of Sunda Strait, near Java, when his cruiser, USS Houston, was sunk by torpedoes. He served for 19 months, including the Pacific zone. His father was formerly from Pulaski County. He is memorialized at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial, Manila, Philippines.

**Nephew of Winamac Man  
Reported War Victim**

Frank Kopkey was notified Wednesday morning that his nephew, Fred Kopkey, is among those listed as missing as a result of the Java sea battle on March 1. The young man has been in the navy for eight years, and was an engineer on the U.S.S. Houston, one of the United Nations' warships that was lost in the battle.

Twenty-six years of age, the young man is a son of Joseph Kopkey, a native of Pulaski county who went from here thirty-three years ago. The family home is at Long Beach, Calif.

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 19 Mar 1942: 1.*

## 1942: The First Year – The Dead

### John Henry Shank

Dying of exhaustion during the Bataan Death March, John was Pulaski County's first fatality. But his father and the rest of Pulaski County will not get that news for three years! And how ironic that the family clothing store underwrote this War Bonds ad, not knowing that John had died in the Bataan Death March.

Born: 6/20/1921

Entered: 2/4/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,15061791,PVT

Died: 4/15/1942

Parents: Bernard "Barney" Frank (Caroline "Carrie" E. Gilsinger[deceased]) Shank

On 15 April 1942, John Shank, 21, was reported as missing in action. Over 3 years later, he was declared dead, having died from exhaustion during the "Death March" on Bataan in the Philippines. He served 15 months, including at least 4 months in the Pacific war zone. He was a lifelong resident of Pulaski County. He was buried at St. Joseph Cemetery West in Pulaski.



Pvt. John H. Shank, son of Barney Shank of Pulaski, in the signal corps. (Listed by War Dept. as "missing in action" after fall of Philippines.)

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 28 Jan 1943: 1.

**Back the Attack! - BUY MORE THAN BEFORE**



and husbands are fighting and dying this very minute.  
Now that the chips are down . . . now that our men are writing decisive history with their blood . . .  
There can be no halfway measures for us.  
The greatest battle in the history of the world must be matched by the greatest war loan in the history of the world.  
That's what Uncle Sam says . . . the same Uncle Sam for whom your brothers and sweethearts

They, in the front lines, are throwing in everything they have.  
We, behind the lines, must do the same.  
Remember, this is the battle for the WORLD. Our world. And we've got to win it. That's why Uncle Sam expects every dollar, like every soldier, to do its duty.  
• Put this Fifth War Loan over . . . buy more War Bonds than you think you can!

**5-WAR LOAN**

**BETTER SHOES** **SHANK'S** **BETTER CLOTHING**

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 22 Jun 1944: 8.

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### Father Learns Of Son's Death In April, 1942

#### Pvt. John Shank, Missing 3 1/2 Years, Dies on Bataan, War Dept. States

Bernard Shank of Pulaski received word from the War Department that his son, Pvt. John Shank, had died on Bataan on April 15, 1942, from exhaustion. The young man has been listed as missing in action since the fall of Corregidor in May of that year, and it was thought then that he might have been taken prisoner. This is the first word received by the father in three and a half years.

A graduate of Pulaski high school in 1939, John enlisted in the Army in the spring of 1941. He received his training for the signal corps in New Jersey and was sent to the Philippines in the summer of 1941. Two brothers have recently been discharged from service—Carl, who served in North Africa, and Albin, who received his commission in the field in Europe.

The letter received by Mr. Shank reads, in part:

"It is with profound regret that I confirm the recent telegram informing you of the death of your son, Pvt. John H. Shank, who was previously reported missing in action in the Philippine Islands from the date of the surrender of Corregidor, May 7, 1942. An official message has now been received which states that he died at Bataan, P. I., on April 15, 1942, as the result of exhaustion.

#### Dies on Bataan



PVT. JOHN H. SHANK

"I realize the great suspense you have endured during this unfortunately long period and now, the finality to those hopes which you have cherished for his safety.<sup>1</sup> Although little may be said or done at this time to alleviate your grief, it is my fervent hope that later the knowledge that he gave his life for his country may be of sustaining comfort to you.

"I extend my profound sympathy in your bereavement."

The letter was signed by Maj. Gen. Edward F. Witsell, acting adjutant general.

John was born June 20, 1921, and grew up in the Pulaski vicinity. Surviving, besides the father and two brothers mentioned, are another brother, James of Pulaski, and a sister, Mrs. Carol Berger.

This report makes Pvt. Shank Pulaski county's first war casualty.

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 29 Nov 1945: 1.*

## 1942: The First Year – The Dead

### Arthur Ermill Wentzel

"I can still see their beaming faces.", wrote a reporter who attended the alumni celebration for Arthur and an airmate on the visit to their hometown just after receiving their wings.

Born: 11/17/1918

Entered: 9/7/1940

Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,15043511/O-408874,1LT

Died: 4/21/1942

Parents: Charles Hubert Stailey and Stella Jane Decker Wentzel

On 21 April 1942, Arthur Wentzel, 23, initially reported as missing, was killed likely near Ft. McKinley, Manila, Philippines. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He served 19 months, including in the Pacific war zone. He was a resident of Leiters Ford. He was memorialized at the Walls of the Missing, Manila American Cemetery, Taguig City, Philippines and St. Anne Cemetery in Monterey.

**HOOSIER WINS ARMY WINGS.**



Arthur E. Wentzel, rural route No. 4, Rochester, Ind., Friday was one of 75 flying cadets graduated from the air corps advanced flying school at Brooks field, Texas, and awarded wings symbolic of attainment of pilot status in the United States army air force. The graduates were commissioned as second lieutenants in the air corps reserve. Mr. Brooks, shown here in the cockpit of an army plane, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Wentzel, also of rural route No. 4, Rochester. —Photo by U. S. Army Air Corps.

South Bend (IN) Tribune 27 Apr 1941: 5.

The Charles Wentzels have received word that their son Arthur an aviator has been reported missing. Arthur grew up in this community and graduated from the high school. How well your correspondent recalls the last Alumni banquet when Mr. Ogden Ginter and Arthur Wentzel, who has just received their wings, came into the banquet room creating much comment with their good looks and striking uniforms. When the assembly sang in unison, "Farewell", I can still see their beaming faces. Let us hope that providence finds a way to send Arthur home again to his parents and sister Mrs. Joe Brugh and his many friends in this community.

Culver (IN) Citizen 20 May 1942: 9. Webpage (newspapers.com).

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### Glenn Wesley Smith

Glenn was the first Pulaski County resident reported missing in action.

Born: 4/2/1922

Entered: 11/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USN,3687102,S2

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 5/8/1942

Parents: Earl Raymond and Airy Lanora Myers Smith

On 7 May 1942, Glenn Smith, 20, initially reported missing in action, was lost at sea when his oil tanker was sunk. He served for 38 months, including in the Pacific war zone. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He was from Medaryville. He was memorialized on the Walls of the Missing, Manila American Cemetery, Taguig City, Philippines.

# Medaryville Boy Reported Lost by Navy

■

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Smith of Medaryville received word the first of the week that their son Glen, 19, was missing in action when the ship that he was on was bombed three weeks ago.

Winamac (IN) Republican 18 Jun 1942: 1.

### Medaryville, Monon Youths Are Missing

Louis Blackburn And Glenn Smith  
Were on Sunken Tanker  
Neosho

First Class Seaman Louis Raymond Blackburn, 22, of Monon and Second Class Seaman Glenn Wesley Smith, 20, of Medaryville, are among seven Indiana men reported missing in action in a list released for publication today.

Both of the youths were on the tanker Neosho, which was officially reported sunk in the battle of the Coral Sea on May 7.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Blackburn, of Monon, Louis Raymond Blackburn was born June 21, 1920, in Monon. He was a member of the Monon high school basketball team for two years prior to his graduation in April, 1938.

He joined the navy in March, 1939 and went to Newport, R. I., for three months training, having been assigned to the oil tanker in the Pacific on Aug. 1, 1939.

He has a brother, John Howard Blackburn, at home; three sisters, Phyllis Ann and Mary Adeline, at home; Mrs. Catherine Criswell, Monticello, and a grandmother, Mrs. Anna McCormick, of Monon.

**Born Near Rensselaer**  
The son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Smith of Medaryville, Glenn Wesley Smith was born April 2, 1922, near Rensselaer. He attended school both at Medaryville and at Donovan, Ill., playing on the Donovan grade school basketball team.

He joined the navy last November and was called to service Dec. 8. After six weeks in training at San Diego, Calif., he was assigned to the tanker. A letter written March 28 was the last his parents heard from him.

He has two brothers, Paul and Merle, both at home; two sisters, Patricia Anne and Irm., both at home; and the grandparents, Jacob and Gertrude Myers, Rensselaer, R. R.; and Oscar and Minnie Smith, Francesville, R. R.

The seven missing men also included Gunner John William Bennett, husband of Mrs. Luella Mariah Bennett, of Mulberry, Ind.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 3 Jul 1942: 1.

## 1942: The First Year – The Dead

### Norman L. Vaughan

In 1941, what other choice did Norman have but to re-enlist?

Born: 1/18/1917

Entered: 5/29/1941?

Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,O-726954,2LT

Died: 9/1/1942

Parents: Hugh Benson and Ethel E.B. Rogers Vaughn

On 1 September 1942, Norman Vaughn, 25, was killed in a bomber crash near Baton Rouge, LA. He served about 60 months. His parents had lived in Star City for a time. He was buried in Mount Hope Cemetery in Logansport.



Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 4 Sep 1942: 1.

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### Jack Lynn Condo

The community gave Jack a great memorial, even closing the courthouse and many businesses.

Born: 9/7/1919

Entered: 8/15/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,15063628,SSGT

Died: 11/8/1942

Parents: Daniel Perry "Perry" and Vivian Esther Hamblin Condo

On 9 November 1942, Jack Condo, 23, was killed in a plane crash near Meridian, MS. He served 15 months. He graduated from nearby Monticello High School, but had an uncle in Francesville. He was buried in I.O.O.F. Riverview Cemetery in Monticello.

### Army Air Crashes Take Lives of Two Monticello Airmen

**Lieut. James Huffman, 22, Dies of Injuries at Pendleton, Oregon, While Lieut. Jack L. Condo Is Killed in Mississippi Plunge.**

MONTICELLO, Ind., Nov. 9—Two well known Monticello youths were dead today, victims of separate airplane crashes in Mississippi and Oregon.

First Lieutenant James Huffman, 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Huffman, died at 3:45 o'clock this morning of injuries suffered Sunday in an air crash involving two planes in the mountains near Pendleton, Ore., where he was stationed, while Staff Sgt. Jack L. Condo, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. Perry Condon, was killed Sunday when an army plane crashed and burned at Key field, Meridian, Miss.

Lieutenant Huffman's parents were notified last midnight that their son, an army pilot, had been critically injured in a crash involving two planes, but details were not given by army authorities. At 11 a. m. today, they received word that he had succumbed to head and internal injuries.

The youth was born Aug. 3, 1920, in this city. He was graduated from the Monticello high school in 1938 and attended Purdue university two and a half years before enlisting in February, 1941, in the army air corps.

#### Huffman Promoted Recently

He received his wings at Kelly Field in September, 1941, and was a member of the 38th fighter squadron. For a time he was stationed near Seattle, Wash. Recently he had been promoted to first Lieutenant as a fighter pilot and had been at Orlando, Fla., taking special training in daylight flying.

On his way to his new base at Pendleton, Ore., he had stopped in Monticello for a week's furlough and had just left Monticello last Thursday by plane for Pendleton.

He is survived by the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Huffman; two brothers, Robert, a student at Purdue; Keith of Indianapolis; a sister, Mrs. Basie Jones, Lafayette; and the grandparents, C. S. Huffman, Parker, Ind., and Alfred Master, Elwood.

#### Lieut. Condo's Parents Notified

County Councilman and Mrs. Perry Condo received word Sunday afternoon that their son, Staff Sgt. Jack L. Condo, a bombardier and aerial gunner, was one of two persons killed when their army plane crashed and burned at

#### Air Crashes—

Key Field, Meridian, Miss.

Second Lieut. Victor Windus, 25, of Allentown, Pa., was the other victim of the crash. No word was received as to the nature of the crash although army authorities at Key Field announced that an army board has been appointed to investigate the accident.

Condo, who graduated from the Monticello high school in 1938 and was a prominent member of the track team during his high school career, enlisted in the army on August 15, 1941.

Trained as a gunner, he first was stationed at Will Rogers field at Oklahoma City, Okla., and later was sent to Savannah, Ga. before being assigned to Key Field.

Surviving besides the parents, Perry and Vivian Condo, are a sister, Mrs. Catherine Conn, of Monticello, and the paternal grandfather, S. A. Condo, also of Monticello.

The family was advised that the body would be returned to Monticello and would leave Key Field with an escort Monday.

(Continued on Page Nine)

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 9 Nov 1942: 1&9.

## 1942: The First Year – The Dead

### James Albert Huffman

James had just visited his folks a week before his fatal crash.

Born: 8/3/1920

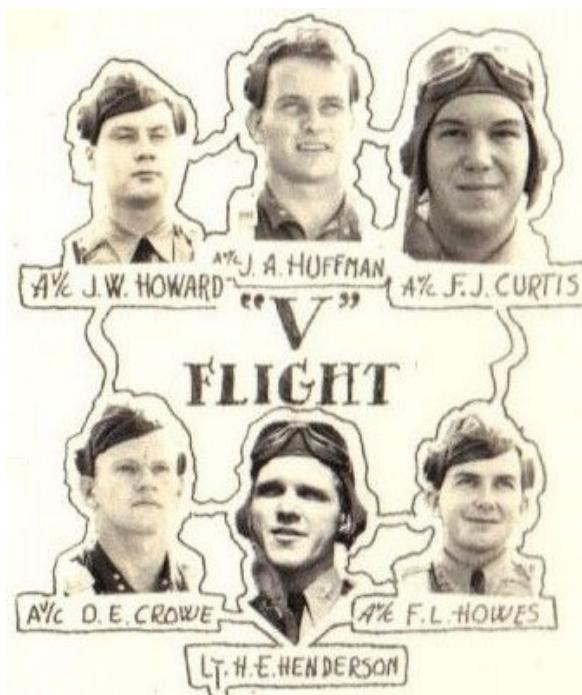
Entered: 2/9/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,O-427542,CPT

Died: 11/8/1942

Parents: Chester "Cord" Ira and Edna Irene Masters Huffman

On 8 November 1942, James Huffman, 22, died of injuries sustained the prior day in an airplane crash near Pendleton, CA. He served 21 months. He lived in Monticello, but he was known in Winamac from visits to an aunt and uncle. He was buried in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Monticello.



James Huffman, Kelly Field, Texas, Graduating Class of Sept. 26, 1941, 41G Section I (Collection of Richard Tisdale) - [findagrave.com/memorial/43658266/james-albert-huffman#view-photo=200000169](http://findagrave.com/memorial/43658266/james-albert-huffman#view-photo=200000169).

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He is survived by the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Huffman; two brothers; Robert, a student at Purdue; Keith of Indianapolis; a sister, Mrs. Basil Jones, Lafayette; and the grandparents, C. S. Huffman, Parker, Ind., and Alfred Master, Elwood.

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(Continued on Page A11a)

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 9 Nov 1942: 1&9.

# Army Flyers Related Here Die in Crashes

Two Monticello men, both officers in the Army Air Corps and both related in Pulaski county, lost their lives in widely separated plane crashes that occurred on Sunday.

Staff Sgt. Jack L. Condo, twenty-three years of age, son of Mr. and Mrs. Perry Condo of Monticello, died in an accident near Meridian, Miss. He was a nephew of James Hamblin of Francesville. The message concerning the fatality merely stated that Sgt. Condo and Second Lieut. Victor Windus of Denver, Colo., were killed when their fighter plane crashed and burned at the army air base at Key Field.

First Lieut. James A. Hoffman, twenty-two, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Hoffman of Monticello, was fatally injured in a crash at Pendleton, Ore., and died some hours later. The young man was known in this vicinity through visits in the home of his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Dale Lowry of Monroe township, Ind.; father, a son of Cord Hoffman, formerly lived southwest of Winamac. Details of that accident are also meagre, an officer at Pendleton Field informing the family that two planes, one of which was Lieut. Hoffman's, had gotten into trouble in the mountains and apparently had crashed. The injured lad's father had started to his son's bedside and had reached Chicago to take a plane when stopped by word of the young man's death.

Military funeral services for St. Sgt. Condo were held this (Thursday) afternoon at the Monticello Methodist church. Military services for Lt. Hoffman are to be held Saturday afternoon at 1:30 at the First Christian church of Monticello.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 12 Nov 1942: 1.

## Air Crashes

Key Field, Meridian, Miss.

Second Lieut. Victor Windus, 25, of Allentown, Pa., was the other victim of the crash. No word was received as to the nature of the crash although army authorities at Key Field announced that an army board has been appointed to investigate the accident.

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Surviving besides the parents, Perry and Vivian Condo, are a sister, Mrs. Catherine Conn, of Monticello, and the paternal grandfather, S. A. Condo, also of Monticello.

The family was advised that the body would be returned to Monticello and would leave Key Field with an escort Monday.

## 1942: The First Year – The Dead

### Clement Marcellus. "Father Clem" Falter

A professor at St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Father Falter was widely known in Winamac. He was the first American Catholic Chaplain killed in action in World War II.

Born: 10/6/1904

Entered: 2/1/1942?

Branch, SN, Rank: USA, O-439177, 1LT

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 11/8/1942

Parents: Joseph John and Theresa A Kill Falter

On 8 November 1942, Fr. Clement Falter, 33, was killed in action on the beach of Fedala, near Casablanca, Morocco, during the initial Allied landing in North Africa as part of Operation Torch. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He was widely known in Winamac. He was buried at Missionaries of the Precious Blood Cemetery in Carthagena, OH.

### ***Chaplain-Priest Related Here Is Killed in North African Battle***

Chaplain Clement M. Falter, C. P. P. S., a professor at St. Joseph's college at Rensselaer until he became a first lieutenant in the U. S. Army last February, was killed in active combat on November 8 while his unit was attempting a landing at Fedahla, near Casablanca, North Africa.

The Rev. Father Falter was well known to numerous Winamac people. He conducted services at St. Peter's church for several Sundays after the death of the Rev. S. Weigand in 1933, and has been here on various other occasions. He was a full cousin to Frank Miller of Winamac and the late Edward Miller of Pulaski. Their mothers were sisters, the families having lived in Ohio during the boyhood of the cousins. For the past ten years, he has been an instructor at the college.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Miller, the Rev. J. J. Becker, Mrs. Minnie Noethis and Mrs. L. A. Reidelbach of Winamac, the Rev. C. F. Daniel, Mrs. Josephine Miller and daughter Dorothy of Pulaski were at Rensselaer yesterday for solemn requiem services in the college chap-



el, with Bishop John F. Noll, of the Fort Wayne diocese presiding. The message revealing the death of Chaplain Falter merely stated that he was blown to bits when the boat on which he was stationed was attacked by dive bombers.

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 10 Dec 1942: 1.*

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### David Levi "Davey" Jones

For five months, his mother thought Davey was only wounded, but he was the first fatality of Van Buren township. A flagpole was installed at the Star City school to memorialize three township sailors, including Davey.

Born: 10/23/1923

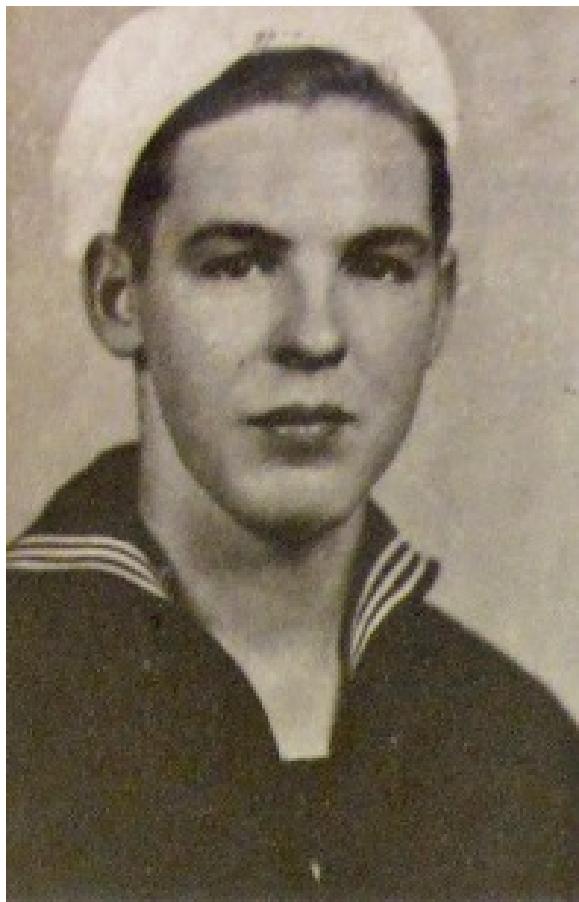
Entered: 6/18/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USN,6265012,S2

Died: 11/8/1942

Parents: Effie Clouse (Felix Gilbert[deceased]) Jones

On 8 November 1942, David Jones, 19, died of injuries incurred when his boat was torpedoed off North Africa during the landings of Operation Torch. His family was not notified for six months. He had served for 17 months, including the North Africa war zone. He was from Thornhope. He was buried in the North Africa American Cemetery and Memorial in Carthage, Tunisia.



Davey Jones. Veterans of Pulaski County.

Of the 27 selective service men who went to Gary Thursday for their physical examinations, only 14 passed the examination. They were Donald William Sanders, Albert Leo Kottka, Howard Kenneth White, Gerald Anthony Russell, Fred Raymond Westphal, Estel Keith Sayers, Carl Henry Gumz, Donald James Cowger, John William Kruger, Henry Harrison Kopkey, Bernard Roland Gross, Melvia Leslie Hamm, Frank David Smolek, Elvin Sidney Mangold. These men will be taken in the next call from this county.

Those who did not pass their physical examination were: **David Levi Jones**, Edward Anthony Faber, Charles William Moore, Kenneth Allen Heater, Kenneth Donald Pelsey, Ralph William Kain, Alvin Benavill Zellers, Leonard Paul Harris, Fred Kough, Thomas Virgi Ridge, Elmo Edward Hartwick, Con Albert Nepier and Everett Ray Clemons.

*Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 15 Dec 1941: 6.*

## 1942: The First Year – The Dead

### THORNHOPESAILOR KILLED IN ACTION

David Jones is Pulaski  
County's First War  
Casualty.

Report of the first known casualty of a Pulaski county resident in this war was received Saturday when Mrs. Effie Jones of Thornhope was notified by the Navy department of the death of her son David Jones. Several other young men of this locality have been reported as "missing," but this is the first certain death.

The young man died November 8, 1942, from injuries received the day before when the boat on which he was stationed was torpedoed off Northern Africa. He was buried in Africa.

David would have been nineteen years old last January 1. He entered the service June 18, 1942, and was home on leave in October. His family had not heard from him since that time, although they had received word some time ago from the government that he was wounded.

Surviving, besides his mother, are five brothers—Calvin Jones, in foreign service; Harry, stationed in the service in California; George of Logansport, Thomas of Royal Center and Ralph of Star City; four sisters—Mrs. Violet Raderstorf of Royal Center, Mrs. Marcella Azbell and Miss Iris Jones of Logansport, and Miss Alberta at home.

### THORNHOPESAILOR KILLED IN ACTION

Mrs. Jones had received a telegram the first of December informing her of her son's injury, but had had no word from him since that time. Letters written to him by the family and friends were all returned a few weeks ago and the Red Cross was called upon to find the whereabouts of the lad.

He is survived by the mother; four sisters, Mrs. Violet Raderstorf of Royal Center, Mrs. Marcella Azbell of Logansport, and Iris and Alberta at home; five brothers, George of Logansport, Thomas of Royal Center, Ralph of Star City, Harry and Calvin, both in the Army.

Winamac (IN) Republican 6 May 1943: 1.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 6 May 1943: 1.

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### Lloyd Curtis Williams

Lloyd was killed in action defending a Japanese assault on New Caledonia in the southwest Pacific.

Born: 9/14/1919

Entered: 8/12/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35165307,PVT

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 11/19/1942

Parents: Carry Call and Etta Olive Cooper Williams

On 19 November 1942, Lloyd Williams, 23, was killed in action defending a Japanese assault on New Caledonia in the southwest Pacific. He served for 14 months, including 9 months in the Pacific war zone. He was awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. Although recently moved near Rensselaer, his family was well-known in Medaryville. He was memorialized on the Walls of the Missing, Manila American Cemetery, Taguig City, Philippines and in the cemetery in Fair Oaks.



Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 3 Dec 1942: 1.

## 1942: The First Year – The Dead

### John H. Brettell

John was still in pilot training when he died.

Born: 11/22/1920

Entered: 3/27/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,,A/C

Died: 11/30/1942

Parents: Fred E. and Ada Steis Brettell

On 30 November 1942, John Brettell, 22, was killed in an air crash near Anthony, KS, during a routine cross-country flight. He had served 9 months. His mother was a former resident of Winamac. He was buried in the Calvary Cemetery in Terre Haute.

### Aviation Cadet Killed

Aviation Cadet John H. Brettell, twenty-two years of age, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Brettell of Terre Haute, was killed Monday night near Anthony, Kans., when his trainer plane crashed during a routine cross-country flight. Cadet Brettell's mother was formerly Miss Ada Steis of Winamac, a daughter of the late Henry and Martha Shill Steis. She is a niece of Miss Anna Shill, Mrs. Rose Carpenter and Dr. J. E. Shill. The cadet was known here through visits to relatives.

The young man entered service last June and four weeks ago was transferred from Cimarron field near Oklahoma City to the Enid, Okla., Army Flying school. Surviving are his parents, brother Robert and sister Mary Louise. . .

The body was returned today (Thursday) to Terre Haute, and funeral services are to be held there Saturday forenoon.

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 3 Dec 1942: 1.*



## 1942: The First Year – War Stories

Bud and Bert started as civilian defense workers in Panama until the war heated up.

### Floyd Orthus "Bud" Hall

Born: 1/16/1918

Entered: 12/14/1943

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,5910939,CPL

Discharged:

Died: 5/30/2002

Spouse: Betty B. Lebo Hall

Parents: Guy Herbert and Inez May Crowder Hall



Pvt. Floyd Hall, husband of Mrs. Betty Hall and son of Mr. and Mrs. Guy Hall of Winamac, is stationed at Fort Belvoir, Va., with the U. S. Army Engineers. He has been in service for three months.

Winamac (IN) Republican 27 Apr 1944: 1

### Albert Alvin "Bert" Holmes

Born: 12/30/1917

Entered: 3/25/1943

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35138515,PVT

Discharged: 11/15/1945

Died: 2/21/1991

Spouse: Marjorie "Rosemary" Shobe Holmes

Parents: William Alexander and Emma Josephine "Josie" Howell Holmes



Bert Holmes, with the Army in India, son of William A. Holmes of Winamac. His wife lives in Gary.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 28 Sep 1944: 1

## **Accept Defense Jobs In Panama Canal Zone**

Floyd (Bud) Hall and Bert Holmes are to leave New York City Saturday for the Panama Canal Zone, where they are to be engaged in defense construction work, Mr. Hall as a carpenter foreman. They are to work on a new hangar which is expected to take four months. Mrs. Hall and son Mike are to remain here in the Guy Hall home and Mrs. Holmes and son Ronnie are to go to Gary to the home of her mother, Mrs. Nona Shobe.

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 8 Jan 1942: 1.*

## 1942: The First Year – War Stories

It's a Small World (War II) for the Kruzick brothers and Francis in Panama.

Upon arrival in Panama, Francis was met on the dock by two brothers from Winamac, Clem, a soldier, and George, a sailor.

### George Francis Kruzick

Born: 3/22/1917  
Entered: 2/19/1936  
Branch,SN,Rank:  
USNAC,2914722,CDR  
Discharged: 11/30/1963  
Died: 5/29/1995

Spouse: Constance  
Brodeur Kruzick  
Parents: John Michael  
"Papa" (Rosa Eldridge  
Poole[deceased]) Kruzick



ENSIGN GEORGE KRZICK

Ensign George Kruzick, who received his commission in the Navy Air Force this week came Wednesday for a six-day visit in the home of his father, John Kruzick. He is now stationed at Norfolk, Va., and for a time has been serving as test pilot for a certain type of bomber.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 4 Mar 1943: 1.

### Clement Christian "Clemmie" Kruzick

Born: 3/13/1919  
Entered: 12/2/1941  
Branch,SN,Rank:  
USA,15059966,SSGT  
Discharged: 5/30/1945  
Died: 11/22/1988

Parents: John Michael  
"Papa" (Rosa Eldridge  
Poole[deceased]) Kruzick



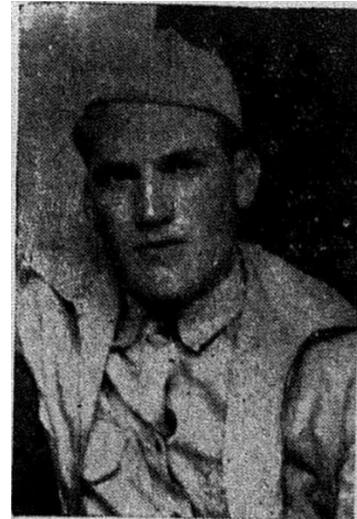
PFC Clement C. Kruzick, stationed overseas, son of John Kruzick of Winamac.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 29 Oct 1942: 1.

### Francis James Roe

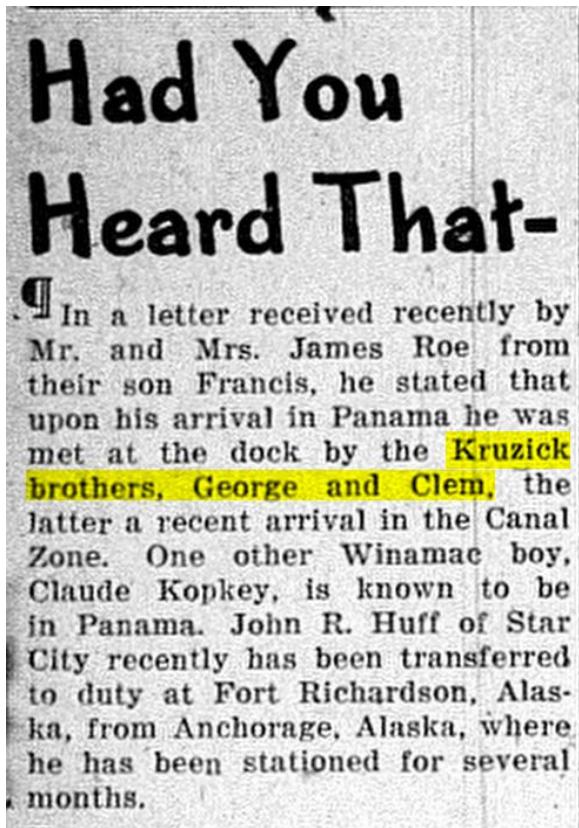
Born: 2/3/1918  
Entered: 4/15/1941  
Branch,SN,Rank:  
USA,35176476,CPL  
Discharged: 10/11/1945  
Died: 12/25/1975

Parents: James Quincy and  
Edna Violet Baugh Roe



PFC Francis J. Roe, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Roe, south of Winamac, with the infantry in Panama.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 28 Jan 1943: 1.



Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 22 Jan 1942: 1.

## 1942: The First Year – War Stories

### Richard Ritter “Dick” Dodd

With time on his hands during training stateside, Dick, a drafted staffer for the Pulaski County Democrat, wrote a semi-regular column about his new life in the Army.

Born: 4/16/1913

Entered: 3/26/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35111564,MSGT

Discharged: 11/15/1945?

Died: 4/5/2001

Parents: Thomas Calvin and Harriet Jenette Ritter Dodd



Sgt. Richard R. Dodd of Winamac, with the Engineering Amphibian Command, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Dodd of Gosport.

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 8 Oct 1942: 1.*

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

'I'm in the Army Now-' (first column)



### ***'I'm in the Army Now-'***

By Pvt. Richard R. Dodd of Fort Bragg, N. C.

"Hey, Dodd, you're on K.P. tomorrow," Roy Tevis yelled down the length of the barracks to me Thursday as he read Friday's orders from the bulletin board.

The news was not very welcome, neither was it unexpected, for that little chore comes in the alphabetical order of our names. Wondering who else was on with us, we went to the bulletin board. There were eight whose names went from B down through K.

So there we were, at Ft. Bragg less than a week and already on K.P.—the bugaboo and perhaps most undesired part of army activities—a part we had heard much about from veterans of World war I.

Before retiring, we were told to tie towels at the foot of our bunks in order to be awakened earlier than the rest of those in our barracks. This done, and with thoughts of the coming day's work in mind we dozed off.

What seemed like a few minutes later, someone tugged at our covers. We aroused enough to hear him say, "All right, fellows, up an' at 'em." The temptation to roll over for a few more blinks was resisted, as we crawled out and sleepily dressed, fumbling around in the dark for our clothes. By 6:15 we were beginning our work at the mess hall.

After getting things ready for breakfast, we ate ours, and waited for the rest of the battery that would soon fill the dining room to overflowing. They came, hastily ate, and were gone in less than half an hour. The building was empty except for the K.P.'s and cooks. The mess sergeant, a small, wiry fellow with a voice like a

mess sergeant, began bellowing orders. Some of us were put in the kitchen, the rest in the dining room. With mops, brooms, brushes and scrub buckets, we went to work, not unlike Snow White did in the home of the seven dwarfs. Each of the twenty-three ten-men tables was washed down, the floor swept and mopped and everything else in the room cleaned off.

As the morning slipped rapidly by, we sat down to early chow so we would be ready to serve those who would eat later.

The noon siren sounded—chow was on, and the hall began again to fill up. The mess sergeant commanded, "Commence eating," and the rush began. The hungry rookies of the battery went after the chow in double time. Waiters were swamped with dishes to be refilled with more meat, spuds, salad and whatever else was on the menu.

But it was not long before the boys had finished another meal and were filing out. Waiters began to pile dishes around us who drew the china washing detail. With a swish and a swash we cleaned and rinsed them and put them up to dry. The end of the job was in sight when a box of 300 coffee mugs was rolled in. Oh, well, as long as we were washing dishes we wouldn't be doing something that might be worse.

By 2:30 that job was done, and as the boys in the dining room finished about the same time, we wondered, "What next?"

The cook soon told us. "That bag of parsnips and some of those carrots, have to be peeled, boys." It was than that we came into contact for the first time with the army's much-publicized potato peeler, which works equally well on parsnips and carrots.

The machine isn't intricate, but the inventor deserves much commendation, and gets it from army K.P.'s. The apparatus is lined with a heavy, sand-paper-like material, the bottom rotating and whirling the contents around to scrape off the peel, which is carried away by water that flows through the device.

After a few other sundry chores, it was chow time again. We resumed the same posts we had had at noon. Anxious to get things done, the waiters began bringing in the dishes as soon as possible, and it was not long before we at the sinks were again trapped by a circle of china. Our hands withered in the hot water as they mechanically held the plates and swept a cloth over them. Again we were making good headway when Garman came in with another stack of plates. As he set them down, he asked, "How'd you like to be pounding a typewriter about now?" He had done the same in days before the draft.

Rub, scrub and polish—the day's work was about done, and a lot more elbow grease had been used up. The cook in charge cast a critical eye over the hall. "Let's dish out the apples," he said, as he set at a box of fruit before him. We carried the bowls of fruit to the tables. They were already set; the breakfast for next morning was under way. But our part of getting it ready was finished.

"That's all, boys," the cook called out, and we trudged from the mess hall to our barracks forty minutes before "lights out."

Our first detail at K.P. was over. We knew from experience why it was not the most desired detail in the army.

'I'm in the Army Now-' (second column)

(The other columns are available in Appendix B)



## ***"I'm in the Army Now-"***

By Pvt. Richard R. Dodd of Fort Bragg, N. C.

(Author's Note to Editor—I realize that this is rather editorially written, but it is on a subject I have thought about each evening as mail is distributed. Some of the fellows are truly disappointed when they receive none—and as usual there are others who don't give a care whether they did or not—but they're always present when it is being handed out. I wrote it not from a personal standpoint, for the mail man is pretty good to me—but for the sake of fellows everywhere to whom a letter from someone back home would mean so much.)

Of all the commands that a soldier hears in a day's time, the two exclamations that get his most prompt attention are 'Chow's On,' and 'Mail Call!'

At the sound of the former he makes a bee-line for the mess hall. When 'Mail Call' is yelled through the barracks he pushes past his rushing buddies to get to the table where the mail will be distributed by a non-com.

Perhaps he doesn't expect a card, but nevertheless he is there waiting and hoping for the sound of his name that announces the arrival of something for him.

After the letters, papers and

parcels have been handed out and he received none, he may jovially say something like, "If a fellow doesn't write any letters, he won't be getting any." Or his face may take on a look of disappointment because he got nothing.

But if there was some mail for him, the activities of the day are forgotten as he eagerly reads what someone from outside the camp—maybe someone back home—has written him.

With him letters are not a one-way routine of "receive but never give." He spends a considerable part of his few hours of spare time in writing—probably even more time now than before he benefitted from free postage.

His obligations for replies are most generally fulfilled, however sometimes not as punctually as he wishes, or as those with whom he corresponds may expect.

Several days' mail might accumulate before he gets a chance to answer it, as evening classes, over-night hikes or sundry other activities cut into what he expected to be spare time. Sometime, though, he will get to your letter and the others he "owes."

Meanwhile, is your friend or relative who is in one of the armed services getting any mail today?

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### Darwin Deloss Sayers

Darwin had to sell his farm but went on to earn the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, and Purple Heart during 31 missions in Europe.

Born: 5/20/1918

Entered: 3/18/1942

Branch, ID, Rank: USAAC, 15080144, 1LT

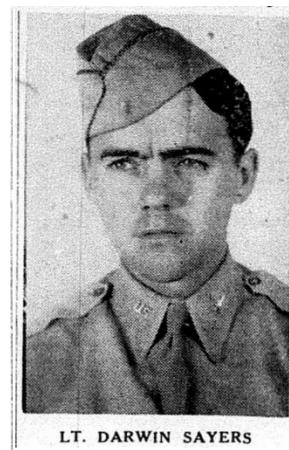
Medals: Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, Purple Heart

Discharged: 11/10/1945

Died: 10/3/1989

Spouse: Betty Jo Moyer Sayers

Parents: Floyd Ephraim and Cora June Neely Sayers



Two Pulaski county men, both members of the U. S. Army Air Force serving in bombing raids over Europe, have been wounded, according to reports received here this week.

The wounded men are:  
Lieut. Darwin Sayers.  
Staff Sergeant Ivan M. Bierrum.

Lieutenant Sayers, the son of Trustee and Mrs. Floyd E. Sayers of Van Buren township, is in a hospital in England with a leg injury according to word received from him by his parents and wife, Mrs. Betty Jo Sayers, of Logansport Tuesday. The letters were dated March 29 and he stated that he had been in the hospital 48 hours. No details are known. He is co-pilot on a bomber. He graduated from Star City high school in 1936 and entered service May 3, 1942. He has been overseas since the first of November.

Winamac (IN) Republican 6 Apr 1944: 1.

### I'm in the Army Now

As I have been ordered to report for duty in the Air Corps, Feb. 4, I will sell my entire personal property at the Mrs. E. C. Geier place, two miles east on blacktop and half mile north of Star City, on

### Monday, Feb. 2

Beginning at 12:30 P. M.

**28 Head of Cattle:** 12 head milk cows, 7 head Jersey 3 yrs. old to freshen from Feb. 1. to April 1; Jersey cow 5 yrs. due in April; Guernsey cow 7 yrs. old giving 5 gal milk; Shorthorn heifer 2 yrs. old calf by side; roan cow 4 yrs. old to freshen soon; roan cow 2 yrs. old to freshen in March; 8 head of heifers and steers; Shorthorn bull 8 mos. old; 7 head small heifers 7 mos. old; yearling Guernsey bull.

**2 Head of Horses:** Matched team of bays, 3 and 4 years old.

**31 Head of Hogs:** 5 brood sows; 3 registered and 2 Grade Hampshire, all due to farrow in March; registered Hampshire boar from the Gilbert Gardner herd; 24 head of shoats.

**24 Head of Sheep:** 24 head of breeding ewes 2 to 5 yrs. old due to lamb in April.

**Hay and Grain:** Approximately 200 bu. oats; some hay.

**Farming implements:** F-20 Farmall tractor on rubber, 14 inch two bottom Allis Chalmers plow; 13 inch Wards Hammermill with 3 screens and several lengths of pipe; 50 ft. endless belt; 18x8 hog house for 3 sows; 10 ft. hog feeder; numerous other articles.

**Terms:** Cash.

### Darwin Sayers

J. H. Hepp, Auc.

Russell Dilts, Clerk.

Winamac (IN) Republican 29 Jan 1942: 7.

## 1942: The First Year – War Stories

### Stanley Michael "Stan" Strus

Stan survived the torpedoing of his oil tanker, and within three months, he survived a second torpedoing of the newly-repaired tanker.

Born: 7/13/1919

Entered: 12/7/1941

Branch, SN, Rank: USMS, LT.(jg)

Discharged: 8/15/1945

Died: 9/28/1994

Parents: Andrzej "Andrew Joseph" and Antonia Ptasinska Strus



Stan Strus (Collection of Ruth Widner and Steve Wiseman) -  
[www.ancestry.com/mediai-viewer/collection/1030/tree/161601515/person/352109779682/media/cd57b660-8ba7-4b9f-b1f1-1c74e2608283](http://www.ancestry.com/mediai-viewer/collection/1030/tree/161601515/person/352109779682/media/cd57b660-8ba7-4b9f-b1f1-1c74e2608283).

### Marine Tells of Torpedoing in Caribbean Sea

(Francesville Correspondence)

Stanley Strus of the United States marines, came home Friday to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Strus, who live eight miles southeast of Francesville. He is a radio operator on the oil tanker "Deleted," which was torpedoed in the Caribbean sea, February 24, near Aruba, Venezuela, South America. Aruba is the oil refining center on the north coast of the Dutch colony, and available to the United States. There were twenty-seven in the crew and all were saved.

Mr. Strus, a slender youth of twenty-two, sporting the sun tan of the Caribbean tropics, narrates with cautious limitations the thrilling experiences of the peril after

the deadly shot struck the tanker. He says they were cruising down to Aruba, empty, when the unsighted submarine, German perhaps, fired a single shot which tore away 108 feet of bottom by the explosion. Stanley sent out a radio distress message and in three minutes received a response from the wireless base at Aruba, fifty-seven miles away. The tanker listed thirty degrees but was righted when undamaged compartments were ballasted with water. The life boats were lowered and the crew cruised about for an hour anticipating other shots, but the submarine did not appear again.

The tanker eventually reached Aruba, and has since been taken to a navy yard for repairs. The navy will recall Stanley when the tanker is seaworthy again.

His older brother, Michael, has just returned from Camp Grant, Ill., on two weeks' furlough, so the army and navy gab fests, and the Caribbean thriller, are interesting chatter these days in the Strus home.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 9 Apr 1942: 1.

### Beaver Marine on Bombed Ship for Second Time

For the second time within ninety days Stanley Strus of Beaver township, a radio operator on an oil tanker, narrowly escaped death when the tanker was bombed by an enemy submarine. The attack occurred near the West Indies, 180 miles southeast in the Gulf of Mexico. After the attack, the boat escaped into the emergency navy yards at New Orleans. Mr. Strus is at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew

Strus, while his boat is being reconditioned for service. On February 24 this same tanker was torpedoed in the Caribbean Sea, near Aruba, a great oil refining base near Venezuela, South America, Strus being the radio operator at that time.

The tanker was doing coastal service, hauling crude oil to refineries, and was without convoy protection, returning to its base empty. The crew of forty-seven all escaped injuries and it wasn't necessary to take to life boats.

Just a few minutes previous to this attack, an enemy submarine destroyed another empty oil tanker, three miles from the ship. Fifteen members of its crew were lost as it sank.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 4 Jun 1942: 1.

### Survives Second Torpedoed Ship

An enemy submarine fired a single shot into an oil tanker of the United States Navy, Saturday morning, May 16, at four o'clock, and badly damaged, it escaped into the emergency navy yards at New Orleans. The radio operator on this tanker was Stanley Strus of Beaver township. The attack occurred near the West Indies, 180 miles southwest in the Gulf of Mexico. The tanker was doing coastal service, hauling crude oil to refineries, and was without convoy protection, returning empty to its base. The submarine had located the tanker with its radio sound device. The tanker carried guns but could not give combat because of darkness.

Stanley Strus, the radio operator of the tanker, is home on leave, visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Strus, southeast of Francesville, while his boat is being reconditioned for service. He modestly narrates his thrilling experience of being torpedoed for the second time within ninety days. The crew of forty-seven, including gunners, all escaped injuries, and it was not necessary to take to the life boats.

Just ten minutes before their crash, an enemy submarine destroyed another empty oil tanker, a close distance of three miles from there. It was attacked by a flotilla of submarines. Fifteen members of its crew were lost as it sank into the depths of the trackless sea.

It was on the early morning of February 24th, that our Pulaski county hero sat at the radio controls of this same tanker, when it was torpedoed in the Caribbean Sea, near Aruba, a great oil refining base near Venezuela, South America. All the crew survived this attack. However, they floundered in their life boats for some time anticipating other barrages from the submarine. His distress messages were answered from the station at Aruba in less than five minutes, and, badly crippled, they made into that port.

Stanley Strus, the modest youth of twenty-two, gives this interview of his two thrilling sea warfare experiences, with cautious limitations because he is a member of the United States Marines, in navy service. He spent three years in the navy's technical radio school in Boston.—Francesville Tribune.

Winamac (IN) Republican 4 Jun 1942: 1.

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Lieut. Michael Strus, son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Strus of southeast of Francesville, and a member of the United States Army Air Forces, was home for a short visit from March 18 to 20. "Mike," who is a bombardier, has seen many months' service overseas in the Asiatic theatre of operations, but has been back in the States for some time and is being schooled as a crew member of one of the B-29 Super Forts.

Another brother, Lieut. (jg) Stanley Strus, of the U. S. M. S., was also home for a short visit from March 20 to 22, coming home in time to help give his brother Mike a send-off as he returned to his base. Stanley, who has been in the Maritime Service for several years, has had two boats torpedoed from under him during his extensive experiences in various parts of the world, as one of the Maritime Service's radio operators.

A third brother, Joe, is being inducted into the U. S. Army on Saturday, March 31. This means that all the Strus brothers will be in the service of Uncle Sam.

*Winamac (IN) Republican 29 Mar 1945: 8.*

## 1942: The First Year – War Stories

### Jacob "Jake" Foy

After saying goodbye to two granddaughters, Jake, 42, left as Pulaski County's first grandfather off to war.

Born: 1/28/1900

Entered: 7/17/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35359152,PVT

Discharged: 3/10/1943

Died: 12/201/1981

Parents: Harvey M. and Lola McGinnis Foy

A family dinner was held Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jake Foy in honor of Mr. Foy who has been inducted in the army and will leave Friday. Out of town guests Were Mr. and Mrs. Guly Kestling.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 13 Jul 1942: 2.

### Army No Band of Boys; County Gives It a Grandfather

Jake Foy, first grandfather from Pulaski county to be inducted into the army under Selective Service, is shown here with one of his two granddaughters Phyllis Marcel Galbreath, eight months old, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Galbreath of Winamac. Mr. Foy, forty two years of age, has been a grandfather since he was thirty five. He returned to Fort Benjamin Harrison on Friday after spending at home his fourteen-day furlough following induction.



Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 23 Jul 1942: 1.



### Jacob Foy

Veterans of Pulaski County.

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### Earl Robert Master

Given that Earl is going into the service, his mama decides to sell the farm.

Born: 12/27/1921

Entered: 7/2/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35359168,TEC4

Discharged: 10/8/1945

Died: 3/4/1974

Parents: Lulu Shine (Christian[deceased]) Master

**Harrison Man in Army**



**PFC. EARL R. MASTER**

Pfc. Earl R. Master, son of Mrs. Lulu Master and brother of Trustee Roy Master of Harrison township, is in the Army stationed at Camp White, Ore.

*Winamac (IN) Republican 21 Jan 1943: 1.*

### AS MY SON HAS BEEN CALLED INTO SERVICE

in the Army, I will sell at public auction at my residence 6 miles east, 2 miles north of Winamac, 2 miles west of Lake Bruce, on the Harrison-Tippecanoe township line road, on

**Wednesday, August 12**

at 1 o'clock, the following property:

**3 HEAD OF HORSES:** Iron gray mare, coming 4 yrs. old; gray mare, coming 9 yrs. old; gray horse, smooth mouth.

**9 HEAD OF CATTLE:** Six milk cows, five of which have calves at side; three coming 2-yr. old heifers.

**IMPLEMENT, ETC.:** Allis Chalmers tractor on rubber with power lift cultivator, in good condition; Bradley 14-in. gang plow on rubber, like new; John Deere No. 52 14-in. gang plow; Weber wagon and triple bed; Birdsell wagon and hay ladders; 8-ft. International disc harrow; Kentucky 12-disc grain drill; 4-sec. spike tooth harrow; 7-ft. Deering New Ideal grain binder; Milwaukee mower, 5-ft. cut; Hayes corn planter; John Deere single-row corn plow; New Idea manure spreader; dump rake; clover seed buncher; Dain corn cutter; end gate oats seeder; John Deere walking plow; Moline 16-in. sulky plow; 3-hp. Sattley gas engine; International 6-in. burr mill; Dain burr mill, horse power; some harness; fishing boat; two DeLaval cream separators No. 12; five milk cans; milk strainer; two closed top milk buckets; two incubators; purebred English shepherd pup, 4 mos. old; tank heater; 1 1/4-yd. gravel bed and hoist; saw mandrel; shovels, forks, etc.

TERMS — CASH.

### Mrs. Lulu Master

J. H. Hepp, Auct.

Charles Keitzer, Clerk

Not responsible for accidents.

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 6 Aug 1942: 2.*

## 1942: The First Year – War Stories

### James Edward "Jim" "Edward" Hair

In one of his letters to his folks, James wrote that he was "... plenty scared, but ... ready to go back until it's over."

Born: 1/16/1921

Entered: 2/2/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,16028885,S/SGT

Medal: Air Medal

Discharged: 9/27/1945?

Died: 12/10/1985

Parents: Milo Edward (Esther Marie Stiles[deceased]) Hair

### James Hair Participates in Dieppe Raid

#### Manned Machine Gun on Bomber; Scared, But Ready for More

Little did Winamac people think as they read of the part played by the American Rangers in the Dieppe raid that one of our own boys was a participant. Yet such was the case.

Corporal James Hair, son of Milo Hair of Winamac, was a machine gunner and radio operator on one of the bombers, so we'll let this modest hero tell his own story. It follows:

Dear Mother and Dad:

Here I am back in the good old U. S. A. What I've been through since that last letter I wrote (three weeks ago) in Massachusetts is too horrible to mention. The same day that I wrote the letter I left in a plane not knowing where I was going, and when I stopped, I was in England.

I was in one of those bombers that made that raid on Dieppe. Boy, was I scared. It was really awful. After we landed back at the field we boarded another plane and came back, and let me tell you I was really glad to see the statue of Liberty on our way back.

#### He's Got What It Takes!



CPL. JAMES HAIR

If you think those big bombers can't cut capers, you ought to ride in one. I only saw it from the air, but the action that went on up there really kept me busy.

We went inland about five miles and ran right into eight German planes. I was at a top turret manning a machine gun and two planes attacked our ship, but by luck they were shot down by some of our fighters.

Let me tell you, Dad, that I was plenty scared, but I'm ready to go back until it's over.

JIM

Winamac (IN) Republican 3 Sep 1942: 1

# Our Boys: A Community During World War II

## Michael Joseph "Mike" Bauman Jr.

Michael earned his Silver Star when he saved his bomber under attack during takeoff by manually jettisoning more than a ton of bombs and extinguishing a fire caused by hot shrapnel.

Born: 9/14/1919

Entered: 1/7/1940

Branch, SN, Rank: USAAC, Tech. SGT

Medal: Silver Star

Discharged:

Died: 3/2008

Parents: Michael Joseph and Mary Ellen Herrick Bauman Sr.



### Plays Gallant Role in New Guinea Battle

#### Shrapnel Starts Fire.

Gammon tore breathlessly down the runway where planes were already taking off, and waved to Bauman, who was in the pilot's seat, to start the engines. Taxing out fast, Gammon says he didn't know who was in the ship with him, other than Bauman and his co-pilot. Starting down the runway, he felt vibrations of his turret guns and knew one of the gunners was in the job.

In the bomb bay, "Mike's" compartment, fire was started by red hot shrapnel and was roaring around over a ton of demolition bombs the ship carried. Opening

(Continued on Page Two.)

### PLAYS GALLANT ROLE IN BATTLE

(Continued from page One.)

the bay door. Mike jettisoned the bombs by hand and put out the flames. All breathed easier after that. Then "Newell is hit," shouted the gunner, and according to Gammon, "Mike was all over the ship—checking the control cables, taking a look at Newell, fighting fire, throwing out bombs and proving himself superior in efficiency and calmness."

#### Shot Full of Holes.

Four hours later, and in spite of over 200 holes ranging in size from a little fingertip to a fist, and in areas all the way from the propeller to the rudder, with a right tire flat and right wheel badly damaged, "93" made a perfect landing.

Bauman enlisted in the air corps on January 7, 1940, and told his parents of his promotion to technical sergeant in a letter they received July 20.

Tech. Sgt. Michael Bauman of Plymouth, a native of Star City, proved himself "superior in efficiency and calmness" in a surprise raid over a New Guinea airfield, according to Carleton Kent, Chicago Times staff correspondent, in a story in that paper last week. The young man is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Bauman, former residents of the Star City vicinity, whose marriage took place just twenty-five years ago this week.

Bauman, according to the dispatch, is a bombardier in plane piloted by Lieutenant Graham Gammon, a plane affectionately called "old 93" by its crew. The raid came suddenly, twenty-four enemy bombers in a surprise attack, and the warning, a red flag meaning "the Nips are here," was almost simultaneous with their arrival.



2—OREGON JOURNAL, MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 1942

SURPRISED THE JAPS—Members of a United States army air force bomber crew, which downed a Japanese P-40 fighter, are "welcome" for Jap bombers. Sunday, Americans downed one out of every four Japanese which tried to attack Port Darwin, Australia. In group, left to right: Sergeant Pilot Douglas Dargie of the RAAF; Lieutenant Graham Gammon, Lynchburg, Va.; Private First Class Murphy Smiraldo, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio; Lieutenant Robert Lingsley, Portland, Me.; Technical Sergeant Michael J. Bauman, Plymouth, Ind.

### MacArthur's Airmen Set Mark In Downing 13 Japs in One Day

By the Associated Press

General MacArthur's air wing sent 15 P-40 fighters and 15 Zero fighters limping home with little to show for their big weekend attack on Darwin airfield, while other American bombers made a new attack yesterday on the Northern Solomons in support of United States marines mopping up in the islands around Tulagi.

The Darwin defenders met the raiders at 23,000 feet in what MacArthur's commanding general described as "a brilliant tactical interception."

The 500-pound bombs which some 20 Japanese planes

that "I could see the pilot's face under his red cap. Nip looked mighty worried as the bullets set his wings afire. I saw him go down into the sea.

In their own offensive, Allied planes attacking targets in the

sharp rain along Buka passage

between Buka and Bougainville islands where the Japanese still hold out in the Northern Solomons.

There was no new word from the Tulagi area, where United States landing forces were reported to have driven the Japanese garrisons back into the mountains.

(Portland) Oregon Daily Journal 80 Aug. 7 1942 Webpage.

(newspapers.com)

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 3 Sep 1942: 1&2.

## 1942: The First Year – War Stories

### John Reed Phillips

A navy physician, Dr. John found himself in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, where he reconnected with his Indiana University classmate, Ernie Pyle, now a war correspondent.

Born: 2/24/1899

Entered: 9/23/1941

Branch, SN, Rank: USN, 6620784 or 29594, Lt. Cmdr.

Discharged: 11/12/1945

Died: 9/4/1964

Spouse: Fern Maurine Phillips Phillips

Parents: John Clark and Bertha Fay Reed Phillips

After serving in World War I, Dr. John graduated from Purdue University and completed medical school at Indiana University. He left his practice for service in World War II.

### **Prominent News Writer, Now in Ireland, Hob-Nobs With Dr. John R. Phillips, Former Star City Boy**

Ernie Pyle, an internationally known newspaper correspondent, is now in Northern Ireland and is sending a series of articles to America publications. In one written at Londonderry a few days ago he related this experience:

"At Derry I found an unofficious, quick-thinking, friendly people. Maj. Dungan of the Marine Corps happened to be standing at the door of the officers' house when my taxi drove up. He grabbed my typewriter and took me back to a small extra room with a cot, and said that was my room. Then he asked me up to his room for a chat before dinner. Pretty soon Comdr. Edward R. Sperry, executive officer of the base, and Lt. Col. Lucian Burnham, commander of the Marines, drifted in and sat on the bed.

#### **Schoolmates from I. U.**

"After a while we all went down stairs to dinner. Several other Navy and Marine officers were there, and I was introduced all around. Finally I came to one pleasant-looking officer with glasses and a mustache, who was introduced as Lt. Comdr. Phillips. Yes,



DR. JOHN R. PHILLIPS

of course we were schoolmates at Indiana University twenty years ago. I might have known it.

"John Reed Phillips is from Michigan City, Ind. He was a doctor in France in the last war, and has been in the Naval Reserve several years. He was call-

ed up for active duty a few months before we got into the war.

"You've never seen a guy in your life like this Dr. Phillips. My little room was perfectly all right, but he insisted that I take over his own room instead. When I said no, he just picked up my bags and carried them upstairs. Since then he has been sleeping in a bare room while I have the luxury of his very homey, gas-heated room upstairs. I wear his sweaters, smoke his cigarettes and even read his mail.

#### **When Things Are Perfect.**

"There are nine officers in this house, and they're all grand people. Maj. Dungan drops in frequently for a before-dinner chat or midnight coffee. His name is James but we call him Red. He's tall and slim and carrot-topped, and looks more like the Marines' famous bulldog than it does itself. He is from Quincy, Mass. He owns a button factory, and has a wife and children.

"That's how things turn out when they're perfect. If I didn't have work to do I think I'd just stay here for the duration and let Dr. Phillips and the Navy support me in the manner to which I am becoming accustomed."

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

July 24, 1942

LONDONDERRY, Northern Ireland (By Wireless)—A fellow traveling around the way I do never knows an hour ahead of time how things are going to work out. For example, this trip to Londonderry was decided on all of a sudden, so I quickly packed my bags and took the train. At Derry I found an unofficious, quick-thinking, friendly people.

Major Dugan of the Marine Corps happened to be standing at the door of the officers' house when my taxi drove up. He grabbed my typewriter and took me back to a small extra room with a cot, and said that was my room. Then he asked me up to his room for a chat before dinner. Pretty soon Comdr. Edward R. Sperry and Lieut. Col. Lucian Burnham drifted in and sat on the bed.

Comdr. Sperry is executive officer of the naval base. Colonel Burnham is in command of the Marines.

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*At Home with Ernie Pyle*

I got out my war correspondent's credentials and showed them, just to keep the record straight. After a while dinner was ready, and we all went downstairs to the dining room. We chatted a few minutes before dinner. Several other Navy and Marine officers were there, and I was introduced all around. Finally I came to one pleasant-looking officer with glasses and a mustache, who was introduced as Lieutenant Commander Phillips.

Then Major Dugan said, "We've been waiting to see what would happen when you two got together."

Yes, of course, we were schoolmates at Indiana University 20 years ago. I might have known it.

John Reed Phillips is from Michigan City, Ind. He was a doctor in France in the last war, and has been in the Naval Reserve several years. He was called up for active duty a few months before we got into the war.

You've never seen a guy in your life like this Dr. Phillips. My little room was perfectly all right, but he insisted that I take over his own room instead. When I said no, he just picked up my bags and carried them upstairs. Since then he has been sleeping in a bare room while I have the luxury of his very homey, gas-heated room upstairs. I wear his sweaters, smoke his cigarettes and even read his mail.

He has toted me around in his car, introduced me to everybody, taken me to parties and on sightseeing tours, and finally loaded me down with luxuries ranging from cartons of American cigarettes to a jar of sandwich spread and a souvenir shillelagh. Praise be for Dr. Phillips! . . .

*John Reed Phillips (1898–1964) was born in Logansport, Indiana, but moved to Star City as a child. He graduated from Purdue in 1918 with a degree in pharmaceutical chemistry. After his service in World War I, he graduated from the IU School of Medicine in 1925 and practiced medicine in Michigan City. During World War II, he served in both Europe and the Pacific. After the war, he was chief of surgery in several military hospitals.*

*At Home with Ernie Pyle*, edited by JOHNSON OWEN V., by PYLE ERNIE. Indiana University Press, 2016. 24 Jul 1942: 315-316.

September 11, 1942

LONDON— . . .

My friend Lieut. Comdr. John R. Phillips, from Michigan City, Ind., the old school-mate I ran onto up in Londonderry, you know, has just been down to London on leave.

The other night we were walking along the street after blackout. The moon was like a harvest moon back home, and made the streets almost as bright as at early dusk.

We met a bunch of British soldiers and their girls in the semi-light, and just after they passed I heard one of them say, "My God, that was Lord Louis Mountbatten!"

*Indiana University Connections*

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Mountbatten, you know, is head of all the British Commandos, and quite a handsome fellow. I just thought Mrs. Phillips had better know about this, and take precautionary action, as we military folks say. Any man who is mistaken for Lord Louis Mountbatten—well . . .<sup>20</sup>

"INDIANA UNIVERSITY CONNECTIONS." In *At Home with Ernie Pyle*, edited by JOHNSON OWEN V., by PYLE ERNIE, 168-94. Indiana University Press, 2016.

*At Home with Ernie Pyle*, edited by JOHNSON OWEN V., by PYLE ERNIE. Indiana University Press, 2016. 11 Sep 1942: 192.

## 1942: The First Year – War Stories

Dr. John Reed Phillips and Ernie Pyle



Aug 1942 - Londonderry, NI, (Collection of Jim Phillips).

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### Wayne William Ricks

Wayne, an aviation mechanic for the Flying Tigers, was presented to General and Madame Chiang-Kai-Shek and received a scarf as a Christmas present from the couple.

Born: 8/31/1915

Entered: 3/11/1935

Branch, SN, Rank: USN, 2914452, COL

Discharged: 9/24/1942

Died: 1/13/1990

Spouse: Lorna Shortland Ricks

Parents: Omer M. and Elsie Mae Ricks



Wayne Ricks (Collection of Michael Derham) -

ancestry.com/mediaui-

[viewer/collection/1030/tree/111436006/person/302313740336/media/1270e20f-bdc5-4a60-b7bb-1ceff900a32d">viewer/collection/1030/tree/111436006/person/302313740336/  
media/1270e20f-bdc5-4a60-b7bb-1ceff900a32d.](https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui/)

#### Grandson of West Side Man Arrives in U. S.

Wayne Ricks' grandson of James Ricks of Franceville, who saw service in Burma and China as an aviation mechanic for the courageous Flying Tigers, has arrived in the United States with his bride for a visit with relatives. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Ricks, live in Frankfort. After remaining about three weeks, he will become a field technical advisor for a propeller manufacturer, with a civilian rank comparing to that of captain in the army.

Ricks is a graduate of Reynolds high school and resigned from the navy to serve with the American volunteer group on the Burma Road. At Kunming he was in charge of propeller service on planes. He was privileged to be presented to General and Madame Chiang-Kai-Shek, and received a scarf from the latter as a Christmas gift.

His marriage took place early in July, at Bombay, to Miss Lorna Shortland, whose father is an English railway official in Bombay, where she was born. They sailed from Bombay August 7, and came around the Cape of Good Hope, South Africa.

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 24 Sep 1942: 1.*

## 1942: The First Year – War Stories

### Urban James Kennedy

Urban was just starting his funeral home business and running for coroner when he was drafted and sent to a Texas Army hospital, probably as a mortician.

Born: 8/7/1909

Entered: 10/10/1942

Branch, SN, Rank: USA, F-SGT

Discharged: 10/1/1945

Died: 11/12/1998

Parents: Dora Victoria Rohrer (Thomas Nicolas[deceased]) Kennedy

In 1933, Urban came to Winamac and revolutionized its funeral business. Before there were dedicated funeral homes, furniture stores prepared the body and sold the casket. The body was then taken home for "viewing", then burial. After his military service, he continued to be active in the community, including serving on the Red Cross, the county war memorial committee, and as the Veterans Affairs county coordinator.

**People At Work**  
No. 47



— Gifford Photo

Urban J. Kennedy has made a place for himself in the community since locating here a few years ago as a funeral director. He grew up on a farm near Plymouth, and ten years ago took a course of training in the Indianapolis Embalming School. He remained with a firm in that city for two years, then returned to Plymouth, subsequently purchasing the former Clarence A. Barnett business here. He is active in Boy Scout, church and civic affairs.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 19 Jan 1939: 1.

*You Are Invited to See the New*

**KENNEDY**  
**Funeral Home**  
500 S. MONTICELLO STREET WINAMAC, INDIANA

**OPEN HOUSE**  
**Saturday and Sunday, April 5 and 6** BOTH AFTERNOONS and EVENINGS

To dedicate this beautiful new Mortuary, open house will be held on both Saturday and Sunday . . . and you are cordially invited to attend. You will see a much larger and more beautiful Kennedy Funeral Home. One that has been brought on by an enlarging clientele



The very pleasant nature of this new Mortuary building is good, tastefully carried. All the atmosphere needed to soothe those in grief is here. Give the new Mortuary a call. It is located on S. Monticello Street, just across from the old Mortuary, which is still in use, according to a time of death.

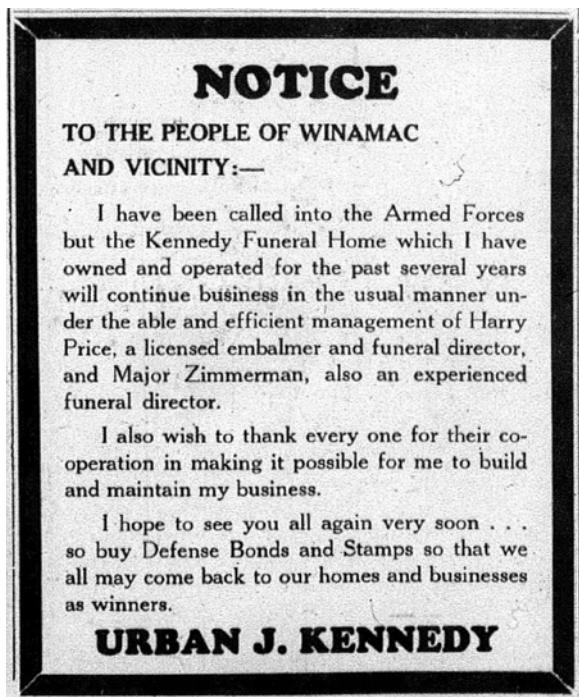
We want everyone old enough to realize the advancement that has been made in the funeral profession to visit this new Mortuary, moreover, they might become acquainted with the progress we have made.

This is your funeral home and it was with this feeling in mind that it was purchased and remodeled to meet your requirements. We are sure you will be pleased with the new Mortuary, and yet it will meet all conditions.

The day of a modern funeral home has come to stay and to stay with us. Urban J. Kennedy and his son, Paul, invite you to attend this formal dedication on Saturday and Sunday, April 5 and 6, from 1 to 5 P.M. and 6 to 9 P.M. The day will be a happy one for theasset that is given to Winamac and the surrounding communities.

FREE FAVORS TO ALL ADULTS WHO VISIT US DURING OUR OPEN HOUSE.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 3 Apr 1941: 3.



Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 1 Oct 1942: 8.

#### KENNEDY FOR CORONER

The Democratic ticket carries the name of one man who is now in the army — Urban J. Kennedy, candidate for coroner. He entered service recently, too late to withdraw from the ticket, and is now stationed in Texas. The office does not carry a salary, but pays by the day of actual service. His election will mean appointment of a deputy to serve until he returns. Mr. Kennedy is well known as a Winamac funeral director and licensed embalmer.

Winamac (IN) Republican 29 Oct 1942: 1.

Pvt. Urban Kennedy is now stationed in the medical department, McClosky General hospital, at Temple, Texas.

Winamac (IN) Republican 29 Oct 1942: 1.

## 1942: The First Year – War Stories

### Robert William Farney

With his two crewmates, Robert "flour-bombed" his folks in Francesville before landing for an overnight visit; at war's end, he daily passed Ernie Pyle's grave and was present when the Japanese arrived for the surrender ceremony.

Born: 3/31/1916

Entered: 8/6/1941

Branch, SN, Rank: USAAC,,M/SGT

Discharged: 11/15/1945

Died: 12/28/1997

Spouse: Laura L. \_ Farney

Parents: William Benjamin and Bessie Florence Lockenour Farney



M/Sgt. Robert Farney, Air Corps  
mechanic, son of Mr. and Mrs.  
W. B. Farney of Winamac.  
Mrs. Farney was from Oklaho-  
ma City, Okla.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 20 Apr 1944: 1.

Sgt. Robert Farney of Francesville and two other members of an army bomber crew enroute to Boston, Mass., from their base at Hattiesburg, Miss., gave the natives of Francesville quite a thrill Monday afternoon when they swooped down over the old home town and dropped several flour bombs. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. William B. Farney, met their son at the Purdue airport and they returned home with them and spent the night. It was his first visit home in fourteen months.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 15 Oct 1942: 1.

# Sgt. Farney Comes Home by Army Plane

Staff Sgt. Robert Farney of Hattiesburg Field, Miss., paid his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Farney, of Francesville, a brief visit Monday. The plane in which he was traveling swooped low over Francesville twice Monday afternoon, bringing the populace into the streets, and giving them a faint idea of the way an air raider might sound.

*Winamac (IN) Republican* 15 Oct 1942: 1.

## V Army Bomber Circle Over Parent's Home

FRANCESVILLE, Ind., Oct. 20—Sergeant Robert Farney of Francesville was a member of the crew of a bomber that passed over Francesville Monday afternoon enroute from Boston, Mass., to Hattiesburg, Miss. He spent the night with his parents here, after they joined him at Lafayette.

The bomber, traveling 300 miles an hour, stopped at Akron, O., and then came on state road 14, out of Fort Wayne, to a point north of Francesville touring south and cruising over the town, the crew dropped small flour bombs in the business section. An overnight stop was made at Purdue university, from which they went to Hattiesburg.

The crew in addition to Sergt. Farney, included Lieut. Donald Buritt of Vermont, who was the pilot, and Sergt. R. Robinson of Warren, O.

*Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune* 10 Oct 1942: 7.

### Sgt. Farney Sees Jap Officials Arrive On Ie Shima Island

M-Sgt. Robert Farney, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Farney of Winamac, witnessed the arrival of Japanese representatives on Ie Shima Island, from where they were taken by plane to Manila to make arrangements for formal surrender.

In a letter to his parents this week, M-Sgt. Farney described the arrival of the Japanese and also the island of Ie Shima. He stated that censorship had been lifted some, and he was able to tell more now. The letter said in part:

"History has been made here, with me as a witness. The Jap big shots landed here on their way to Manila. After leaving Japan they were met by a whole flock of P-38s and escorted here. They were in two planes, painted white with a big black cross on each side of the tail, and they were taken to Manila in a C-54 transport. We had our planes parked all around close to the Jap dispersal area."

"They came back today and were supposed to go back to Japan this evening. I couldn't miss chow so I left. As a reminder that we still had airplanes, the sky was full of planes all day long. It should have left quite an impression with the little "Rats." Of course, maybe those few atomic bombs left the biggest impression.

*Winamac (IN) Republican 6 Sep 1945: 1.*

#### Coral Island

"This island is a coral island about two by five miles in area. It is several miles (between five and ten) off the western coast of Okinawa. It is from fifty to two hundred fifty feet above sea level, except for the mountain on our end of the island. Most of the coast is a cliff of jagged coral formations with a fifty foot drop to the water. It's quite a job going down them to the water."

"In these cliffs are caves and crevasses. There is a lot of debris around which shows the Japs have been here. The natives also used these caves as a burial ground. The bodies were allowed to decay, then the bones were picked clean and placed in earthen vases and placed in these small caves. Some were sealed and some weren't. The atmosphere in and around these caves isn't too pleasant."

#### Pyle's Grave

"As you know, this is the island where Ernie Pyle was killed. We pass the spot where he was killed and the place where he was buried every day on our way to work. On the spot where he was killed, a bunch of G. I.'s erected a nice little monument with a big bronze plaque on it. He is buried among the other boys, with nothing more than a white cross."

M/Sgt. Robert Farney, who has been stationed on IeShima for some time, expects to be returned to the states in the near future. In a letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Farney of Winamac, he said he passed Ernie Pyle's grave each day as he went to work.

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 11 Oct 1945: 2.*

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### **Richard Frank "Dick" Dickensheets**

Richard wrote home about his meals and scenery while traveling in a troop train from Florida to California; a year later, battle-hardened against the Japanese in the South Pacific, he wants to ensure "that those yellow bellies pay for everything they attempt."

Born: 10/29/1919

Entered: 2/19/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35259747,SGT/T4

Discharged: 9/27/1945?

Died: 10/13/1967

Parents: Carl Elmore and Freda Evert Dickensheets



**Cpl. Richard F. Dickensheets,  
in the amphibian command.  
son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Dick-  
ensheets of Winamac.**

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 25 Mar 1943: 1*

## Across the Continent with a Soldier

One of the most interesting letters we have had the privilege of reprinting is the following by Cpl. Richard Dickensheets, which describes his recent trip from Camp Carrabelle, Fla., to Fort Ord, Cal. Richard is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Dickensheets of Winamac. The letter follows:

Dear Folks:  
As I do not know where we will finally stop, I will just write something about our trip and the towns we passed through, but, of course, by the time I finish this letter we'll be there as I'm going to aim to write from day to day and it will take up the time, too.

Saturday, Nov. 7

We boarded the train at Camp Carrabelle at about 5:30 Saturday evening after having the afternoon to get ready to leave. We ate supper on the train that evening, our company cooks having a kitchen set up in two baggage cars, the same as on our trip to Carrabelle. We had roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, bread and butter, fruit, slaw and lemonade.

Well, as it was awhile before we moved out and it didn't take long until it was dark, we weren't able to see a whole lot of Florida, but what we had already seen, though we came through Tallahassee, and that's about all I remember on Saturday.

Sunday, Nov. 8

They got us out of bed about seven o'clock Sunday morning and so had breakfast in a short while. At about eight we came into Montgomery, the state capital of Alabama, also passed Gunter Field, a flying field near there, and Kilby Prison, a state prison.

Most of the day Sunday we were coming through Alabama. For breakfast we had scrambled eggs, bacon, bread and butter and grapes and coffee. Then at dinner had potatoes, beef, peas, salad, bread and butter and lemonade. Supper consisted of mashed potatoes, gravy, beef, carrots, cole slaw, bread and butter and cocoa.

Shortly after dinner we came into Birmingham and Decatur, Alabama, and about six o'clock were in Tennessee and about ten o'clock passed through Nashville. It was only shortly after that we put up for the day.

During the night I imagine we came on through Tennessee and across Kentucky and I don't know of the Kentucky towns we might have come through. I thought there might be some chance that we might go through Chicago and we would come through Indiana, but we came to St. Louis instead. We did pass through Evansville about three in the morning and so I suppose that was the closest I'll be to home in a good while. Of course I wouldn't have been able to see you even if we had come through Winamac.

Monday, Nov. 9

When getting up this morning at 6:30 we were some place in southern Illinois and it wasn't long until we came in East St. Louis. We were in the yards there for a short time and ate breakfast while the train was stopped. Had creamed hamburger on toast, orange and coffee, and for dinner had potatoes, gravy, beef, peas, cole slaw, apricots and grape drink. One thing, though, on this trip we don't have the job of washing mess kits and parading up and down the train to do as they brought paper plates and cups to use which makes it a whole lot easier and better.

West of St. Louis the land is a whole lot like at home and as we came north I could notice how the trees changed and as far north as here the leaves are all off the trees. Yesterday (Sunday) the sun was shining all day long, but when we were in St. Louis this morning it was rather foggy and even looked like rain. From the amount of water on the fields it looks as if there has been lots of rain here. The whole day we spent crossing Missouri and by about six o'clock came into Kansas City. St. Louis and Kansas City are both real nice cities.

We were allowed off the train at Kansas City as they stopped long enough there to trade a Pullman that had some trouble with the water system. But we had to stay right alongside the train. It was raining some then and we sure could notice the change in weather. From there we went on to St. Joseph and during the night crossed into Nebraska. We missed Omaha, but passed near there and were still riding in Nebraska when getting up Tuesday.

Tuesday, Nov. 10

In western Nebraska and on into Colorado there are few trees, and the land is fairly flat and rolling. The towns are rather small and good distance between. Today being the tenth I was thinking that the hunting season opens. I've never seen the like of pheasants as I did today. They fly up from along the railroad tracks maybe as high as six at a time. The ponds and streams are just speckled with ducks, too. The next city will be Denver and we should reach it soon, and we can see the Rocky Mountains in the distance. The peaks are snow covered and are really pretty. We have come through places where it had snowed slightly.

We reached Denver about four. It is really a nice place, and they allowed us off the train for a half hour or so along the station. The weather here seems really nice, better than some we've come through. This morning it was pretty frosty and ice would freeze on the inside of the train windows. I don't know where we will start for from here, but it is possible Salt Lake City.

We left Denver about 5:30 and so had a short stop over there in the station. From there we started for Salt Lake City, going into the mountains outside of Denver. The scenery we saw before it got dark really was beautiful. I can't begin to describe it to you, and you can never realize how those mountains look until you see them. The tracks wind around and around up those mountain sides and to look down below and up to the peaks it is something amazing. We also came through a lot of tunnels, one being seven miles in length. All through the night we were in the mountains and still this morning.

Wednesday, Nov. 11

We came through some small mountain towns this morning where it was only ten above zero. But it really didn't seem to cold. The rivers and standing water were froze plenty hard. It was about eleven o'clock when we came into Salt Lake City. It's not so large, but a pretty town, surrounded practically on all sides by mountains which are snow capped.

From Salt Lake City on to Ogden, Utah, a real nice place, too. The elevation here is something like 4,500 feet above sea level. The change coming up here rather affects your ears and nose for awhile, but the air seems awfully fresh. In between the high (Continued on Page 8).

### ACROSS THE CONTINENT

(Continued from Page 1)  
ranges we passed through mountain valleys. You wonder how they make a living, but they're thickly populated, the valleys are fertile farm land. They raise a lot of sugar beets here and quite a few sheep and cattle. I saw sugar beets piled up like coal at the factories. They seem to be harvesting them this time of year.

Friday, Nov. 13

Well I will proceed to finish this letter now as we have got to our destination and am at Fort Ord, Cal. I did not write anything yesterday as there was too much to see and we got into camp about seven o'clock Thursday evening, but it was a couple of hours before we got to our barracks. From where we were when I last wrote Wednesday I'll tell you something what I saw from there.

Out of Ogden the railway we were on crossed the Great Salt Lake, there being two railroads that cross it one from Salt Lake City, too. It is really a sight to see the lake and those salt flats where it is level for miles and miles and the land sparkled with salt where the lake had been at one time. The lake is thirty miles wide and seventy-five miles long, forty feet deep while the tracks cross and we were over an hour crossing. It probably seems funny, I bet we went for 100 to 150

miles with only seeing a couple of houses and they were railroad workers places. If a person ever got stranded there he'd be bad off.

It wasn't long until dark and during the night we passed through Nevada, where the towns are plenty scarce and I suppose the scenery is about the same. About nine in the evening we came through Elko, a fairly nice little town. I guess we passed close to Reno, but our line did not go through there, and when getting up Thursday morning we were in California.

The mountains there are beautiful as they are wooded so prettily and the scenery is wonderful. The mountain valleys are where most of the fruits and crops are raised. The first place of any size we run into was Sacramento, the state capital, and we got off the train there for a few minutes about eleven o'clock. The Sacramento river and valley there is quite a prosperous section.

We came through Oakland, and saw the Oakland Navy Depot, and then San Francisco and San Jose. All the way from Sacramento the sights were great. The camp here is really nice and is built on the hills not so very far from the coast, I don't know the distance, Monterey being about the closest town. It is really a large place, and things real nice, the roads and walks are paved with oil mat, flowers growing all around the barracks. Especially geraniums, rose moss and others I don't know the names of, but they've been planted all around the barracks. It wasn't so warm, though, this morning, and being so near the coast the fog was heavy. It started to come in when we first got here last evening.

It is almost noon now and the sun is just shining real nice as it has just cleared up enough. The barracks and mess halls are heated with natural gas, and are automatic controlled so there is hot water all the time and they even cook with gas. I don't mean they had fire in the heating systems, but I suppose there are times when they're used.

Well, it's hard to tell what we'll be doing here or how long we might be here, but I suppose it will just be more training. So I will close for now hoping you are all fine and hoping to hear from you soon. Even though it will be only about two weeks possibly by the time I hear from you since I got the last letter it seems like a long time and I suppose it seems a good while since hearing from me, too. I'll be writing often, though, so goodbye for now.

Love to all, Richard.

## Receives Letter from the Fighting Front

A letter from Sgt. Richard Dickensheets, who is stationed somewhere in the Southwest Pacific, read, "I'll tell you a little about some things I have seen around here. As you probably know, Tojo's little yellow boys pay us a visit by plane sometimes, though it doesn't make much difference how many come, they are few that ever return. Our fighter planes knock them out of the sky like flies. It is really quite a show to see dog fights overhead and to see those Nips go plunging down in flames. The action is something to behold. They sometimes come at night and send us scrambling for our fox holes as there are usually sound effects added and fireworks also, but in any event there is hardly anything but a scare. In all probability you can read more in the papers than I can tell you about things like this, and you can believe those stories that seem too good to be true, but I have seen that those yellow bellies pay for everything they attempt."

*Winamac (IN) Republican* 4 Nov 1943: 1

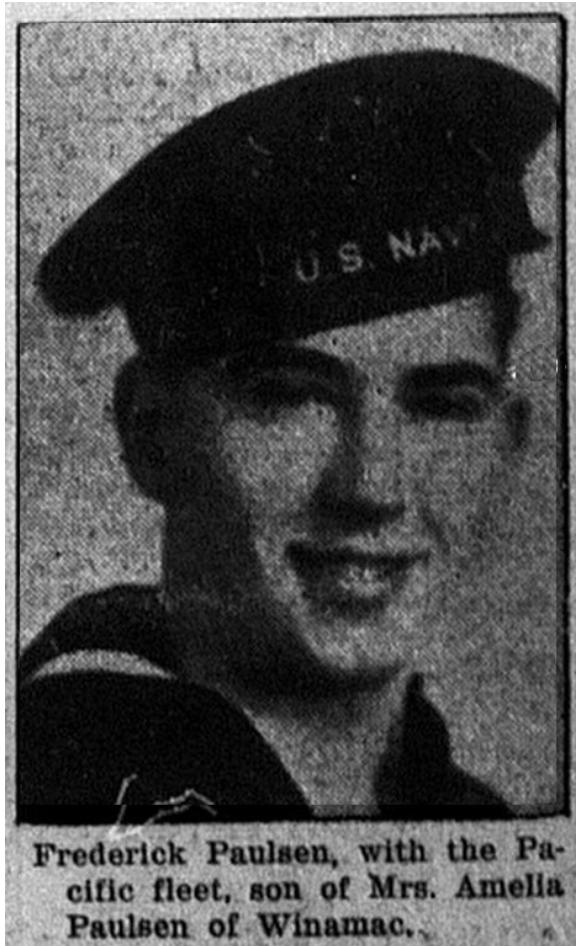
## 1942: The First Year – War Stories

It's a Small World (War II) for Charles Frain and Fred Paulson in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean.

### Charles Steven Frain

Born: 2/14/1920  
Entered: <1/15/1942  
Branch,SN,Rank: USN,,Bugler 1/c  
Discharged: 10/11/1945?  
Died: 5/18/2004

Spouse: Juanita Fletcher Frain  
Parents: Lew Thomas "Tom" and Alzora Albina Kinnear Frain



Frederick Paulsen, with the Pacific fleet, son of Mrs. Amelia Paulsen of Winamac.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 10 Jun 1943: 1

### Frederick Charles "Fred" Paulsen

Born: 4/2/1923  
Entered: 12/16/1940?  
Branch,SN,Rank: USN,,  
Discharged:  
Died:

Parents: Amelia Elizabeth Kalina (Frederick Christian[deceased]) Paulsen

### Bugler on Famed 'Enterprise' Now Home on Leave

Charles Frain, bugler first class, reached here Monday night to spend a thirty-day leave in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs.



B 1/c CHARLES FRAIN

L. T. Frain. He had previously telegraphed from Seattle, Wash., that he was headed this way.

The young man has been a member of the crew on the aircraft carrier Enterprise since March of last year, serving both as a bugler and in the maintenance department of the big ship. The vessel has received no little magazine publicity because of its active participation in Pacific battles and its narrow escapes.

"We were hit once," smilingly admits the white-uniformed seaman, "but the damage was slight and soon repaired." He adds that the Japs have tried to hit them plenty often, and that a vessel with a smooth-topped deck that would almost reach from the court house to the Catholic church if laid down in Winamac, and nearly a half wider than a street, makes a pretty fair target for any bombing plane.

Charles was graduated from the Winamac high school in 1939, having been a cornetist in the school band. He was employed by the Farm Bureau Co-Operative Assn., before joining the Navy in September of 1941. His last trip home, next to the present one, was about two months after he enlisted. Only four months later he was assigned to the Enterprise, and until now has not been in a home port long enough to enjoy a leave.

"The people here at home," he remarks without revealing any secrets, "have little idea of the extensive preparations that the Navy has been making, and is still making, to put the Japs out of business sooner or later."

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 26 Aug 1943: 1

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Imagine meeting your best pal in the middle of the ocean during a battle. That's what happened to Charles Frain, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Frain, and Fred Paulson, son of Mrs. Amilia Paulson, according to a letter received by Mrs. Frain. No word had been received by the parents from the boys for the past few weeks until this letter was received. The boys had lived close together and attended the same school. Both enlisted in the army and had not seen each other since.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 30 Nov 1942: 11.

## 1942: The First Year – War Stories

### William Dale "Dale" Fitz

Dale told of the Pearl Harbor attack a year later at a Winamac Kiwanis meeting.

Born: 2/9/1918

Entered:

Branch,SN,Rank: USN,2915678,CCS

Discharged: 9/19/1945

Died: 2/20/1991

Spouse: Angeline Teresa Forte Fitz

Parents: Jozie Charles "Joe" and Jensie Irene Benham Fitz



#### SC 2-C WILLIAM DALE FITZ

Ship's Cook Second Class William Dale Fitz, another son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Fitz, is serving his country in the Navy. He was in the service previous to the United States entry into the War and was stationed at Pearl Harbor, when Japan attacked the base there on Dec. 7, 1941. Young Fitz also took part in the battles at Midway and the Coral Sea.

*Winamac (IN) Republican* 18 Feb 1943: 1

## Winamac Sailor Writes Parents From War Zone

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Fitz received a card and a letter Tuesday from their son Dale, a member of the crew of the U. S. S. Sicard of the Pacific fleet. The postcard was dated December 9, two days after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, and stated merely, "I am well and will write at the first opportunity." The letter was written two days later but gave no indication where the writer was at the time. It follows in part:

"Sent a card out telling you I am OK and feeling as high as ever. Am having more laughs every day. Am here to win the battle. We are doing our part every day and will do so until the war has been won. We have a slogan to fight for now, 'Remember Pearl Harbor.'

"If you would have been here you would understand why. You can write to me like you always did. I don't know any news but will write to let you know I am OK.

"The work I have to do is very tiresome but still am not backing down one bit. For the time being I am a 'butcher' and it would be lovely to jab a knife up a Jap's back."

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 1 Jan 1942: 1*

## Seaman Home on Furlough Tells of Jap Assault on Pearl Harbor

Members of the Kiwanis club, at their meeting Tuesday noon, enjoyed a talk by Dale Fitz, S. C. First Class in the U. S. Navy, who is spending a furlough here in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Fitz. The young man has been in the navy for nearly five years, and was on one of the vessels in Pearl Harbor at the time of the Jap attack a year ago.

While-censorship rules prevented him from revealing numerous facts which had come to his knowledge, the recent release by the Navy of details of the attack gave him the privilege of relating various incidents.

Many officers and sailors were on shore leave for the week end, and men remaining on vessels in the harbor (of whom he was one) were preparing for the usual quiet Sunday rest. It was shortly after seven o'clock in the morning that Jap planes roared in from the west, flying as low as twenty feet from the ground and dropping bombs with deadly aim. Perhaps the heaviest explosion of the day, he said, came when a bomb was dropped into the smoke stack of an American battleship.

Among the most heart-rending acts, related the young man, was machine gun play by Jap planes on civilians living along the shore. Automobiles were fired upon, and in one case a woman and two children were shot and killed while on their way to church.

As an illustration of the American fighter's attitude, Seaman Fitz tells of the pilot of a U. S. plane who was chasing a Jap plane. The Jap flew within range of anti-aircraft guns from a U. S. warship, and was shot down. The American plane, close behind, flew into the same volley of bullets and was damaged. The American flier, on being rescued, was asked why he continued into the fire from the vessel's guns.

"I didn't see any fire from the guns," he replied. "All I saw was that Jap plane ahead of me."

*Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 17 Dec 1942: 1.*

## Dale Fitz Tells of Pearl Harbor

First Class Petty Officer Dale Fitz of the United States Navy gave some graphic excerpts from his experience at Pearl Harbor and the battle of Midway at the Tuesday noon Kiwanis luncheon.

While he was somewhat handicapped in his story by Navy regulations as to names of ships, etc., he did tell of scenes of horror and heroic actions at Pearl Harbor. For example, he told of one man, who after the rest of his crew had been wiped out by a Jap bomb and he had lost a leg, manned his gun and shot down a Jap plane. When one battleship blew up, Dale was knocked to the ground by the concussion.

Another story was of a Navy aviator, who chased a Jap plane through anti-aircraft fire of our ships and when asked about it on his return said he didn't even notice it, all he saw was the Jap plane he was after.

*Winamac (IN) Republican 17 Dec 1942: 1842: 1.*

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

### John L. Oglesby

While being held in the guard house at Fort Benjamin Harrison, awaiting his return to Camp Picket, from which John had gone AWOL for a month to marry and visit relatives in Harrisburg, IL, he escaped but was recaptured a week later.

Born: 10/21/1922

Entered: 6/18/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,36038142,PVT

Discharged: 9/1/1944

Died: 11/19/1981

Spouse: Mary Elizabeth Hettinger (John L.) Oglesby (Thomas Alvus) Franks

Parents: Orley (Dollie A. Beal[divorced]) Oglesby and Dollie A. Beal (Orley) Oglesby (James) Johnson

### **Logansport Soldier Held For Desertion Escapes Guard House**

A determined young man is John Oglesby, 21, who again is the object of police and military search after he escaped the guard house at Fort Benjamin Harrison at Indianapolis Wednesday afternoon, where he was being held for Camp Pickett, Va., military authorities for desertion.

Oglesby, who resides at 419½ Fourth street, this city, was taken into custody last Saturday by local authorities. He later admitted that he had been AWOL from Camp Pickett since November 19.

Oglesby after deserting Camp Pickett returned to get married, according to local police. He was returned to Fort Harrison Monday by military authorities.

### **PICKS UP DESERTER**

Sheriff Frank B. Lough over near North Judson Wednesday picked up a young man for investigation and found out that he was AWOL from the Army. The young fellow, giving the name of John Oglesby, said that he is a son of Orlie Oglesby, living east of town, and that he left Camp Pickett, Va., a month ago and since that time had been visiting his kinfolk in southern Illinois and here. He is being held for the Army authorities at Fort Benjamin Harrison.

*Winamac (IN) Republican* 7 Jan 1943: 1

*Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune* 31 Dec 1942: 5.

## 1942: The First Year – War Stories

It's a Small World (War II) for cousins Ralph Miller and Alvin Shank meeting at a canteen door in Los Angeles.

### Ralph Francis Miller

Born: 6/11/1916  
Entered: 5/12/1941  
Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35159979,SSGT  
Medal: Bronze Star  
Discharged: 9/28/1945  
Died: 12/19/2006

Parents: Frank Anthony and Cecelia C. Gilsinger Miller



**S/Sgt. Ralph Miller, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Miller of Winamac, in an armored division.**

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 26 Aug 1943: 1

### Albin Francis "Alvin" Shank

Born: 2/19/1917  
Entered: 5/12/1941  
Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35160042,2LT  
Medal: Bronze Star  
Discharged:  
Died: 5/18/2006

Parents: Bernard "Barney" Frank (Caroline "Carrie" E. Gilsinger [deceased]) Shank



**Sgt. Albin Shank, in the armored division, son of Barney Shank of Pulaski.**

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 28 Jan 1943: 1.

## Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Miller received a telephone call on Christmas day from their son, Staff Sgt. Ralph Miller, who is in California stating that while on leave over the week end he had gone to Los Angeles and as he started to go in a canteen door, met a cousin, Alvin Shank. They were both greatly surprised as they did not know they were stationed at the same camp.

*Winamac (IN) Republican* 31 Dec 1942: 8.

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<sup>1</sup> Madison, James H. *Indiana Through Tradition and Change*. Indianapolis, IN, Indiana Historical Society, 1982, p. 397.

<sup>2</sup> Madison, James H. *Indiana Through Tradition and Change*. Indianapolis, IN, Indiana Historical Society, 1982, p. 179.

<sup>3</sup> Liquid Packaging Solutions, Inc. <https://www.liquidpackagingsolution.com/page/made-in-the-usa/> [accessed 19 Jan 2026].