

1945: Mopping Up – Overview

The 6 June D-Day invasion of the beaches of Normandy the previous summer was a success, but there was still a long slog ahead in 1945 to drive the Germans from France and the Benelux countries. As the winter turned into 1945, the Germans launched a last-ditch offensive at the Battle of the Bulge, fighting across Luxembourg, eastern Belgium, and northern France.

In early April, U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt died after serving more than 12 years in office. He had led the country out of the Great Depression, and now this World War was ending.

In mid-April, war correspondent Ernie Pyle was killed on a small island near Okinawa in the Pacific. His column, printed in the Democrat, was a significant part of the war news for folks in Pulaski County.

In late April, Adolf Hitler committed suicide, and Germany surrendered soon thereafter. Europe was finally at peace with the surrender of Germany on 8 May 1945 (V-E Day). Japan fought on relentlessly until the US dropped two atomic bombs on the Japanese mainland in August. The world was finally at peace when the Japanese surrendered on 2 September 1945 (V-J Day). The following month, the United Nations was established.

Back home, the munitions factory near LaPorte County closed in August 1945. Life did not return to normal immediately. Shortages of some items, such as sugar, cheese, and butter, continued for a while after the war ended. Most importantly, Our Boys began to come home.

In that last year of the war, fifty-two more of Our Boys died. Here are some of their stories.

Jay was two years older than his brother, Jack, both of whom were born in or near Winamac. Jay, a Marine, was killed in action in 1943.

Jack had worked at Kocher's Meat Market in Winamac before he entered in May 1944. His boss, A. E. Kocher, closed his business that same month. Not only had he lost Jack, but his sons, Harry and Arthur, had also entered before Jack. A naval petty officer, Harry was killed in the European Theater in 1944. Jack died on 29 January 1945, at the end of the Battle of the Bulge in Luxembourg.

Butch was among the first to land and die on Iwo Jima. Maurice McFadden's best friend, A. J. "Tex" Stanton, talked about his death. They were on a "mop up" campaign on Iwo Jima when a mortar struck, killing Maurice and blowing Tex's feet off.

Amanda of Winamac lost two great-nephews. In 1945, West Point graduate Allen was declared dead after missing for almost a year in Burma. Later that year, his older brother, Jack, was killed in Europe. Their parents were now childless.

In the same unit, Winamac buddies George and Henry were killed four days apart on Corregidor Island in Manila Bay. Henry's mother had now lost a son in each world war. A month after George and Henry died, Jack became the third and last fatality in the group of six Pulaski County men in the 151st Infantry unit of the 38th Division. There would have been many more deaths,

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particularly if the Allies had invaded Japan as planned. But the war ended in the late summer, and thankfully, the death rate dropped precipitously.

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

Also lost that year, Brownie, a local dog volunteered for the war effort, was killed in action. Three other canine volunteers from Pulaski County were discharged at war's end.

Andrew earned his Distinguished Service Cross, the second-highest award for valor.

"Snooky" earned his Soldier's Medal, the highest non-combat medal, when he and his three-person unit "... with complete disregard for their personal safety, they heroically saved from loss valuable and irreplaceable equipment which was in danger of being destroyed as a result of a gasoline fire."

Wint earned his Silver Star when he "crawled through devastating barrages and saved the lives of his comrades.".

The awards of at least 12 Presidential Unit Citations, 63 Bronze Stars, and 9 Silver Stars were mentioned in 1945 newspaper items, although some may have been awarded in prior years. Here are some of their stories. Albin earned his Bronze Star and a field commission after he used his assault gun to drive the enemy from a bridge they were preparing for demolition. On a later occasion, he and another officer captured 123 with only one shot fired.

Allen earned his Bronze Star by advancing his observation post unit across the heavily defended river while under intense enemy fire to direct friendly artillery to silence enemy fire on moving troops.

Barney earned a Bronze Star when, as an artillery observer, he stood up, exposing himself to machine gun and rifle fire, to rally troops to take their objective.

Bill earned his Bronze Star when "in disregard of his own life, [he] rushed into an ammunition dump which had been set afire by the Japs, and backed out his truck, saving vital equipment.".

Clifford earned his Bronze Star when he moved a heavy machine gun into position to repulse an attack.

Edmond earned his Bronze Star when, along the Siegfried Line, he "courageously dismounted from his tank destroyer and went forward on foot, despite enemy machine gun and artillery fire. Locating two enemy tanks, he returned to his vehicle and destroyed both.".

Previously twice wounded, Lloyd was awarded the Bronze Star when he "operated the guns of an immobilized tank with great success during a German attack.".

Under an extremely heavy artillery and small arms enemy barrage, another of Our Boys named Lloyd earned a Bronze Star by administering first aid to two wounded and returning them to the medics.

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When a kamikaze pilot hit his ship, although wounded, Jack, a radio operator, earned a Bronze Medal for assisting in the evacuation of other wounded from the ship's smoke-filled interior and directing fire-fighters to reach other wounded men.

In 1945, there were at least 33 meetings statewide or abroad. Most were two or three, but one had six of Our Boys. A few were on the high seas. The rest were split between Europe and the South Pacific, including many in the Philippines. Most were brothers, cousins, classmates, or brothers-in-law. The rest were friends and other Pulaski County residents. Most were planned, including travels of one and three hundred miles to visit a brother in Europe. Two brothers met three times when stationed thirty miles apart. There were some accidental meetings when assigned to the same ship. Doc and Joe found themselves sitting side by side at a Bob Hope USO show. Stanley joined a few Logansport boys and 400 other boys from "back home" on Hoosier Day in the Mariana Islands.

Our Boys had other experiences that year. After a field operation for appendicitis, Stanley was carried by stretcher 60 miles over five days by Chinese coolies, during an assignment behind Japanese lines. Charles was on a 50-caliber "ack ack" crew defending the airstrip at Sinth, Burma, and getting his first taste of combat in a night attack, thereby winning faint praise from Tokyo Rose. With the war ending, Little Joe, who had emigrated with his brother in 1927, was able to visit his parents and two sisters in Essen, Germany, and found them in good health and their home unharmed by the war.

The details of these stories and others are in the following section, "War Stories".

There was more war news besides Our Boys in the paper.

Early in the year, there was a short-lived coal shortage, with worldwide prices rising as coal production in Germany declined.

The only deaths on US soil occurred when a Japanese firebomb landed in an Oregon forest and was detonated by picnickers. Five children and one adult died.

At least 24 of Our Boys were freed as German prisoners of war. Only two were identified as Japanese prisoners of war, and they died in custody.

The death camps came to light in articles in the Logansport dailies.

And after VJ Day, Kingsbury Ordnance Plant closed. During the war years, it had 20,000 workers producing half-a billion shells and fuses.

At the end of 1945, the published Honor Roll numbered 64. These men lived in Pulaski County at the time of their interment or were very strongly connected to it by blood or marriage.

The details of these stories are in this chapter's section, **Community Climate**.

1945: Mopping Up – Community Climate

This is a summary of the news in print available to most residents of Pulaski County in 1945. 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.

About two-thirds of the headlines were war news, evenly split between Europe and the South Pacific. After the war ended, less than a tenth of the primary news was about postwar issues, including Japanese politics and the atom bomb, and less than a fifth of the news was about labor problems, i.e., strikes and threats of strikes.

International News

Victory in Europe (VE Day) [8 May 1945].

Victory over Japan (VJ Day) [2 September 1945].

National News

Beloved columnist Ernie Pyle was killed in the Pacific war zone after surviving the European war zone.

FDR died [12 April 1945].

The draft was suspended for older men.

State News

The Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs was established.

The Kingsbury Ordnance Works closed.

There were only about 600 one-teacher schools, which were down from 4,500 in 1920.

Indiana soybean production grew to more than 25M bushels from nearly 14M bushels in 1940.

Tractors numbered over 105,000, up from about 73,000 in 1940. The state was finally starting to recover from the shortages of essential farm equipment.

Local News

Markets

The agricultural market was about the same as last year.

Thursday Markets

Quotations hereunder are secured from dealers each Thursday morning, and are for that day only. They should not be regarded as quotations for any succeeding day, as all markets are subject to frequent change.

Veal Calves	\$14.00
Sows	\$13.40 down
Hogs	\$14.45 down
Soybeans, new, bu.	2.04 (Possible 6c premium on beans)
New Corn, No. 2	1.05
Oats, No. 2, heavy test70
Rye, new	1.00
Wheat, soft red winter	1.62
Wheat, hard	1.62
Buckwheat, per 100	1.70
Eggs, per doz.35
Butterfat48
Heavy Hens24
Old Roosters18

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 26 Jul 1945: 8.

The Markets

Veal Calves	\$14.00 down
Hogs	\$14.45
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New corn, No. 2	1.05
Oats70
Buckwheat, cwt.	1.70
Eggs, per doz.35
Butterfat48
Hens24
Old Roosters18

Winamac (IN) Republican 26 Jul 1945: 8.

1945: Mopping Up – Community Climate

Coal Shortage

Due to continued public use of higher-grade coal, coal supplies dropped early in 1945. The decline in coal production in Germany drove worldwide demand for coal from other sources. Fortunately, the shortage was short-lived.

Coal Shortage Hits Community; Ask Aid

Faced with empty coal yards and urgent appeals for fuel in the community, the dealers of Winamac, Indiana, have formed a Citizens' Coal Committee, composed of members of the town board and the business leaders. The emergency committee last night issued a statement asking dealers to make every effort to relieve the coal shortage which has reached the point where stores are unable to fill any one or all of the dealers until relief is secured.

The local Red Cross chapter also joined in the battle and will assist in securing a fair distribution of coal which cannot be supplied by any one or all of the dealers until relief is secured.

Representatives of all four of the town's coal dealers attended the meeting and frankly admitted that they were unable to supply the demand because they were not receiving enough coal.

Preliminary estimates show that between 100 and 120 dealers in the community's trading area are in need of coal.

One dealer reported that he had received 30 appeals for coal in less than three hours Tuesday and all four dealers estimated that they have a combined total of 700 orders on file.

"We can't begin to fill all these orders so we have been refusing orders and making no promises," the dealers added.

Representatives included John Kell, manager of the Farm Bureau Cooperative, Joseph J. James Marquis, manager of the Co-Operative Pioneers Company; and W. Pearson, owner of Pearson's Coal and Groceries, and Virgil Zeller, representing the Von Tobel Lumber Co.

"We have cars who get the coal," the dealers told the board, "but we must get coal shipped in because some people are really suffering."

O. H. Keller, Red Cross chapter president, and the community on the Citizens' Committee and immediate plans were made by the dealers and committee men to clean all houses and to keep them warm.

School attendance has dropped

The preliminary estimates showed that dealers will be able to fill no more than two cars a day for the next 10 days and after that one car a day if the cold weather continues. This is all that is needed to supply the present need.

An immediate committee is being made up by the State Fuel Administration and a committee representative will be sent to Indianapolis this week to report on the local situation.

In addition, the committee and coal dealers will meet every coal delivery day to stress the conservation practices must be employed.

The county court house is running low on coal and with few exceptions, coal piles are so low at schools in the area that temperatures have been high at minimum.

School attendance has dropped

The Coal Shortage Is Real Here

Every effort has been made by the coal merchants of Winamac to give residents of this community an adequate supply of fuel.

To date, deliveries from the mines have not been sufficient to supply the demand.

The Situation Is Serious

If you have more than 10-days supply of coal on hand, please do not place an order until your need is urgent.

The Red Cross is assisting all dealers in allocating the coal which reaches Winamac. No more than one ton can be spared to a customer.

Your co-operation is asked to save fuel. Help yourself and your neighbor by conserving every lump of coal.

**Von Tobel Lumber Co.
Co-Operative Elevator Co.
Pearson's, Coal and Groceries
Farm Bureau Co-Op. Assn. Inc.**

Winamac.(IN).Republican 1 Feb 1945: 1&8.

Acute Coal Shortage Induces Star City Man To Take from Car On Siding.

Thomas Depoy of Star City pleaded guilty to charges of petit larceny in Justice Dennis Miller's court Monday and paid fine of \$1 and costs of \$4. Charges were placed against him by William Strahle, detective for the Pennsylvania railroad, after Mr. Depoy took a ton and a half of coal from a railroad car on a siding at Star City. He also agreed to repay the railroad \$15 for the amount of coal taken.

Though officials did not recommend making this practice regular, they were sympathetic with Mr. Depoy, who stated that he wanted to buy coal but it was not available and that he took this means of getting fuel for his home.

Pulaski.County.(IN).Democrat 1 Feb 1945: 1.

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Federal Agency Orders Coal Shipped Here

"Two carloads a day for the next ten days" was the promise issued at Indianapolis last week end when the critical coal shortage in Winamac was laid before officials in the office of the Solid Fuels Administration for War.

Officials first stated, on being informed of the situation here, that it would be necessary to form a local distributing agency. When informed that this had already been done by formation of a committee composed of town councilmen and officers of the Red Cross, the two-car-a-day order followed promptly.

Pulaski County, (IN). Democrat 8 Feb 1945: 1.

Local dealers have been informed that mines have already consigned coal to Winamac. It was stated by the Indianapolis officials, in connection with the order, that federal regulations prohibit any dealer from delivering coal to any customer who has more than a five-day supply of any kind of fuel; also from delivering more than a ton of coal to any home, or a seven-day supply, whichever is the larger.

The situation in Winamac has been eased during the past few days by the arrival of a few cars of coal, and dealers express the opinion that the SFAW order will provide fuel for all if due co-operation can be had.

Coal Crisis Eased Here By SFAW

A promise of "two carloads of coal a day for the next 10 days," beginning the first part of next week, to relieve the critical coal shortage for Winamac and the surrounding community, was given in Indianapolis Friday by the Solid Fuels Administration for War.

W. G. Stockton, director of the Indiana SFAW office, issued a directive ordering the "two car-loads a day" and already coal dealers have been informed that coal has been shipped and is now enroute.

Mr. Stockton issued the order after he was informed that Winamac coal yards were without a lump of coal and that the town board and Red Cross were working together to provide fuel for families without heat.

The SFAW official pointed out that every dealer is prohibited, by federal order, from delivering any coal to a consumer unless the consumer has on hand less than a 5-day supply of usable fuel of any kind.

Winamac, (IN). Republican 8 Feb 1945: 1.

The federal directive also prohibits dealers from delivering more than a ton of coal to any home in the community or a minimum of seven days' supply, whichever is the larger.

The government order also directed dealers that any emergency case referred to them should receive priority over all other deliveries.

Mr. Stockton pointed out that these orders will remain in effect until further notice.

Arrival of a few cars of coal in Winamac during the past few days helped ease the situation. The Red Cross, through which all emergency coal orders are being cleared, reported that all local dealers, including the Co-Operative Elevator Co., Farm Bureau Co-Operative Association, Inc., Pearson's Coal and Groceries, and Von Tobel Lumber Company, were all cooperating to provide coal for emergency cases.

All dealers were of the opinion that SFAW order to send the coal into Winamac will relieve the situation if the weather does not remain too severe.

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War Bonds

Every few months an appeal to buy more US War Bonds appeared, including after the war's end, when they were called, "Victory Bonds".

Believe It or Not! says Ripley

It costs the U.S. twice as much to fight the Japs!

"B29's" USED TO BOMB TOKYO
EACH COST \$600,000 EACH IN WAR BONDS

THE WAR
IS COSTING U.S. OVER 10 MILLION DOLLARS AN HOUR!

\$175,000 IS SPENT EVERY MINUTE!
\$3,000 EACH SECOND!

DO YOU NEED ANY MORE REASONS FOR BUYING AN EXTRA WAR BOND?

EACH OF THE THOUSANDS OF TANK DOZERS
USED TO LEVEL OFF LANDING FIELDS AND BUILD ROADS
COST APPROXIMATELY \$67,417.00

"ALLIGATORS" USED IN GREAT QUANTITIES IN THE PACIFIC
COST \$30,000 EACH

35,000,000 GALLONS OF GASOLINE ARE BEING SHIPPED OVERSEAS EVERY DAY!
ENOUGH TO RUN THE AVERAGE CAR FOR THE NEXT 48,000 YEARS

THIS PAGE CONTRIBUTED TO THE WAR EFFORT BY THE FOLLOWING FIRMS:

W. M. Smith Coal Co.	Logansport Lumber Co.	Dr. Ray Koffel	Foster's Furniture	Sims Laundry & Cleaning Co.	McBride Bakery, Inc.
Palumbo Distribution Co.	Diana Shop	Schmid Dry Goods Co.	Elkhart Packing Co.	Logan, Thaddeus	Miller's Women's Apparel
Busjahn's Drug Store	Ray's Creamery	Viola's Dry Goods Shop	Citrusland Co.	Geo. R. Murphy, Inc., Tax Expert	Logan, Beauty Shop
The National Bank of Logansport	Weinard's Lunch	Fisher's Furniture Store	Worley & Son Lumber	Hendricks Printing Co.	Wise's Restaurant
H. W. W. Co.	The Fashion Shop	Central Drug Co.	Logansport Elevator Co.	Baker Specialty & Supply Co.	John I. Shafer Hardwood Co.
Ward Bros.	Lowe and Davis	J. F. Murdoch & Co., Insurance	H. J. Bailey & Sons	Stewart's Jewelry Store	Homecrest Drug Store
The Folks Truck Market	M. K. & J. M. Brewing Co.	St. Paul's Hospital	Behrns Men's Wear	O. K. Store	The Diner
Faenacht's Jewelry Store	Ice Delivery Service, Inc.	Mohlman's Jewelry Store	Greensfelder Brothers	Irene's Pantry	Farmers & Merchants State Bank
Indiana Associated Telephone Co.	The Herpe Co.	Houk Merchandise Shop	Flanigan Hardware Co.	Kahn Motor Service, Inc.	Chronicle Printing Co.
Ernie's Auto Inn	Personnelle Auto Service	Richardson's Cleaners			DeLuxe Pastry Shop

This is an official U. S. Treasury advertisement—prepared under auspices of Treasury Department and War Advertising Council

Logansport.(IN)Pharos_Tribune 24 Feb 1945: 3.

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We can't all go... but we can all help!
BUY WAR BONDS

REMEMBER this touching picture of a little girl's farewell to her war-bound daddy? Appearing shortly after Pearl Harbor, it touched the hearts of millions of Americans and helped to launch the greatest voluntary savings program in all history.

That girl is three years older today. In that time, our enemies have been pushed steadily back toward their own frontiers... thanks in no small measure to the overwhelming flood of tanks, ships, planes and guns that more than 85 million Americans have poured into the fight through their purchases of War Bonds.

But her daddy is still at war—the fight goes on—the money you've put into Bonds is still needed, just as it was after Pearl Harbor. KEPT IN THE FIGHT—KEPT IN WAR BONDS—IT WILL CONTINUE TO WORK FOR VICTORY.

KEEP FAITH WITH OUR FIGHTERS—Buy War Bonds For Keeps

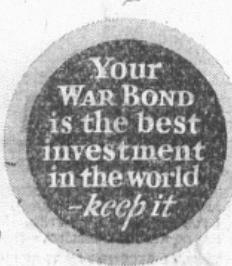
**SHE'S
THREE
YEARS
OLDER
NOW**

—But Her Daddy's Still in the Fight, and the War Bonds You Bought Back in the Days of Pearl Harbor are Still Needed in the Fight, Too—for Victory!

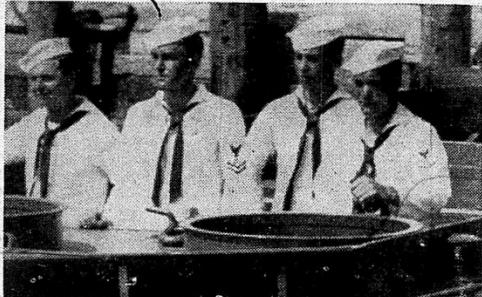
TORY—AND FOR YOU.

For just as that little girl has grown, so have the War Bonds you bought three years ago. The \$100 Bond you paid \$75 for then is already worth more than you paid—and how swiftly the time has passed! In another year it will be worth \$80—at maturity, \$100. Here's money you'll need later—for education, repairs, replacements, retirement—just as your country needs it today.

• • •
So let this picture remind you—**HOLD TIGHT TO YOUR BONDS!**



Buy War Bonds



Approximately \$50,000 worth of Series E War Bonds must be purchased this week by individuals if Pulaski county is to go over the top in the "Mighty Seventh" War Loan Drive. Clarence Long, county war finance chairman, said yesterday.

The county has gone over the top on all other drives, but additional E Bond purchases must be made if the record is to remain unbroken.

Here is just a few of the nation's boys in service. Their pictures make a seven. Let it remind you of the "Mighty Seventh" Loan Drive.

MM2c Donald W. Roberts of Star City is shown at left, with several shipmates at the U. S. Navy Landing Boat school at New Orleans shortly before leaving on a Seventh War Bond tour to show operations to inland cities.



Cpl. Fred Long of Monterey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Long, has been overseas more than two and a half years and served as transportation dispatcher for an engineer aviation unit in Italy until the end of the war.



Elwood DeHority, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clay DeHority of Anderson, nephew of Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Nogle of near Winamac and grandson of William White, is serving on a Marine training ship, the U. S. S. Marine Devil.



S-Sgt. Jacob Wagner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob G. Wagner, and husband of Jo Ann Wagner, is shown here at the end of the war after he had flown in many bombing attacks against Germany. He holds the Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters. He is a ball turret gunner.

Winamac.(IN).Republican 28 Jun 1945: 1.

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Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 29 Nov 1945: 2.

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Stateside Threats

In the last year of the war, the Japanese launched high-altitude balloons carrying firebombs. Designed to cause forest fires as they drifted across the west coast of the US and Canada. The only war fatalities on US soil occurred when five children and one adult were killed in Oregon during a Sunday school picnic while tugging on a downed balloon.

**FIVE CHILDREN,
PASTOR'S WIFE
IN EXPLOSION**

Fishing Jaunt Proves Fatal To **Bly** Residents

Five children and a minister's wife, all residents of **Bly**, were killed instantly by an explosion of unannounced cause while on a fishing trip in the Gearhart mountain area just inside Lake county and about 65 miles from Klamath Falls.

One of the members of the party found an object, others went to investigate, and the blast followed.

Killed

The dead: **Mrs. Elsie Mitchell**, wife of Rev. Archie **Mitchell** of **Bly**, who was the lone survivor of the incident.

Jay Gifford, 12, son of Mr. and Mrs. N. L. Gifford.

Eddie Engen, 13, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elnar Engen.

Sherman Shoemaker, 12, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Shoemaker.

Joan Patzke, 11, and **Dick Patzke**, 13, son and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Patzke.

Rev. and Mrs. **Mitchell** and the five youngsters went out on the fishing journey Saturday morning. They fished in a creek on the **Bly-Dairy** creek road.

Find Object

Rev. **Mitchell** drove the car for a distance while the others walked in the woods. When the object was sighted, they called to Rev. **Mitchell**. He left the car, approached the group, and was about 40 feet away when the explosion occurred.

All but Mrs. **Mitchell** were (Continued on Page Six)

**FIVE CHILDREN,
PASTOR'S WIFE
IN EXPLOSION**

(Continued From Page One)

killed instantly. She died almost immediately.

Two men working on a road grader nearby aided Rev. **Mitchell** in giving the alarm. The bodies were badly mangled. They were removed first to Lakeview.

Sheriff Aids

Sheriff Henry Cassiday of Lake county aided in the investigation.

Rev. **Mitchell** is pastor of the Christian Alliance church at **Bly**. He has been there only a short time.

A mass funeral service for the Patzke children, Eddie Engen and Sherman Shoemaker will be held at Klamath temple at 2 p. m. Wednesday with Rev. Daniel B. Anderson in charge.

(Klamath.Falls.OR).Herald.and.News 7 May 1945: 1&6.

Jap Balloon Kills Kin of Starke County Family

Joan and Dick Patzke, children of the former Mildred Shiveley of California township, in Starke county, were two of five children and a preacher's wife killed May 5 near Lakeview, Oregon, by a high explosive bomb which was part of the equipment of a fallen Japanese balloon. News of the fatality was only recently released by the war department.

Joan spied the Japanese balloon and called the other youngsters, one of whom tugged at a piece of the balloon with the result that it exploded. The preacher, Rev. Archie **Mitchell**, was the only survivor.

Mrs. Patzke is a sister of Mrs. Frank Crome, who now lives in California township. She attended school in Aldine. The Crome family received a letter from the Oregon folks last week.

Pulaski County.(IN).Democrat 14 Jun 1945: 1.

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Bataan Death March

After the Bataan peninsula fell to the Japanese in April 1942, 75,000 American and Filipino prisoners of war were forced-marched 60 miles in one week without food or water. Between 5,000 and 18,000 Filipinos and 500 to 650 Americans died from either exhaustion or murder by guards. Two of Our Boys, Clarence and John, were on that 1942 March, which no one back home knew about it until 1945.

CRUSH BATAAN ARMY

AMERICAN AND FILIPINO FORCE OF 36,853 MEN IS OVERWHELMED BY JAPS

Weary Troops of General Jonathan Wainwright Who Have Been Subjected to Constant Assaults by Greatly Superior Japanese Forces Are Subdued on Philippines Peninsula After Gallant Three-Months Stand Which Parallels Battle of Alamo for Sheer Courage and Gallantry; Fortress of Corregidor, Fort Drum, Fort Mills and Fort McKinley in Manila Bay Still Remain in American Hands.

WASHINGTON, April 29—(UPI)—Thirty-six thousand American and Filipino troops, exhausted by short rations, disease and lack of relief, were overwhelmed on Bataan Peninsula today by a fresh and numerically superior enemy.

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, who disclosed for the first time the number and plight of the brave Bataan defenders, was unable to say how many of the 36,853 Yanks and Filipinos would be in each of the categories of casualties—killed, captured or wounded.

He said that every effort was being made to get as many of them as possible to Corregidor and other American fortresses that still hold out in Manila Bay. But it appeared doubtful that any substantial number could be evacuated.

Stimson, who had just conferred with President Roosevelt, told a press conference that in addition to the U. S.-Filipino troops on bloody Bataan there were some 20,000 civilian refugees there.

They had fled to Bataan at the time of the Japanese occupation of Manila. Their presence made the food situation more critical and handicapped the defenders.

ENEMY SMASHES THRU DEFENSES

"Our troops, out-numbered, worn down by attack, exhausted by insufficient rations and disease prevailing in that area, had their lines broken and enveloped by the enemy," Stimson said.

"Our defenses on Bataan have been overthrown. Corregidor is still fighting.

"A long and gallant defense has been worn down and overthrown.

"There is nothing but praise for the men who have so ably conducted an epic chapter in the history of the Philippines."

As President Roosevelt and Gen. Douglas MacArthur before him, Stimson pledged that the United States would win back the Philippines from the Japanese and restore independence to the Filipino people who has acquitted themselves so gallantly in the hopeless fight.

The secretary disclosed that only yesterday President Roosevelt had messaged Lt. Gen. Jonathan M. Wainwright, the American Philippines commander, that he would leave to him any decisions to be made regarding the battle.

This was taken to mean that Mr. Roosevelt had empowered Wainwright with full authority to surrender his exhausted army if necessary to save further bloodshed and sacrifice that no longer could accomplish any purpose.

WAINWRIGHT AT FORT MILLS

Wainwright is now at Fort Mills on Corregidor, from where he sent the fateful news of Bataan early this morning. His report of the "complete physical exhaustion" of his men was made public in a brief communiqué at 5:15 A. M., EWT.

Stimson disclosed at his press conference the hitherto secret information that ever since Gen. MacArthur had first consolidated his U. S.-Filipino forces on Bataan, the army and navy had been able to get ammunition and limited food supplies to him by breaching the Japanese blockade at considerable cost in ships and men.

The supply organization was directed from Australia by Brig. Gen. Patrick E. Hurley, former secretary of war in the Hoover cabinet and now minister to New Zealand.

The 36,853 U. S.-Filipino effectives last reported by Wainwright's defense lines did not include the forces on Corregidor and other harbor forts at the entrance of Manila Bay, or scattered forces elsewhere on Luzon and other Philippine islands.

ONE FULL REGIMENT ON SCENE

It was disclosed that there was only one complete regular U. S. army infantry regiment in the Philippines at the outbreak of the war, the 31st, long stationed in the islands.

The Philippine scout force—Philippine troops in the U. S. army—numbered about 10,500.

There were about 5,000 air personnel in the Philippines. As the Americans lost their planes, owing to the superiority of the Japanese in the air, at least 2,000 men perished. Some of these joined the defense forces as rifle-carrying infantry.

Last summer two tank battalions were sent to the Philippines, and some mobile artillery. This artillery proved a vital factor in protecting the defenses and for a time apparently was appreciably superior to the Japanese.

Figures on planes in the Philippines were not available, but it is known that many were lost on the ground. Some of the heavier machines went to join the battle in the East Indies and Australia.

"Full details are not available, but the situation indicates the probability that the defenders of Bataan have been overcome."

Wainwright's men suffered heavy losses during days of fighting. They had no planes to combat all kinds of enemy aircraft that beat ed and strafed them day and night. There had no reinforcements to meet the assault of fresh enemy troops. They had only courage and the hope that reinforcements would be forthcoming. But Japanese domination of the entire surrounding waters prevented the dispatch of reinforcements.

Few Boats Available

Only a few small boats—such as the torpedo boats which took MacArthur out of Corregidor—could make the passage through the Japanese blockade. No means could be found for getting men or aerial reinforcements to Bataan.

It was doubted that the armada of the defense, as was the case from the start, low on supplies, lacking air support, and wearied beyond human endurance by days of fighting against fresh enemy troops, could hold out forever and when that is gone the two-mile strait between the southern tip of Bataan and Corregidor.

(Continued on Page Two)

Civilians Headlong Defense

The 20,000 civilians on Bataan communicated the gloomy days of the battle of Bataan. Caring for and feeding these people was a drain on the fighting forces and may have hastened the collapse of the defense, as was the case from the start, low on supplies, lacking air support, and wearied beyond human endurance by days of fighting against fresh enemy troops.

It was to the end their promise and their purpose. That was to make the Japanese pay and pay, in men, in equipment, and in time, for every inch of ground gained.

In that they succeeded. The battle for the Bataan peninsula, a 13-mile wide stretch of jungle and mountains, will be remembered as the greatest epic of valor.

The nation through President Roosevelt and Gen. Douglas MacArthur has pledged that Bataan and all the rest of the Philippines will be won back when American fighting forces in the southwest Pacific are ready.

Wainwright's Fateful Message

The fateful message from Wainwright was announced by the war department shortly after 5 a. m. when the Japanese began an assault on Corregidor and other harbor fortresses, which lies two miles out from Bataan in Manila Bay. There

the battle for control of the bay will be carried on. But there was no indication whether Wainwright would be able to evacuate many of his Bataan forces to the fortresses.

The war department's special communiqué said:

"A message from General Wainwright at Fort Mills just received at the war department states that the Japanese attack on Bataan peninsula succeeded in enveloping the east flank of our lines and the fortresses by 5:15 a. m.

An attack of the 1 corps, ordered to relieve the situation, failed due to complete physical exhaustion of the troops.

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The week, however, the long, exhausting battle began to tell on Wainwright's men. Continuous attacks by dive bombers, strafing by attack planes, bombardment by artillery, and naval bombardment by repeated Japanese threats to flank the defenders by a sea-borne invasion of the Manila Bay finally exhausted the defenders' endurance.

For three days the war department has reported that Wainwright's men suffered heavy casualties—and that many large numbers of men were fighting with their lives for the defense of land that they were yielding inch by inch.

East Flank Crumbles

Finally Yawata, who succeeded at the task which drove his predecessor, Gen. Masaharu Homma, to suicide, Homma reportedly took his life in the Manila hotel suite where MacArthur had lived prior to the withdrawal from Manila.

There were no details about how the envelopment of the east flank took place, but it was recalled that the communiques for the last week have repeatedly mentioned Japanese attacks on Corregidor and the fortresses behind that end of the defenders' lines. Only yesterday a communiqué reported that naval and marine contingents at beach defense had blasted such a sea-borne invasion.

The peak of the Japanese attack came yesterday when fresh assault troops were rushed into the bay from land, frequent dive bombers and attack aircraft mercilessly bombarded the defenders' front lines and heavy enemy bombers harassed Wainwright's rear and supply depots.

The next day of the battle for control of Manila Bay will be the battle for the island fort. The big guns on Corregidor, and at the fort on three other small islands at the entrance to the bay, probably will be able to keep the enemy at bay as long as ammunition holds out.

But if the Japanese, after consolidating their advances on Corregidor, land on the beach opposite Corregidor, the available ammunition may not last long.

The secretary told in some detail of the efforts to relieve and reinforce the defenders of Bataan.

"As soon as Gen. Douglas MacArthur took up his post on Bataan, the utmost was done to enable ships to carry in supplies as long as possible, food and ammunition," he said.

"These efforts were begun in January. MacArthur's forces entered Bataan between the 1st and 7th of January. By the 17th of January, United States army officers were on Corregidor in Australia, organized a base of supply and try to break the blockade."

"The minister to New Zealand, Patrick Hurley, was detached from New Zealand and told to take every step possible to secure food, ammunition and supplies."

"Large sums were p'ced at his and General MacArthur's credit to buy everything anywhere they could. Hurley was notably successful and secured several ships of supplies which got to the Philippines. Part of these supplies were transported to Corregidor and Bataan. But for every ship that arrived we lost nearly two ships."

Stimson said that owing to these efforts, the defenders of Bataan were never short of ammunition for either small arms or artillery.

However, our troops had been on short rations since Jan. 11.



The March of Death (NAIL Control Number NWDNS-127-N-114541) - nara.gov 9 Apr 1942.

Third Prison Ship is Sunk; 800 Men Lost

Naval Lieutenant is One of Two Men Who Escaped From Japanese Captors

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22—(UP)—A navy officer today disclosed a third sinking of a jam-packed Japanese prison ship, with a loss of more than 800 Americans.

The vessel was sunk Dec. 15 by American planes which could not distinguish it from a cargo ship. In this case, however, the cargo was 1,600 Americans held in the ship's holds at rifle point. Fewer than half survived.

In two previously-disclosed cases allied submarines unknowingly sank two Japanese prison ships. The first such incident occurred Sept. 7, when only 83 out of 750 American prisoners aboard the ship survived. On Oct. 24 another prison ship carrying 1,800 Americans was sunk, with only five known survivors.

Brings Toll to 3,200

Apparently upward of 3,200 Americans perished in the three tragic incidents of war.

The story of the Dec. 15 sinking was related by Lt. George K. Petritz, of Rockford, Ill., in a press conference at the navy department. He said he and an army private were the only two out of the 1,600 prisoners aboard who got away from the Japs.

The 27-year-old lieutenant told how he and the other prisoners were stuffed into the ship's small holds on Dec. 15, 1944. That night the vessel steamed quietly out of Manila harbor.

The next day, American planes subjected the vessel to intermittent bombing attacks which caused some casualties among the prisoners.

Jap Civilians Escape

That night Japanese civilians were taken off the damaged craft. But a guard of Japanese soldiers stayed aboard and kept the prisoners in the holds at rifle point.

The next morning—Dec. 15—the ship was bombed again. Fewer than 800 survivors got into the water and swam for shore, Petritz said.

He said most of those who lost their lives were prisoners unable to get out of the hold before the ship went down.

Conditions aboard the vessel were frightful, the officer told newsmen. Half of the prisoners were put into the after hold of the vessel, which was less than the size of a regulation tennis court and only as high as a man's head.

Some of the Americans died from suffocation in the short time they were aboard the vessel.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 22 Feb 1945: 1.

Recognize Prisoner Son In Magazine Picture

The War Department has notified Mr. and Mrs. Elmus Kline, who moved this week from Marion to Lawton, that no trace has been found of their son Clarence, who was taken prisoner by the Japs with the fall of Corregidor. The last they heard from him was in May, 1944, but they identified him as one of the men in the Corregidor death march picture published in Time magazine. He enlisted in the Coast Guard while working as a cowboy in Montana, and was sent to the Philippines about a year before the Pearl Harbor attack.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 14 Jun 1945: 1.

Father Learns Of Son's Death In April, 1942

Pvt. John Shank, Missing 3½ 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 had 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.

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

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. 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.

Son Lost on Jap Prison Ship, Parents Learn

Mr. and Mrs. Elmus Kline of Lawton received a message Tuesday informing them that their son Clarence lost his life on December 15 in the sinking of a Japanese prison ship.

Clarence was taken prisoner by the Japs with the fall of Corregidor. The parents last heard from him in May of 1944, but they identified him as one of the men in a death-march picture published in a magazine a few weeks ago. The message this week confirmed their fears that he was a war victim. He was thirty-five years of age last January 3.

A boyhood resident of this community, Clarence went west as a young man and entered the Coast Guard while working as a cowboy in Montana. He was sent to the Philippines two years before the Pearl Harbor attack. During his residence in Montana, he was married to Miss Dorothy Westgard, but she and a daughter preceded him in death.

The parents moved from here to Marion some years ago, but recently purchased property at Lawton and moved back.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 26 Jul 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – Community Climate

Mr. and Mrs. Elmus Kline received a telegram from the War Department that their son, Pfc. Clarence Kline, was killed when a Japanese boat, carrying prisoners, was sunk on December 15, 1944.

Young Kline was made a prisoner of the Japs at the fall of Corregidor May 7, 1939. The boat in which he was being transferred bore no markings that it carried prisoners of war and was sunk by the U. S. Navy forces.

The death was another in a series of tragedies that had marked his life since enlisting at Billings, Mont., Nov. 6, 1939. He arrived in the Philippines in December, 1939.

Married to Dorothy Westgard of Montana on April 12, 1935, both his wife and a baby daughter preceded him in death.

Winamac.(IN)Republican 26 Jul 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Prisoners of War

At least 24 of Our Boys were German prisoners of war. Only two were identified as Japanese prisoners of war, both on the Bataan Death March. John died during the March. Clarence died of disease in 1944, although by newspaper account, he was assumed to have died by "friendly fire" while aboard an unmarked Japanese prison ship.

Missing Man Prisoner

Lt. Harold Meiser of Talma, former resident of Monterey, is now a prisoner of Germany. Early in December his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Meiser of Talma, received word from the War Department that he has been missing since November 25 after a flight over Australia, and they received word of his capture last week. He was a bomber pilot, based in Italy.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 25 Jan 1945: 1.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Bowersox of Leiters Ford have received word that their son, Pvt. Herbert H. Bowersox, is a prisoner of Germany. Twenty-seven years old, Pvt. Bowersox graduated from Leiters Ford high school and is well known in Monterey.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 12 Apr 1945: 1.

Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Clemens of Culver have received a telegram from the War Department that their son James is a prisoner of Germany. He had been reported missing in December. He is well known in the Monterey vicinity.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 19 Apr 1945: 1.

Hear of Sons' Liberation From Prisons

Sgt. Edward Nielsen and PFC Verne Hettinger Freed from Nazi Camps

S/Sgt. Edward Nielsen, prisoner of Germany for more than two years, has been liberated. This information came in a cablegram received Sunday by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. R. Nielsen of Cass township.

Sgt. Nielsen was first reported missing in February of 1943, and in May of that year his parents were notified that he was a prisoner. In the armored division, he had taken part in the North African campaign. The young man graduated from North Judson high school in 1935 and entered the Army in January, 1941.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 24 May 1945: 1.

PFC Devere Clawson, who was taken prisoner at the same time, has returned to the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Clawson of the Medaryville vicinity. He was reported missing in Africa on February 17, 1943. Three months later his parents were notified that he was a prisoner in Germany.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Hettinger of Star City received word Saturday through the Red Cross that their son, PFC Verne Hettinger, had been released from a prison camp in Germany and is probably on his way home. His wife, the former Miss Iva Morris, and their two daughters live with her parents at Buffalo.

PFC Hettinger served in the infantry and was first reported missing on November 19. His parents received that word early in December. The latter part of March they received a card from him telling them he was a prisoner. The young man entered service January 5, 1944, and went overseas last August, serving in England, France, Belgium and Germany.

Men Released From Prisons In Germany

Messages of Liberation Received by Soldiers' Relatives in County

Mrs. Virgie Alkire of Francesville received a telegram Monday from the War Department stating that her son, T/Sgt. Max C. Alkire, has been liberated from a German prison camp and was all right. Crew chief and turret gunner on a B-17, he was shot down November 25 while on a raid over Germany. Two days before he had written his mother that his crew had completed their 100th mission.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Taylor of Cass township received word from the war department that their son, Cpl. Keith Taylor, had been missing in action since April 25. But they later received a letter from their son saying that he had been a prisoner of the Germans for a few days and had been liberated by U. S. forces.

Mr. and Mrs. John Reutebuch of Pulaski received a telegram Monday that their son, PFC William Reutebuch, had been liberated by the Russians from a German prison camp. He was reported missing last December and his parents received a letter from him in April that he was a prisoner. He is now back with his unit.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Meiser of Talma, formerly of Monterey, received word through the Red Cross that their son had been liberated from a German prison camp. A pilot, based in Italy, Lt. Meiser was taken captive last November when his plane was shot down over Austria.

Pvt. James Muskey, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Muskey of Memphis, Tenn., and a nephew of Mrs. Frank Budd of Winamac, has been liberated from a German prison camp. Listed as missing last December, the parents later received letters from him stating he was a prisoner.

Mrs. Joe Meyer of Pulaski received word this week that her son, Raymond V. Evans, has arrived in Florida after having been liberated from a German prison camp. He was taken prisoner in September of 1943 in North Africa.

Sgt. Forrest Goble, son of the late Lee Goble of Beaver township and Mrs. Little Goble of Hammond, is now home on furlough. He was captured by the Germans in Belgium in December, 1944, and was recently liberated.

Pvt. Lawrence Hershman of Medaryville, missing for over two years, has been a prisoner of war in Germany, according to word received by home relatives. He has now been liberated and is all right.

Pulaski.County.(IN).Democrat 31 May 1945: 1.

Freed Prisoners Home

T/Sgt. Max Alkire, the only Francesville serviceman to have been taken prisoner by the Germans, reached home Wednesday and is visiting his mother, Mrs. Virgie Alkire. Held in prison camp No. 4, he was liberated early in May by the English. A gunner on a B-17, Sgt. Alkire was shot down last November over Aachen and during his captivity was forced to march 1500 miles. He lost considerable weight, but is in good physical condition although weighing only 120 pounds.

Sgt. Raymond V. Evans arrived last week to spend a furlough with his mother, Mrs. Joe Myer of the Pulaski vicinity. Taken prisoner by the Germans in 1943, he was recently liberated and returned to the States.

Pulaski.County.(IN).Democrat 7 Jun 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Death of FDR

As far as the Greatest Generation thought, FDR had been President "forever". His death came as an unexpected blow, but the country "soldiered on". There was no acknowledgement in the *Republican*.

Entire Nation Mourns Death Of Franklin D. Roosevelt; Vast Tasks Face Truman

FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT
JANUARY 30, 1882—APRIL 12, 1945.

AS THE guns of America's fighting forces sounded ever closer the doom of Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan, Franklin Delano Roosevelt died in Warm Springs, Georgia, where he had been resting for 10 days.

Death resulted from a cerebral hemorrhage at 4:35 p.m. on April 12. Mr. Roosevelt was 63. He had been President for 12 years, one month and nine days. The White House was announced as the site of the funeral, with interment at the family estate at Hyde Park, N.Y.

Less than four months had elapsed since he had taken his historic oath of office for a fourth term. Only a few weeks before he had returned from the Yalta conference where in conference with Marshal Stalin of Russia and Prime Minister Churchill of Great Britain he had labored to build an enduring peace.

Fate denied Franklin Roosevelt the chance to enjoy the fruits of victory over the Axis. Yet history seemed destined to enshrine him as one of the immortal American Presidents. And every citizen who mourned the untimely passing of the Commander-in-Chief felt that he was a casualty of the war just as surely as every G.I., Marine and Sailor who had fallen in battle.

Never before had an American President died in wartime. Abraham Lincoln fell under assassin Booth's bullet just five days after the surrender of General Lee's army at Appomattox in 1865. Woodrow Wilson lived to see victory over Germany in World War I, but he fought a losing battle for the League of Nations and died in 1924, a defeated leader. Many historians believe Lincoln's greatness might have been dimmed in the conflicts over reconstruction that followed the War Between the States, just as Wilson's prestige was lost in the conflict over the League of Nations.

The Franklin Roosevelt, dying at the height of his career just as victory was to be achieved over Germany, seemed likely to live in history as a great man.

As the American people from Main Street to Riverside Drive mourned the death of Franklin Roosevelt, their prayers went to his successor, Mr. S. T. Truman. For on the shoulders of this slight, 60-year-old Missourian had been laid a responsibility such as no American President had ever borne.

What the consequences of the President's death would be to the United States and the world, time alone would tell. But the American people, revere him, they quickly determined two things. The war must be prosecuted to an speedy and victorious finish as possible. Lasting peace must be established.

Unlike the "log-cabin" presidents, Franklin Delano Roosevelt was not born into poverty. When Franklin arrived at Hyde Park, N.Y., on January 30, 1882, he came into a family that had possessed wealth for many generations. The Roosevelts had been thrifty land-owners in the Hudson valley since the first of the 17th century, and had land. On his mother's side also there was a substantial fortune. Among his ancestors were many men who had served the state in various capacities.

Young Franklin attended the very famous Columbia school, where he prepared for Harvard university. After completing the liberal arts course he entered Columbia U. law school, from which he was graduated.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX)

President's Life Was Characterized By Vigorous Action

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE) ated in 1907. Two years earlier, however, he married his distant cousin, Anna Eleanor Roosevelt. His mother was a niece of Theodore Roosevelt, at that time in the White House.

After two years of legal practice, Franklin entered politics, running on the Democratic ticket for the New York state senate. He unexpectedly defeated a strong Republican candidate. From the beginning of his career he identified himself with reform, particularly opposing the powerful Tammany organization in the statehouse. He was re-elected in 1912, by which time he had become a leader of the anti-Tammany faction.

Woodrow Wilson appointed Roosevelt assistant secretary of the navy. When World War I broke out Roosevelt proved himself an efficient administrator, handling billions of dollars' worth of contracts for ships and supplies. He was re-elected in 1912, by which time he had become a leader of the anti-Tammany faction.

Throughout his career as President, Franklin D. Roosevelt was known as the "precedent breaker."

That title was first conferred in 1932 when he flew out to Chicago from Albany, N.Y., to address the Democratic convention. He had nominated himself. He continued after his election as a result of his informal methods of transacting business. But it reached a climax in his decision to seek a third term in 1940 and a fourth term in 1944.

Swept in as President. When the national convention met in Chicago in 1932 Roosevelt was quickly chosen. He was swept into office by a plurality of states. Both houses went Democratic.

Before he could take office, however, he had to re-arrange the whole economic structure. The famous "bank moratorium" order, one of Roosevelt's first official acts, closed all banks until they could be reorganized on a sounder basis, thus preventing disastrous runs. In the spring of 1933 came the second of the 18th, or prohibition amendment. Then came the National Industrial Recovery Act, or "NRA," under which extensive emergency powers were granted to the President. A series of "fireside chats" by the President, in which he exhorted the public to combat unemployment, together with huge appropriations for direct relief.

The numerous executive and legislative acts of this first term were approved in general as necessary in the face of widespread suffering. A plan, drawn from one of the President's speeches, "a new deal," developed into a title for the whole Roosevelt program.

In 1936 the convention in Philadelphia nominated Roosevelt by acclamation on the first ballot. He carried 46 states in the elections. This second term majority was so overwhelming that many New Dealers began to call it a "mandate from the people." During this second term a great number of measures were passed to increase the economic security of the individual, particularly the workers, farmers and small businessmen.

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The New Pilot

HARRY S. TRUMAN
33rd PRESIDENT OF U.S.

The new President faces the immediate task of directing American participation in the United Nations' blueprints for a permanent world organization. He likewise faces the responsibility of establishing working relations with other members of the Big Three, which existed between Franklin D. Roosevelt, Josef Stalin and Winston Churchill in leading the Allies toward victory may be maintained in helping win the peace. He faces the long-range job of guiding the nation to postwar economic prosperity once Nazi Germany and Japan are finally defeated.

Known as a plain, modest man who has not dramatized himself personally, President Truman nevertheless has demonstrated a remarkable ability and that he can be a leader of force and determination. His work as chairman of the Truman committee in the U.S. Senate investigating the conduct of the war is cited as an example of this. And his conduct of the Vice Presidency is shown that he can work successfully with political leaders of both parties in getting needed measures passed and in reconciling opposing points of view.

The 33rd President was born in Lamar, Mo., May 8, 1884, although the home of the family for four generations had been on a farm near Independence, Mo.

Served in World War I

When World War I broke out, Truman became captain of Batteries C and D, the field artillery of the 35th Division and saw action at St. Mihiel and the Meuse-Argonne offensive.

Back in Independence, Truman and a war buddy opened a haberdashery business. He married his boyhood sweetheart, Bess Wallace, and they have one daughter, Mary Margaret.

Truman later turned to politics for a career which started with his election as County Judge of Jackson county, Mo. In 1926 he became the presiding judge of Jackson county, with the endorsement of Tom Pendergast, political boss of Kansas City. He studied law at night and supervised the construction of a great highway system.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

(Resolution prepared and presented by Harry W. McDowell at Community Memorial Services in Winamac on Saturday, April 14.)

Franklin Delano Roosevelt is dead. Mortal as he was, he has gone the way of all mankind. That is God's immutable law.

Sudden death is ever a shock. But there is in this death something more than mere shock. In the midst of the greatest holocaust of death and destruction the world has ever seen, the sudden passing has blotted out for the moment all other tragedy.

This man, in life more than any other mere mortal, exemplified to all the people of this earth the liberty and justice he so valiantly sought for them. No other mortal has received while living such loyal and continual support and acclaim from his own and other nations. Most men must die to be appraised. This man might well be content with the repeated appraisal accorded him by all.

Physical affliction oftentimes hardens men's minds and sensibilities. Under such circumstances many have resented and refused to recognize or to accept the great truth that life and health and strength are God's gifts to man, and that He is omnipotent. This man, who has gone from us, had the spiritual strength to accept his physical infirmities as gifts of his faith in Christ. He arose from a living death to fulfill his mission in life. No more outstanding example of physical and mental courage and enduring faith can be found in annals of life here or elsewhere.

Did he accomplish his full mission? Voltaire may and probably will be written on that query. And all of us with a world effort. Only he alone who first gave, then halted, then prolonged this remarkable life can supply the answer.

To us who remain to do all things humanly possible to achieve the goals he sought, it would seem that a cruel fate has here intervened: that he could not justly be called until he had seen, at least, the victory over oppression for which he had given his whole strength: that he might well have been permitted to add, per chance, to sign some protocol that shall spell the termination of all war. But it has been willed otherwise. He has been called. His tongue and pen are mute. His works and labors are ended.

To America and to the world he stands to-day.

"Like some tall cliff that lifts its mighty form:—
Swells from the vale and midway meets the storm:
Though round its breast the rolling clouds may
spread,
Eternal sunshine settles on its head."

May the Great God who gave him to us and to the world and spared him for a little while grant that the world liberty and security he so devoutly sought and died in striving for may come to pass; and that his courage and hope and faith shall live after him as his epitaph and as an inspiration to all men everywhere.

18 Jan 2026

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1945: Mopping Up – Community Climate

USS Winamac

Winamac shared an indigenous namesake with the USS Winamac.



USS Winamac (YTB-394) (Collection of the U.S. Naval Institute) - photos.usni.org/content/443126jpg

Fire Boat in Pacific Waters Named After Gallant Old Chief Winamac

A new 325-ton, dual-purpose fire boat, the USS Winamac, that features two new fire fighting inventions, has just reported for service at the Naval drydocks on Terminal Island, Calif., according to a report to The Democrat from Lt. John Barker of San Francisco. Lt. Barker is in the public relations press section of the Twelfth Naval District, and said that ships of this class are named after Indian chiefs.

Capable of producing 3,000 gallons of water per minute at the scene of any waterfront fire, the Winamac is also rigged as a tug and will give added fire protection by towing any flame-stricken vessel away from the drydock piers where other units of the fleet await repairs.

The new fire fighting devices are the inventions of August H. Benson, former Los Angeles fire department captain and now Fire Prevention Engineer at the drydocks.

Best of the new improvements is a three-way manifold, which enables three 2½-inch discharge lines to be supplied by one 3½-inch supply line taken from the ship's fire pumps. This triples the distribution of water at the scene of the fire.

In addition, Benson has rigged six rail standees, equipped with universal joints, which take care of the back pressure at the nozzle. This device saves manpower by enabling one man to handle a nozzle and hose that ordinarily would require six men to hold. Rigged on the quarter railing of the fire boat, they are ideal for fighting fires on or underneath piers.

The seventeen-man crew, in charge of Chief Boatswain's Mate Howard W. Crosby of Long Beach, Calif., drills daily in the use of the two portable fire pumps, each capable of producing 500 gallons of water per minute; foam proportioners that generate a thick covering of foam to smother oil and gasoline fires; the operation of two high-pressure monitors capable of shooting a stream of water more than 100 feet; and the rapid coupling of more than 1100 feet of fire hose.

When not in use as a fire boat, the Winamac will be used as an auxiliary tug to dock fleet units at the drydocks. She was constructed at Jacksonville, Fla., last year and since November has been in service at the Navy Target Repair Base, San Pedro.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 3 May 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

V-E Day and V-J Day!

While the distant daily newspapers had headlines and special editions about the end of war in Europe and with Japan, the local *Democrat* and *Republican* were more restrained.

Home Folks Calm as V-E Day Is Announced

President Tells Nation of Total Nazi Surrender

A community devotional service was held in the Presbyterian church Tuesday evening, following formal announcement that morning by President Truman of Germany's unconditional surrender.

The Rev. R. W. Crosby of the Presbyterian church, the Rev. C. R. Earle of the Methodist church, and the Rev. Donald Ashton of the Christian church were in charge.

of the service. Music was rendered by a combined choir of the Winamac and Pulaski Presbyterian churches.

In making his announcement by radio, the President told the country that the war was only half over and warned the Japanese that they can expect nothing but complete destruction unless they too surrender.

Mr. Truman proclaimed the end of the war in what he called a "solemn but a glorious hour," and called on the nation to pray for strength to bring about the end "of treacherous tyranny of the Japanese."

Winamac citizens conducted no celebration of V-E Day, due to the serious problem yet to be faced in the Pacific.

Pulaski County.(IN).Democrat 10 May 1945: 1.

Europe Victory Heard Calmly

Pulaski county took the end of the war in Europe calmly and reverently this week. When the first radio flash came Monday, small groups gathered around radios downtown to hear the news as it progressed.

When it became apparent that the news would be made official the next day, the groups dispersed to go about their business.

A union thanksgiving service was held Tuesday night in the Presbyterian church sponsored by the Presbyterian, Methodist and Christian churches.

Services have been scheduled through the week by the Catholic church which also held services Tuesday night.

Services were also held at St. Luke's Lutheran church in Winamac and St. Mark's church in Medaryville on Tuesday night.

Special services are planned in all churches Sunday in accordance with President Truman's proclamation.

Winamac.(IN).Republican 10 May 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – Community Climate

Evening of Prayer, Noise And Parades

Hardly had the radio flashed the official report of Japan's surrender, shortly after six o'clock Tuesday evening, when the fire siren in Winamac sounded its raucous voice repeatedly, in celebration of the glad tidings.

Church bells pealed, guns were fired, and cars with blaring horns formed an impromptu parade that coursed streets in all parts of town. At nearly every corner a new parader joined the procession, until it was blocks in length. Pretty soon a fire truck took place as the lead vehicle.

Happy faces and waving arms, many carrying flags, gleamed from every car. Among the happiest faces was that of a woman driving a car in which hung a flag bearing three stars.

Union Prayer Service.

As previously planned, union prayer services were held at the Methodist church at eight o'clock. Special addresses were delivered by the Rev. E. J. Peter's of that church, the Rev. R. W. Crosby of the Presbyterian church, and the Rev. Donald Ashton of the Christian church. Vocal solos were rendered by Mrs. Francis Knarr and Miss Betty Phillips, with Miss Katherine Overholser, and Mrs. Herschel Henry at the organ.

Joyous tumult continued in the downtown area until after midnight. The clapper on the clock bell in the court house tower was kept going almost continuously. A dozen servicemen at home on furlough, each carrying a big flag, led a parade of cheering children. Firecrackers boomed, and many car-drivers learned for the first time the trick of causing their engines to backfire.

Bonfire and Dancing.

A sound truck used by the Baker Show, here for the fair this week end, was brought down town to provide music for a street dance. A bonfire was started at the corner of Monticello and Meridian streets. Here the young folks—and many not still so young—took gleeful part in parades and snake dances. Many people from the country drove in to participate.

Business in town was suspended all day yesterday in celebration of the day for which all have yearned for so long.

Japs Quit; Surrender Is Complete

Japan has surrendered unconditionally, it was announced by President Truman at six o'clock Tuesday evening, August 14.

Offensive operations were ordered suspended everywhere. General of the Army Douglas A. MacArthur was designated supreme Allied commander to receive the formal statement that Japan had accepted surrender. He at once ordered Japanese officials to fly to a Pacific island on Friday, prepared to go from there to Manila to sign the documents.

In making the official announcement, President Truman read at a press conference a message relayed from Emperor Hirohito through the Swiss government, in which the Japanese ruler pledged surrender on the terms laid down by the Big Three conference at Potsdam.

Days of Suspense.

This message followed one of several days ago in which the Japanese government proposed to accept the Potsdam terms if assurance would be given that the emperor could remain on his throne. At the close of the conference between President Truman and officials of Britain, Russia and China, the Japs were informed that the emperor would not be displaced, but that he would at all times remain under orders of the Allied commander.

Many hours elapsed before the Japs replied to this ultimatum. A day later fake news flash Sunday evening, commander to receive the formal statement that Japan had accepted, started celebrations in many places, by persons who failed to catch withdrawal of the flash two minutes later.

Rationing Relaxed.

Monday and most of Tuesday passed without further word, although there were numerous reports throughout the two days that a reply was being formulated or was on the way.

Along with announcement of the surrender President Truman disclosed that Selective Service was taking immediate steps to slash inductions from 80,000 to 50,000 a month, and that only men under twenty-six would be called.

Yesterday OPA announced an end to gasoline rationing, and withdrew canned vegetables, fuel oil and oil stoves from the ration list.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 16 Aug 1945: 1.

Town Is Wild As War Halts

A joyous whooping crowd of Pulaski county kids and grownups—from babies to 90-year-olds—milled into the Winamac streets Tuesday night to celebrate the end of the greatest of all wars.

Word of the peace spread quickly and shortly after 6 o'clock business houses which were open closed as people began to drift down town.

The court house tower rocked with blasts from the wailing fire siren. Evidently someone had been saving firecrackers for the occasion because soon they began to pop and the noise was deafening.

The fire department rolled out the truck and with siren proclaiming the victory headed a parade of nearly 100 cars filled with happy people who drove up and down the town streets, waving flags, tooting horns and making all the noise possible.

Shortly after 7:30 o'clock the noise quieted briefly while many persons went to their church where thanksgiving and prayer services were held.

Someone climbed into the court house tower and began ringing the bell of the clock. Hearing this, someone else turned on the fire siren in the same tower.

'Peace-It's Wonderful', Say Crowds



1918 Peace A Hot One Paper Says

How did Pulaski county celebrate the peace back in November, 1918?

Well, here is the answer, taken from the files of the Winamac Republican of November 14, 1918.

Never has this generation witnessed the like excitement with which the news was received November 11, 1918, down in history as the most joyous day in the history of the world. Dignified business men leaped in the air, throwing away their hats in reckless abandonment, shouting, laughing, screaming themselves hoarse, modest young men hopped total strangers, and the kids—say it was the 4th of July, Christmas, Hallowe'en and all their birthdays in one grand and glorious celebration.

In Winamac all within a radius of a mile were awakened just before 5 a.m. by the big siren at the power plant screaming the good news. At 5:30 half the kids of Winamac, all dressed in their best, were on the streets. Bells, whistles, horns and guns took up the demonstration within a few minutes.

The Winamac Band was out soon after breakfast, and the veterans which had just been home after a month's vacation, were let out and the parade was headed by six boys carrying Old Glory spread out, then the band. Veteran Gee, Douglas carrying old Co. I flag under his arm, followed by the school children. From the tots of the first grade in the front ranks to serious seniors they carried flags and banners which proclaimed the dawn of Peace On Earth.

Following the school children was Uncle Sam driving the horse with Bill Hohenzollern, murderer and Ex-Kaiser in his farewell appearance. Auto after auto came rapidly, decorated, filled with celebrants, their horns blaring and cheering. The procession went from one end of town to the other on each street.

In the evening the band started a concert on Main street and within a quarter of an hour after supper the street was jammed with the entire population of Winamac and adjoining County. The noise was deafening. Dozens of men, young and old, with their bands, filled with people who kept up a continuous salute. Some machines had the former Kaiser hanging in effigy from the top of the car while others gave vent to their feelings by dragging him behind their auto while a man impaled his neck. There was scarcely a machine in town but what could produce some kind of a racket, dragging tubs, cans, boilers, or what not behind them the brick structures.

When Tuesday's same business people came down to work the streets looked as if the world war had been fought out on our square. Telephone wires shot to pieces, telephone poles broken, with wires scattered in utter profusion. However there being no casualties not even Riley complained as he headed load after load in his Irish coaster.

Winamac (IN) Republican 16 Aug 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

VFW

Even before victory over Japan was won, the Veterans of Foreign Wars was being organized in Pulaski County, and a building was leased.

V. F. W. TO ORGANIZE

Veterans of Foreign Wars unit will be organized in Pulaski county at a meeting to be held at 8 o'clock Friday night, May 18, in the Frain Hotel Dining room. It is hoped to form a unit at that time and apply for a charter from national headquarters. All war veterans who have served overseas are eligible.

Winamac.(IN)Republican 17 May 1945: 1.

Public Installation Winamac Post V.F.W. High School Gym Sunday, July 1

Parents, wives, relatives of boys overseas welcome.
Make your boy a charter member now.

FOR BOYS NOW
OVERSEAS

V. F. W. Membership Application	
NAME
A. P. O. Address
RELATIVE
ADDRESS

If you cannot attend the meeting, mail this coupon to
Charles Myers, R. R. 4, Winamac, Ind.

Winamac.(IN)Republican 21 Jun 1945: 5.

--NOTICE--

OVERSEAS VETERANS OF ALL WARS

To become charter member of Pfost-Jones Post No. 1728, a membership card must be filled out with us before October 20, 1945. See us any evening in office, formerly occupied by Keeler barber shop, next to News Stand, or mail to Veterans of Foreign Wars, Winamac, Ind. We cordially invite you.

DON DAVIS, Adj.

Pulaski.County.(IN).Democrat 4 Oct 1945: 8.

V. F. W. GETS BUILDING

A lease was completed this week whereby the Pfost-Jones Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars will have new quarters in the property owned by William A. Logan just across the bridge on State Road 14, at the East edge of Winamac. The VFW will take possession Saturday with a three year lease and the privilege of renewing for three years. Plans call for complete remodeling of the building as soon as materials are available, Mr. Logan said.

Winamac.(IN)Republican 13 Dec 1945: 5.

1945: Mopping Up – Community Climate

Recycling

Even with Victory won, fats were still needed for industry. The reward for recycling fats rose to 4 "red points", which could be used as meat was still rationed until November 1945.

**4
Now 2 POINTS
FOR USED FATS**

**Help Increase Supplies of Soap and
Other Peacetime Products By Saving
More Used Fats**

Industrial fats far short of last year! We are almost down to the bottom of the barrel. The nation's industrial fat supply is millions of pounds less than it was in 1944. We need fully as much as last year to help make the soaps and other civilian goods you want and need so badly. So . . .

If you want more soap and soap flakes . . . if you're dreaming of nylons, sheets, cotton fabrics and want them to hurry back to the store counters . . . you can help by saving those used kitchen fats as you never saved before! Save every drop, every day!



These fats are vitally necessary to help speed greater supplies of soaps and hundreds of other things—like new cars, electric washers, irons, refrigerators and tires. Industry must have these fats . . . to help get to you more quickly the peacetime products you've been longing to have for years!



So skin and scrape and scoop just as you did so faithfully before V-J Day. To prove how important it is, your government has increased the point bonus. So help meet this nation's need by continuing to save used fats. If you can't find a store that accepts used fats, call Home Demonstration or County Agent.



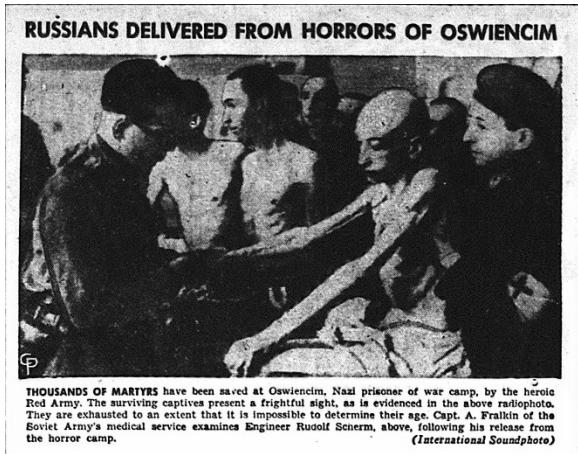
Pulaski County, (IN) Democrat 11 Oct 1945: 5.

Winamac, (IN) Republican 11 Oct 1945: 6.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Death Camps

Although the *Logansport Pharos-Tribune* carried almost 20 articles and photographs about the death camps discovered, the atrocities were only mentioned in one soldier's letter in local weeklies.



Logansport.(IN).Pharos_Tribune 8 Mar 1945: 8.



Logansport.(IN).Pharos_Tribune 12 Apr 1945: 1.

Nazi Prison Is Horror Site

The hell of a German Concentration camp, where murdered naked and decaying bodies of political prisoners and slave laborers of the Nazis were stacked like cordwood, is described by Lt. Col. Harold J. Halleck in a letter received this week written after he had visited the scenes of horror.

"I have seen with my own eyes a sight that proves beyond any doubt that the atrocities we have heard the Germans committed are true to the Nth degree," Col. Halleck wrote.

"In the yard of the camp were about 20 starved and dead men dressed in prison garb. All were emaciated beyond description, and lay there where they had been shot while herded together. Many of them would weigh 50 pounds.

"In a small building near were some naked bodies of men who had died of starvation, and they were stacked up exactly as cord wood is stacked. There was also a compartment similar to a guillotine who was running the place and where they were strapped and beaten with a club. The stables tell. I saw them march him off, they were forced to live in were and as I was driving up to the lined with strawticks on the cement floor, and they slept there out in a field and looked up just crowded in with more than 200 as they faced him around and shot in each stable.

"About a mile from the camp was the worst sight of all! There was a big compartmented trench the people dared not protest, or where hundreds of them had been they would meet the same fate buried. Apparently the Germans, themselves.

when defeat became apparent, had started to dig them up and burn been permitted to see this place, the bodies, thus destroying the evidence, but our arrival had been from now on! They are completely too soon, and only about half had at our mercy now, for they are been dug up.

"The incinerator was made of small rails (iron) laid parallel on cement blocks, and the whole thing was covered with half burned bodies. The incinerator was about 10 and 20 feet in size. The remnants of burned bones from what must have been hundreds of them were there in the ashes.

"Some rosters of the inmates were captured and revealed a mixture of German Jews, Poles, Czechs and other nationalities. There were also other political enemies of the Nazis on the rosters. All the dead had their hair shaven from their heads, and the stench in the living quarters was terrible.

"I also, this afternoon, saw my first summary execution, quite inadvertently. Some Russians had caught one of the guards of the place. He was a Russian himself but spoke German quite well, and was one of the collaborators. They tried to get him to talk and tell where they were strapped and beaten with a club. The stables tell. I saw them march him off, they were forced to live in were and as I was driving up to the trenches I saw the group walking just crowded in with more than 200 as they faced him around and shot him with a pistol.

"This camp was in full view of quite a sizeable town. Perhaps the people dared not protest, or where hundreds of them had been they would meet the same fate buried. Apparently the Germans, themselves.

"Hundreds of our men have started to dig them up and burn been permitted to see this place, the bodies, thus destroying the evidence, but our arrival had been from now on! They are completely too soon, and only about half had at our mercy now, for they are no longer organized.

"While I was looking at the incinerator, a young officer came up and asked if my name was not Halleck. It was Lt. Shank, Barney's boy, who is with the 4th Armored Division. I had been wanting to see him and asked him about Ralph Miller. He had seen him the day before. Shank told me he was commissioned in the field recently. He is with the best outfit in the theatre. They have recently been given a presidential citation.

"To those of us who had any doubt as to the necessity of being here, this one experience removes all doubt about it. Such ruthless people must be destroyed.

"An airplane factory near this city has been completely destroyed by our air several months ago, apparently. There is not a single piece of it left intact. The war from here on out, with so much of vital Germany lost, along with destruction of what factories were

(Continued on page 8)

NAZI PRISON

(Continued from Page 1) territory, and the loss of most of their big guns, makes the rest in what is not yet yet occupied of the war just a breeze."

Col. Halleck, husband of Mrs. H. J. Halleck of Winamac, is serving as surgeon of the 80th Division which recently captured \$100,000 worth of new surgical instruments, and vast stores of pharmaceutical supplies and complete facilities for the manufacture of precision instruments.

Capt. Allen Dilts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell A. Dilts of Winamac, is also serving with the 80th Division in an artillery unit which is supporting the 4th Armored Division.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

County Soldier Tells of Nazi Horror Camps

The following letter was received by Mr. and Mrs. George F. Poor of the Winamac vicinity from their son, PFC Kenneth Poor.

April 14
Germany

Dear Dad and Mother:

I was surely surprised yesterday when I learned of President Roosevelt's death. It's really too bad he couldn't have lived to see the final outcome of this struggle for free civilization.

I am sending you an article I cut from the Stars & Stripes (about the Ohrdruf concentration camp). I want you to read it because I saw with my own eyes exactly what it tells. It was the most terrible sight I have ever witnessed. I will try and explain a little of what I saw.

This concentration camp has barracks similar to some we have in the States. For beds they had burlap cloth stretched over a thin layer of straw—one piled right up against the other for maximum capacity. The floors are bare ground and very damp. There were pots and pans scattered around.

In one street there were approximately fifteen or twenty bodies in a circle where they had fallen after being murdered. They all had bullet holes through their heads and almost all had more in their

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX)

Soldier Tells of Horror Camps

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE) includes stock, fixtures and building to them except skin and bones. They had been starved and beaten. Some had ragged clothes on and others were nude. They were all clean shaven, apparently from being lousy. I can't commence to explain just how they did look, exactly.

In another shed there were bodies (some thirty or forty) piled up just as we would think of stacking cordwood. They were all lime covered to devour the bodies. I would say they ranged in age from sixteen to old men.

Back in the States when I used to read about such things as this I chalked it up as war propaganda, but never again, after seeing that sight. I still can't imagine how one human being could be so cruel to another. I, now, more than ever, have no sympathy whatever for a German.

It's really too bad some of the people in the States who don't have the slightest idea there is a war on, or what war is like, couldn't have seen that. I'll bet there would be no more strikes or slackening of the war effort.

I won't write any more about this, although I could go on and on. It's one sight I shall never forget as long as I live.

I hope you are all feeling fine. I'm the same as ever and in the best of health.

Your loving son,

KENNY.

Pulaski County.(IN).Democrat 17 May 1945: 1&6.

1945: Mopping Up – Community Climate

Tokyo Rose, et al.

The jig was up for Tokio Tillie, Lord Haw Haw, Berlin Gertie, and Tokyo Rose.

Marine from Indiana Writes Of 'Tokio Tillie'

(Gilbert P. Bailey, formerly editor of the Delphi Citizen, is now a sergeant in the marines and is listed as a combat correspondent for that branch of the armed service. He writes the following interesting story from the Marshall Islands.)

A Japanese woman radio commentator, known to U. S. Marines as "Tokio Tillie," is Bob Hope's chief rival among radio fans in these desolate Marshall Islands.

To all soldiers, sailors and marines who have set foot on Japanese-mandated territory, "Tillie" broadcasts nightly her dire accounts of current American "disasters" in the Marshalls and her terrible predictions of America's eventual downfall.

Broadcasts From Tokio.

A female Japanese counterpart of Germany's "Lord Haw-Haw," she is the only Jap commentator who has captured the imagination of the men who fought here.

"Tokio Tillie" broadcasts from Radio Tokio in good corn-belt English, without Nipponese accent. About dusk each evening her audience gathers to hear what "Tillie" has to say.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 1 Jun 1944: 7.

Traitorous Briton Lord Haw Haw Held

Man Who Betrayed His Country to Become Nazi Radio Propagandist Captured in Germany

WITH BRITISH SECOND ARMY, Germany, May 29—(UPI)—The British Second army held William (Lord Haw Haw) Joyce, nasty-tongued British Nazi who ranted at his homeland over the German radio in custody today and sought means to try him as a war criminal.

(The authoritative British Press Association said Joyce would be tried for treason in England despite his naturalization as a German subject. It was possible that Britain would refuse to recognize the naturalization on grounds that it occurred during wartime. Treason can be punished by hanging.)

Logansport (IN) Pharos Tribune 29 May 1945: 1

When "Tillie" speaks in generalities, she talks of "great surprises in store for the United States" or "Japan's golden opportunity to deal America a crushing blow."

Sometimes she commentates directly to the American fighting men now on Japanese territory:

"All the Marines who attacked the Marshall Islands have been killed," announced "Tillie" a few days after the operation. (U. S. Marines suffered an estimated 565 casualties, killed and wounded, in the attack by combined United States forces against the Marshall Islands.)

Promises Jap "Air Fleet."

"Sixty thousand Marines already have been killed," says "Tillie" in a clear, pleasant voice that reminds every home-sick boy of the girls back home.

No one knows who "Tillie" is or where she learned to talk like a girl from the American middle-west. But "Tokio Tillie" is fast becoming a nostalgic character, regarded with mingled curiosity and amusement.

Last night she gave us a final warning:

"If the Marines do not leave the Marshall Islands in four days," she said, "Japan will send the largest air fleet ever . . ."

"Lord Haw Haw"



AN ENGLISH TRAITOR who calls himself the original "Lord Haw Haw" was exposed and seized by U. S. troops at Alt Aussee, Austria, while acting as interpreter for an American Military Government official. Norman Baillie Stewart, above, former British officer who spent five years in the tower of London for "selling his country for 50 pounds," admitted, after he was exposed, that he worked for the German propaganda ministry and foreign office for five years. (International)

Logansport (IN) Pharos Tribune 23 May 1945: 8.

Picture in Pittsburgh Paper Helps Officer Trap "Berlin Gertie"

PITTSBURGH, July 3—(UPI)—A picture in a Pittsburgh newspaper led to the capture of "Berlin Gertie," dulcet-voiced Nazi radio propagandist.

The London edition of Stars and Stripes reported that "Gertie" — Gertrude Hahn, of Pittsburgh — was arrested after an American lieutenant saw her picture and recognized her as "the chick around the corner" in Windshelm, Germany.

Lt. William Hirsch, Jr., of Montclair, N. J., occupation officer in Windshelm, saw Gertrude's picture while leafing through a newspaper sent to one of his men.

The young woman, who once won a citizenship contest in a Pittsburgh high school, was arrested and put on the list of persons to be tried by the United War Crimes Commission, according to Stars and Stripes.

Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Johann Hahn, who have been living in Germany since 1933, denied that Gertrude broadcast propaganda.

"Our daughter wanted to further tolerance and understanding between Germany and the United States," Mrs. Hahn said. "Her broadcasts ended before America came into the war."

"They might have confused my daughter with someone else," her father added. "She's an American citizen . . . She used to describe fashion shows and tell about typical days in the lives of Germans during her year of radio work."

Logansport (IN) Pharos Tribune 3 Jul 1945: 10.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

"Ruptured Duck"

Back in civilian clothes, veterans can be identified with a "ruptured duck" label pin. A "point system" was established to control the sequence of discharge after service. Recently-discharged lawyer Lester served as the Pulaski County Service Officer, guiding veterans through their options. Also helping with the adjustment to civilian life were local churches, as did the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.



Discharge Lapel Pin (AKA "Ruptured Duck")
(medalofamerica.com).

The Discharge Button Easily Recognized

Here is a picture of the gold button which men and women who have been honorably discharged from the armed forces are entitled to wear. It has been dubbed "The emblem that nobody knows." Newspapers are therefore taking part in a movement to familiarize the people of their communities with the Honorable Discharge Button and its meaning.

Pulaski.County.(IN).Democrat 15 Mar 1945: 2.

From where I sit... by Joe Marsh



How to Greet a Wounded Soldier

Charlie Jenkins got back from overseas the other day, discharged for wounds... and he was pretty well banged up. And you should have seen him pick up! From being scared of meeting people, Charlie got his confidence back and soon became his own self again.

Naturally, our town felt mighty bad about it. We wanted to sympathize with him and help him. But Doc Walters set us straight about that. He said that what Charlie wanted most was to be accepted as one of the gang again... as if nothing had happened. So we asked him over to pitch horseshoes with his good hand, and enjoy a friendly glass of beer and chew the fat like old times.

From where I sit, Doc Walters gave us the right steer. The wounded men coming home don't want our sympathy or our overenthusiastic help. They want to be treated like the rest of us... with a chance to work and lead a normal life. And that's the least we can offer them.

Joe Marsh

No. 112 of a Series Copyright, 1945, United States Brewers Foundation
(Paid Advertisement)

Pulaski.County.(IN).Democrat 22 Mar 1945: 4.

1945: Mopping Up – Community Climate

When You Get That Honorable Discharge

Be sure and take good care of it. You will need it many times in later life. You must present it when you apply for a G. I. Loan, to get your hunting and fishing license, to obtain disability benefits, bonus, etc.

We cannot presently rent you a safe deposit box for all of the boxes are leased. May we suggest that you have this document recorded in the Recorder's Office? If you do this you will always be able to get a certified copy. You will be able to keep your discharge papers clean and free from notations for whenever you apply for your bonus, loans and benefits, it will be necessary to forward either the original or a certified copy of the honorable discharge.

When more safe deposit boxes are available we will be glad to rent you space to keep and preserve this discharge that you have honorably and proudly earned.

First Union Bank & Trust Co.
Winamac, Indiana

Winamac (IN) Republican 29 Mar 1945: 5.

How Army Discharge System Will Work

WASHINGTON, May 10—(UP)— Your soldier needs 85 points to be eligible for immediate discharge. WACs need only 44. Here in brief is how the points are figured:

1 point for each month of army service since Sept. 16, 1940.

1 Point for each month of service overseas since Sept. 16, 1940, counted from departure from U. S. port to return.

5 points for each battle participation star.

5 points for each wound for which the purple heart is awarded.

5 points for each decoration. (Overseas campaign ribbons are not decorations).

12 points for each child, up to a limit of three children.

Men who have 85 or more points are immediately eligible for discharge, but it will take about a year to bring home and discharge the more than 1,300,000 men who are going to be released under the point system.

The total of points necessary for discharge will be reduced about six weeks from now.

Men vital for the war against Japan will not be discharged even if they have enough points.

The plan does not apply to Navy and Marine and Coast Guard men.

Logansport (IN) Pharus Tribune 10 May 1945: 1.

Bring 'em back for good...sooner!

That final home-coming day!
That's what we're all hoping for... praying for...earnestly! But there's a tough road ahead, that road to Tokyo. Don't think it won't be tough. It will take a lot more ships, more B-29's. More tanks, half-tracks, jeeps, and trucks! More rockets, mortars, air-borne radar! More of everything will be needed. And more bonds...we'll have to buy more bonds than ever before. Our mighty armed forces have taken us a long way. To buy more bonds is the least we can do in return.

Pour out your might for the Mighty Seventh

STANDARD OIL COMPANY (INDIANA)
WORLD WAR II WAR LOAN

Winamac (IN) Republican 10 May 1945: 5.

NOTICE!

The American Legion Auxiliary of Winamac announce they are sponsoring their third Annual Magazine Subscription Campaign for the Purchase of

WHEEL CHAIRS

Fracture Beds and Sick Beds were purchased in 1943 and 1944 with funds derived from these campaigns. This equipment is available to ALL residents of Pulaski county at

No Charge

For information regarding this campaign or the equipment mentioned, write or call Mrs. G. H. McCaskey, Pres.

American Legion Auxiliary

417 N. Monticello St. Phone 12

Do NOT call American Legion officers or members as they are NOT sponsoring this campaign. Donations are NOT and CANNOT be accepted.

Winamac (IN) Republican 12 Jul 1945: 5.

V **Army Separations Total 1,998,000**

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23—(UP)—
Army separations for all reasons from the beginning of the war through May 31, 1945, totaled 1,998,000, the War Department announced today.

The separations included 243,000 battle and non-battle deaths, 1,441,000 honorable discharges, 107,000 captured by the enemy or missing, and 207,000 others including dishonorable discharges and officers retired for age.

The War Department noted that many in the prisoner and missing category have been liberated or found.

Logansport.(IN)Pharos_Tribune 23 Aug 1945: 4.

Service Officer Explains Program To Kiwanis Club

Giving an interesting explanation of the development and functions of Veterans' Aid to discharged service men, Lester L. Wilson, recently appointed Pulaski county service officer, addressed the Winamac Kiwanis club Tuesday noon.

Mr. Wilson reviewed the growth of organizations to aid veterans following World War I, which culminated in the Veterans' Administration in 1930, and presented in outline the formation this year of the Indiana State Bureau of Veterans' Affairs.

Pulaski County.(IN).Democrat 15 Nov 1945: 1.

The present system of county service officers, Mr. Wilson emphasized, is a community service and thus has closer contact between the veteran and local affairs than would state or national organizations.

Nearly fifty percent of the inquiries made at his office by returning veterans are concerned with the education program under the GI Bill of Rights, Mr. Wilson reported. Other problems confronting discharges include re-employment, disability claims and government insurance.

1945: Mopping Up – Community Climate

Kingsbury Ordnance Plant

After V-J Day, the Kingsbury Ordnance Plant became a storage facility. During the last years of the war, 20,000 workers were employed, producing half-billion shells.

\$3,000,000 Project At Kingsbury Plant

LA PORTE, Ind. —(UP)— A \$3,000,000 construction project at the Kingsbury ordnance plant to augment facilities for making many types of ammunition for the armed forces was announced Tuesday by Maj. T. H. Bradley, new commanding officer at the plant.

Bradley and J. O. Brown, president of Todd and Brown, Inc., plant operators, said that work on the project would get under way within the next 10 days to modernize and supplement loading lines and warehouses at the huge war plant.

Logansport.(IN).Pharos_Tribune 31 Jan 1945: 3.

Contract for the work has been awarded to the H. K. Ferguson company, Inc., Cleveland. O. Robert E. Miller of the contracting firm estimated that 1,200 laborers, mechanics and office workers would be needed for the job.

Bradley announced the program after arriving directly from the China-Burma-India theater of war to succeed Maj. F. H. Phillips as commanding officer at Kingsbury. Phillips has been assigned to the Cornhusker ordnance plant at Grand Island, Neb.

To Enlarge Loading Lines at Kingsbury Plant

Announcement of immediate expansion of the heavy ammunition problem at Kingsbury ordnance plant has been made by Maj. T. H. Bradley, commanding officer, and J. O. Brown, president of Todd & Brown, Inc., plant operator.

New construction to cost in excess of \$3,000,000 will be started within the next ten days with the H. K. Ferguson Company, Inc., of Cleveland, Ohio, in charge. This construction will consist of modernizing and supplementing present loading lines and warehouses to provide facilities for producing new types of ammunition now needed by the armed forces.

Although no great fluctuation in personnel in shell loading operations is expected, Robert E. Miller, personnel manager of the Ferguson Company, estimates 1200 laborers, mechanics and office workers will be needed in construction work.

Pulaski.County.(IN).Democrat 1 Feb 1945: 6.

Men & Women

Are you doing everything you can to help win the war in as short a time as possible? Here is an opportunity for you to give direct aid to our boys at the front.

Kingsbury Ordnance Plant

Needs Men and Women to Load Ammunition

If you are not already in an essential war job, apply with our representative, who will interview prospective applicants on Monday, April 16, at the Court House from 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.

Winamac.(IN).Republican 12 Apr 1945: 5.

No Job Cut-Back At Kingsbury

Whether Germany surrenders or not, production will continue at the Kingsbury Ordnance Plant at approximately the same pace.

According to Maj. T. H. Bradley, Commanding Officer, the recent cutback announced by the war department will not be felt at KOP. Moreover, revised production schedules for the Laporte county loading plant call for a slight increase in the number of workers needed.

For that reason the plant is continuing to recruit additional employees to meet these schedules and to provide replacements.

The Pacific war has not as yet reached the stage where American and Jap forces stand toe to toe and throw tons of explosives at each other as in Europe. Thousands of miles of Jap territory remain to be conquered and millions of Japan's best soldiers have yet to be met and crushed.

Many items loaded at KOP are of the type that will be used in this concentrated campaign against Japan after the German surrender.

Kingsbury Ordnance Plant interviewers will be in Winamac, at the court house, each Monday and Tuesday to sign up applicants for this essential war work.

Starting wages at KOP are 70¢ per hour for women and 90¢ per hour for men. U.S.E.S. referral must be obtainable.

Advt.

Pulaski.County.(IN).Democrat 3 May 1945: 1.

Statistics on Kingsbury Are Released

Record Shows Nearly Half Billion Shells Loaded at Big Plant

The Kingsbury ordnance plant, scene of active war work by hundreds of Pulaski county people during the last five years, is now being reduced to a stand-by status, according to announcement by Lieut. Col. Thomas H. Bradley, commanding officer for the Army.

Kingsford Heights, the ghost town which was built on grandiose lines, only to disappoint its federal sponsors in its attraction of residents, is dwindling to a few family-occupied homes.

Last Saturday, for the first time, details of the true extent of the Kingsbury plant were disclosed.

Spread over 1300 acres of LaPorte county land, and costing between \$50,000,000 and \$60,000,000 to erect, the plant produced almost a half-billion loaded components, ranging from grenades and land mines to 106 mm. artillery shells. Five workers at the plant were killed in plant accidents.

Peak Employment, 20,000.

The level of employment at Kingsbury always was a military secret, but it can be told now that late in 1942 and early in 1943, when the allies were struggling to swing over to the offensive, more than 20,000 manned the establishment, which received five army "E" awards for efficiency.

Carved into the countryside as it was, KOP called for war housing to shelter the thousands of migratory workers. But the housing planners overbuilt the town of Kingsford Heights and when most of its 3,000 homes went beginning, 1940 or more were dismantled and hauled away to other war centers.

In the summer of 1944 only 1000 or so were left, and when the Japs gave up only 600 houses were in use.

Started Just Five Years Ago.

Plans for the creation of Kingsbury were announced in September, 1940. Work started at once. Thousands were employed in its construction. Near-by Walkerton got a new schoolhouse and housing included dormitories which were never popular and never fully utilized. War housing, all government built, sprang up in Knox and LaPorte. That was before Kingsbury Heights came into the picture.

By the following summer the plant, then known as the Union Center shell loading plant, was producing. The first shell came off the loading line August 21 and was presented to Henry F. Schricker, then governor of Indiana.

Todd & Brown, Inc., of New York City, was the operator for the government from start to finish. All of the construction work was done by the firms of Bates & Rogers and the Ferguson Construction Co.

Way Up, Then Way Down.

At first the shell and other munitions came in a trickle from the plant. Then they came in a torrent so great that the working force gradually was reduced. The fall of Japan found but 6000 on the job. Today about 2500 are engaged in reducing the plant to a stand-by status.

Until the plant was "cut in" on the Northern Indiana Public Service company lines about eighteen months ago, it consumed (CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE)

STATISTICS ON KINGSBURY ARE RELEASED

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE) nearly 1,000,000 gallons of oil a month manufacturing electricity and supplying heat to the thousands of buildings.

KOP encompassed an estimated 1200 buildings of all kinds, with a floor space of approximately 3,000,000 square feet. In the plant were seventy-eight miles of railroad track and ninety-eight miles of hard-surfaced road. The telephone system digested a quarter million calls a week, the equivalent of the normal for an average city of 30,000 people.

Col. Bradley has announced that the plant will not be declared excess, as some have, and be disposed of, but will be maintained as a permanent military installation.

No Sales at Kingsbury

In response to numerous inquiries regarding the disposition of excess material, Lt. Col. Thos. H. Bradley, commanding officer of the Kingsbury ordnance plant, has announced that at the present time no properties of any nature are being offered for sale to the public. He adds that rumors that trucks, cars, machinery, office equipment and supplies are being sold at the plant are unfounded.

Pulaski.County.(IN).Democrat 13 Sep 1945: 3.

Kingsford Heights Nears 'Ghost Town' Proportions

A growing exodus from Indiana's "ghost town," the illfated model town of Kingsford Heights was reported this week.

Occupancy was down to 380 units a decrease of 130 in the last week, and from ten to fifteen families are leaving daily, Harry J. Schneider, project manager, said.

Most of those departing were workers released from the Kingsbury ordnance plant, which is being placed on a standby basis.

The Kingsford Heights school opened on an eight room basis but the modern brick building seemed doomed for an early closing, Schneider said.

The school, erected for an attendance of more than 1,000 pupils, had about 200 on opening day.

Pulaski.County.(IN).Democrat 13 Sep 1945: 1.

Kingsbury Plant Is - Is Not - Declared Surplus Property

Whether or not the Kingsbury ordnance plant is to be declared surplus government property and disposed of as such, is a question that caused conflicting comment in official Washington last week.

Early in the week, it was reported that the plant, along with five other similar industries in the state, would be declared surplus in the near future. The announcement stated that the federal government was preparing to dispose of seven Indiana ordnance plants valued at \$136,000,000. The seventh plant is already on the government's surplus list.

Hardly had the announcement been made when a denial was released saying the whole thing had been a mistake. The original story and the denial were reported by different press services.

Pulaski.County.(IN).Democrat 22 Nov 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – Community Climate

Honor Roll

At the end of 1945, the published Honor Roll numbered 64. These men lived in Pulaski County at the time of their interment or were very strongly connected to it by blood or marriage.

	PULASKI COUNTY HONOR ROLL — World War II	FREEMAN, Richard S. , Feb. 6, 1941. GOOD, Edward F. , April 25, 1945. HANSELL, Raymond , Jan. 8, 1945. HARRELL, Ora L. , March 18, 1944. HARTMAN, Harold , Feb. 13, 1944. HELM, Henry , April 16, 1945. HICKMAN, John , Sept. 11, 1943. HOWE, Elbert R. , Nov. 21, 1943. HYATT, Roy , September 18, 1944. JOLLY, Harold , July 17, 1944. JONES, David , November 8, 1942. JORDAN, Howard , Aug. 18, 1944. JORDAN, Ora (Jack) , Jan. 29, 1945. KING, J. Raymond , Feb. 27, 1941. KLINE, Clarence , Dec. 15, 1944. KAHLER, George J. , April 18, 1945. KOCHER, Harry A. , Oct. 25, 1944. KOECKE, Ralph , June 3, 1944. KLINE, Clarence , December 15, 1944. LEBO, Harold F. , May 6, 1945. LIEBING, Edward A. , March 16, 1944. LUDWIG, Lester , July 27, 1945. MADLUNG, Edward C. , Apr. 9, 1945. MARKS, Lowell , April 28, 1945. McWHERTER, Harold , September 16, 1944.	MILLER, Charles , Dec. 8, 1943. OKELEY, Lester , Sept. 10, 1944. OSBORN, Edward F. , Oct. 8, 1943. PFLEIDERER, John , Dec. 5, 1944. PIAZZA, Emil , Nov. 29, 1944. RANS, Earl E. , January 15, 1945. REED, Richard , Nov. 24, 1943. ROBINSON, Raymond , March 6, 1944. ROSS, Albert Jr. , April, 1944. ROTH, Richard J. , Feb. 3, 1944. SHANK, John , Apr. 15, 1942. STEFFEL, Ralph , Feb. 24, 1944. TIEMAN, Ivan , June 25, 1943. VOGEL, Foster , August 30, 1944. WATSON, Harry , October 4, 1944. WEIDNER, Lyle C. , Oct. 1, 1943. WELCH, Melvin , February 21, 1945. WERNER, Lewis E. , Nov. 16, 1944. WHITE, Howard , July 11, 1944. WILLIAMS, David , Oct. 21, 1943. ZIEMBA, Thomas , Sept. 15, 1945.
			

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 20 Dec 1945- p4

Our Boys: A Community During World War II



Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 22 Nov 1945: 1.

News for the Future

There was other news that was not reported but would gain importance as time wore on.

Anne Frank dies of typhus in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp.

Tokyo is firebombed, killing 100,000.

The first atomic bomb was successfully detonated near Alamogordo, NM.

Fire bombs, launched from Japan, are carried across the North Pacific and into the Northwestern US on an “atmospheric river” that will come to be known as the “JetStream”.

1945: Mopping Up – Community Climate

The popular music of 1945 included:

Sentimental Journey	Les Brown with Doris Day	Chickery Chick	Sammy Kaye and His Orchestra
Rum and Coca-Cola	Andrews Sisters	Caldonia	Louis Jordan and his Tympany Five
Till the End of Time	Perry Como	Candy	Johnny Mercer & Jo Stafford
On the Atchison, Topeka & the Santa Fe	Johnny Mercer and The Pied Pipers	The Honeydripper (Parts 1 & 2)	Joe Liggins
My Dreams Are Getting Better All the Time	Les Brown with Doris Day	I'm Beginning To See The Light	Harry James
It's Been a Long, Long Time	Harry James with Kitty Kallen	Ac-cent-tchu-ate the Positive	Bing Crosby & The Andrews Sisters
I Can't Begin to Tell You	Bing Crosby & Carmen Cavallaro	On the Atchison, Topeka & the Santa Fe	Judy Garland
There! I've Said It Again	Vaughn Monroe	I'm Beginning to See The Light	Ella Fitzgerald & The Ink Spots
Ac-cent-tchu-ate the Positive	Johnny Mercer	On the Atchison, Topeka & the Santa Fe	Bing Crosby
It's Been a Long, Long Time	Bing Crosby & Les Paul	I'm Beginning to See The Light	Duke Ellington

The most popular movies of 1945 were:

The Bells of St. Mary's - Bing Crosby, Ingrid Bergman
Leave Her to Heaven - Gene Tierney, Cornel Wilde, Jeanne Crain
Spellbound - Ingrid Bergman, Gregory Peck
The Valley of Decision - Greer Garson, Gregory Peck
Anchors Aweigh - Frank Sinatra, Kathryn Grayson, Gene Kelly
Week-End at the Waldorf - Lana Turner, Walker Pidgeon, Van Johnson
Thrill of a Romance - Van Johnson, Esther Williams
The Lost Weekend - Ray Milland, Jane Wyman
State Fair - Jeanne Crain, Dana Andrews, Dick Haymes, Vivian Blaine
National Velvet - Mickey Rooney, Donald Crisp, Elizabeth Taylor

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Ross A. Cullen

Ross left all he owned to his momma.

Born: 6/17/1921

Entered: 2/1/1943?

Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,16080484/O-716373,1LT

Medals: Air Medal, Distinguished Flying Cross, Purple Heart

Died: 1/2/1945

Parents: Wilmot Knowlton and Lucinda "Lucy" Agnew Cullen

On 2 January 1945, Ross Cullen, 23, was reported missing in action near Trier, Germany, as a navigator of a B-17 Flying Fortress bomber, which exploded after a mission. Eleven months later, his death in action was confirmed. He served 23 months, including 8 months in the European war zone. He was awarded the Air Medal and, posthumously, the Distinguished Flying Cross and Purple Heart. He had parents in Winamac. He was memorialized at the Luxembourg American Cemetery.

<p>Finishes Schooling</p>  <p>2ND LT. ROSS A. CULLEN</p>	<p>Winamac Man Commissioned In Air Corps</p> <p>Lt. Ross A. Cullen Receives Wings as Aerial Navigator</p> <p>Ross A. Cullen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilmot Cullen of Winamac, received his wings and commission as second Lieutenant Saturday at Selman Field, Monroe, La. He is an aerial navigator and expects to go into foreign service soon. He has been transferred to Sioux City, Iowa.</p> <p>Lt. Cullen attended school in Chicago and was employed there before enlisting in the Army Air Corps in February, 1943. In the same graduating class with him was Flight Officer William K. Mundell of Gary, son of a former Winamac teacher.</p>	<p>Navigator Lost Over Germany Last January</p> <p>First Lt. Ross Cullen, Missing Nearly a Year, Now Declared Dead</p> <p>First Lt. Ross A. Cullen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilmot Cullen of Winamac, was killed in action January 2, 1945, over Trier, Germany, according to word received by the parents from the War Department. He had previously been reported missing.</p> <p>The parents had already learned that the B-17 on which Lt. Cullen was navigator had exploded just before its bomb load was dropped. Only one crew member survived, after having been wounded and taken prisoner. It is his report which now establishes the death, as disclosed in a letter and telegram received last week.</p> <p>The young officer was born June 17, 1921. He graduated from Lakeview high school in Chicago in 1939, and was employed there before enlisting in the Air Corps in August of 1942. Commissioned as</p>	<p>War Casualty</p>  <p>1ST LT. ROSS A. CULLEN</p> <p>a second lieutenant and navigator March 18, 1944, he was sent to England in May of that year. With the Eighth Air Force, he received his promotion in November, and the mission on which he was lost was his thirtieth. Lt. Cullen had been awarded four oak leaf clusters for his Air Medal. A brother, Sgt. Donald Cullen, is now en route home from India, where he has been stationed for some time.</p>
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Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 23 Mar 1944: 1.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 27 Dec 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Bernard G. "Bernie" Freeman

Bernie sent a letter to his parents a week before his disappearance.

Born: 5/21/1921

Entered: 2/3/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,O-764276,2LT

Died: 1/4/1945

Parents: Edward "Ed" D. and Rosella M. Hair Freeman

On 4 January 1945, Bernie Freeman, 24, was reported missing in action in the crash of a B-24 Liberator bomber near the Admiralty Islands in the South Pacific. One year later, he was declared dead. He served 47 months, including 20 months in the Pacific war zone. He spent most of his life in Winamac. He was memorialized on the Walls of the Missing at the Manila American Cemetery in Taguig City, Philippines, and at the Winamac Cemetery.



Sgt. Bernard Freeman, in training as a glider pilot, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Freeman of Winamac.

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

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Freeman received a letter recently from their son, A/S Bernard G. Freeman, stationed at Monticello, Minn., and read in part as follows: "I am getting along swell with my flying. I soloed last Friday afternoon and it sure was a swell feeling you get soaring around up there all by yourself, high above everybody and everything with only the clouds as companions and the engine singing a sweet tune in your ears."

Winamac (IN) Republican 22 Oct 1942: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

'Missing' Report on Lt. Freeman Confirmed

An official notice from the War Department, received Monday by Mr. and Mrs. Ed Freeman of Winamac, confirmed the fact that their son, 2nd Lt. Bernard Freeman, was missing in action. The first report the Freemans received came from a chaplain in the form of sympathetic letter.

Lt. Freeman has been missing since January 4 on a flight between Guadalcanal and Morotai in the Maluccas Island group in the Southwest Pacific, the official notice stated.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 1 Feb 1945: 1.

Parents Receive More Information About Missing Son

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Freeman received a letter Monday from the Army Air Forces Headquarters at Washington, D. C., giving them some additional information regarding their son, Lt. Bernard Freeman, who was reported missing between Guadalcanal and Morotai Island since January 4, 1945. It stated in part:

"Additional information has been received indicating that Lt. Freeman was co-pilot of a B-24 (Liberator) bomber which participated in

a mission on January 4. The report reveals that your son's bomber was neither seen nor contacted after it departed from a base on Los Negros Island, and the time, place and circumstances relative to its loss are unknown. It is further indicated that a search was instituted but no further information has been received in this headquarters as to the whereabouts of Lt. Freeman.

"Please be assured that a continuing search by land, sea and air is being made to discover the whereabouts of our missing personnel."

A list of the other six men on the plane was enclosed, along with names of next of kin, in case families of those men wish to contact each other.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 29 Mar 1945: 1.

Lost Year, Say Flier Now Dead

Reported missing a year ago while on a South Pacific flight, Lieut. Bernard G. Freeman was reported officially dead this week, according to a War Department letter received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward D. Freeman.

Lieut. Freeman, 24 years old, enlisted in February, 1941, and had been overseas in the South Pacific area for 20 months. A graduate of Winamac high school, he was one of twins. His brother, Vernon, died at the age of 10 months.

He received his final training and was graduated a second lieutenant from the Douglas Airport, Douglas, Arizona, in January, 1944.

The letter to the parents said, in part:

"Since your son, Second Lieutenant Bernard G. Freeman, Air Corps, was reported missing January 4, 1945, the War Department has entertained the hope that he survived and that information would be revealed dispelling the uncertainty surrounding his absence. However, as in many cases, the conditions of warfare deny us such information. The record concerning your son shows that he departed in a B-24 (Liberator) bomber from Pitoe Air-drome, Morotai Island, for Carney Field, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands. Radio contact was made upon arrival at Momote, Los Negros Island, Admiralty Islands, after which no further contact with the plane was made. Extensive searches were conducted over the intended route, including an area twenty miles on each side of the route without finding any trace of the plane or personnel."

Full consideration has recently been given to all available information bearing on the absence of your son, including all records, reports and circumstances. These have been carefully reviewed and considered in view of the fact that twelve months have now expired without the receipt of evidence to support

Lost In Pacific



Lt. Bernard Freeman

Lt. Bernard Freeman, missing a year in the Pacific, was reported officially dead this week by the War Department.

a continued presumptive finding of death, accordingly an official finding of death has been recorded under the provisions of Public Law 490, 77th Congress, approved March 7, 1942, as amended.

The finding does not establish an actual or probable date of death; however, as required by law, it includes a presumptive date of death for the termination of pay and allowances, settlement of accounts and payment of death gratuities. In the case of your son this date has been set as January 5, 1945, the day following the expiration of twelve months' absence.

I regret the necessity for this message but trust that the ending of a long period of uncertainty may give at least some small measure of consolation. I hope you may find sustaining comfort in the thought that uncertainty with which war has surrounded the absence of your son has enhanced the honor of his service to his country and of his sacrifice.

Sincerely yours,
EDWARD F. WIJSELL,
Major General, Acting the Adj. Gen.
of the Army.

Winamac (IN) Republican 17 Jan 1946: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Arno Ceral Elleman

Arno was a replacement for one of the earliest selectees who failed the physical.

Born: 12/21/1922

Entered: 2/11/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35153123,PFC

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 1/5/1945

Parents: Ordo "Ord" Joseph (Icy Bell Horner[deceased]) Elleman

On 5 January 1945, Arno Elleman, 20, was killed in action in Germany. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He lived in Winamac for a time. He was buried in the Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery in Hombourg, Belgium.



Arno Elleman (Collection of Peter Schouten) fieldsofhonor-database.com/index.php/en/american-war-cemetery-henri-chapelle-e/52334-elleman-arno-c

Elleman, Warne, Strasser To Replace Rejected Men

Of the 15 men sent from here to Fort Benjamin Harrison Friday, for induction into military service under the selective service act, three were rejected. They were: Charles Lewis Hansell of Winamac, Ernest Marion Manning of near Medaryville and Robert William Berger of near Pulaski.

Arno Ceral Elleman; Donald Everett Warne and Robert Emil Strasser, all volunteers, will leave here at 7:15 Tuesday morning for the fort as replacements for these men.

Hillis Dockerty and Robert Hanson volunteered for service Monday, but have not undergone any of their examinations as yet.

To date the Pulaski County Selective Service Board has sent out 275 questionnaires, and expect to send out more in the near future to those whose numbers are coming up soon.

Winamac (IN) Republican 6 Feb 1941: 1.

Arno Elleman Dies in Action

Former Resident of Winamac Killed on January 5 in Germany, Father Informed.

WINAMAC, Ind., Jan. 22—Pfc. Arno Elleman, 23, formerly of Winamac, was killed in action on Jan. 5, in Germany, according to word received here by Mr. and Mrs. Otto Snyder from the youth's father, Ord Elleman, of Brookston, Ill.

The youth had been in the service approximately two and a half years. His sister, Leora, died last month. Surviving besides the father are a stepmother and a brother, Otto, who is in the South Pacific. The Ellemans moved last fall from Winamac to Brookston, Ill.

— V —

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 22 Jan 1945: 3.

Dies in France



PFC ARNO ELLEMAN

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 25 Jan 1945: 1.

Pfc. Arno Elleman, about 20, former Winamac resident.

Pfc. Elleman, whose father, Ord Elleman, resides in Brookston, was killed in action in Germany on the same date as Elston, January 5, according to a letter received here from the father by Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Snyder, friends of the family.

The Ellemans are former residents of Winamac. Pfc. Elleman, who was about 20 years old, had participated in the African and Sicilian invasions, had served in England and was a part of the French invasion force and served in Belgium, Holland and Germany.

A brother, Otto (Bud) Elleman, is stationed with the armed forces in Honolulu.

Winamac (IN) Republican 25 Jan 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Francis Junior "Jake" Elston

Jake had eleven siblings.

Born: 7/3/1925

Entered: 10/1/1943

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35895890,T5

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 1/5/1945

Parents: Edward "Ed" Charles and Elsie Fay Strong Elston

On 5 January 1945, Jake Elston, 19, was killed in action in Belgium. He served 15 months, including 4 months in the European war zone. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He was from Francesville. He was buried in the Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery in Hombourg, Belgium.



Jake Elston (Collection of LarryHettinger12) -
ancestry.com/mediaui-

[viewer/collection/1030/tree/72304243/person/36260553616/media/6b3f33b0-86a1-432e-bcae-bd425d4b02d4](https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/72304243/person/36260553616/media/6b3f33b0-86a1-432e-bcae-bd425d4b02d4)

T-5 Francis J. Elston, 20 years old, Francesville.

Young Elston was killed in action in Belgium on January 5, according to word received from the War Department yesterday by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Elston, of Medaryville.

Additional details were lacking, but it is known that he entered the service more than a year ago.

Survivors besides the parents include the following brothers and sisters: Orland, William, Ronald, Ruth, Forrest, Jerry, Junior, Marvin, Richard, Arnold and Pat.

Two brothers, Jerry and Forrest, are also serving in the armed forces.

Winamac (IN) Republican 25 Jan 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Raymond Earle Hansell

Two days after the minister broke the news about Raymond's death to his wife and her family, he returned with news about the wounding of her brother.

Born: 4/7/1923

Entered: 2/12/1942

Branch, SN, Rank: USA, 35092573, SGT

Died: 1/8/1945

Spouse: Faye Locke Hansell

Parents: Harry Garfield and Ella Eliza Newman Hansell

On 8 January 1945, Raymond Hansell, 21, was killed in action near Strasbourg, France. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He served 23 months, including 5 months in the European war zone. He was a lifelong resident of Pulaski County. He was buried in the Winamac Cemetery. He was married.



Pvt. Raymond Hansell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hansell, northwest of Winamac, in the infantry. His wife was formerly Miss Faye Locke.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 9 Mar 1944: 1.

Winamac Boy Killed Jan. 8 In France

PFC Raymond Hansell Loses Life in Battle, Wife Is Informed

*PFC Raymond Hansell, twenty-one years of age, was killed in action on January 8 while serving in General Patch's 7th Army in the region of Strasbourg, France. The word came Thursday evening to his wife, who lives with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Locke, west of Bethel church in Franklin township.

A son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hansell, northwest of Winamac, PFC Hansell was born April 17, 1923, and spent his entire life in this vicinity until entering service in February, 1943. He had been overseas five months. His marriage to Miss Faye Locke took place November 7, 1942.

European Casualty



PFC RAYMOND HANSELL

Besides his wife and parents, he is survived by three brothers and four sisters—PFC Edward Hansell in the Marianas, Marion and Charles of Winamac, Mrs. Clara Curry of Lebanon, Mrs. Clinton Hayes and Miss June Hansell of New Augusta, and Mrs. Austin Wolfe of Star City.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 1 Feb 1945: 1.

Officer Extends Sympathy

Mrs. Raymond Hansell of the Winamac vicinity has received a letter of condolence from Capt. Richard J. Rowan, expressing the sympathy of himself and his men because of the death of her husband, PFC Hansell, who was killed in action in France on January 8. The officer stated that the young soldier had been given a Christian service, with burial in Eastern France.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 15 Feb 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Charles Glen Passwater

Charles' mother formerly lived in Winamac.

Born: 6/21/1919

Entered: 10/27/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USN,6274466,PM1c

Died: 1/10/1945

Parents: Thomas Jefferson and Bessie Beatrice Ale Passwater Sr.

On 10 January 1945, Charles Passwater, 26, was declared dead while missing when his LCN(L)-974 was sunk in the Lingayen Gulf landing. He served 28 months, including in the Pacific war zone. He was awarded the Purple Heart. His mother had formerly lived in Winamac. He was memorialized on the Walls of the Missing at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial, Philippines.

**CHAS. PASSWATER
KILLED IN ACTION**

Robert Passwater, near Noblesville, was notified Wednesday night that his nephew, Charles Glen Passwater, 24-year-old son of Thomas Passwater of Marion, was killed in action in the South Pacific.

The young man was a Ph. M 1/c in the navy and was born in Hamilton county. His grandparents were the late Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ale, former Hamilton county residents.

Noblesville (IN) Ledger 29 Mar 1945: 1.
Webpage (newspapers.com).

Winamac

J. F. Ale received word of the death of a cousin, Charles Passwater, who was killed in action in the South Pacific. He was a son of the former Miss Bessie Ale of Francesville, but now of Indianapolis. They have two other sons.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 4 Apr 1945: 9.

Former Carthage Youth Killed In Pacific War

Word has been received that Charles Glen Passwater, pharmacist mate first class, a former resident of Carthage, has been killed in the South Pacific.

The young sailor was the son of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Passwater, who now lives in Marion. His father was formerly the trustee of Ripley township.

Ph.M.1/C Passwater was graduated from Marion high school in 1937 and later attended the Indianapolis College of Pharmacy. He formerly was employed by the Haag Drug company in Indianapolis.

Besides his parents, he is survived by two brothers, Cpl. Thomas Passwater of Camp Pendleton, Calif., and Morris Passwater of Muncie.

Rushville (IN) Republican 5 Apr 1945: 1.
Webpage (newspapers.com).

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

William Busch

William probably died in the Battle of the Bulge.

Born: 4/20/1919

Entered:

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,36986447,PVT

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 1/11/1945

Parents: Henry Dewey "Dewey" and Flossie M. Holmes Busch

On 11 January 1945, William Busch, 27, was killed in action in Belgium, probably during the Battle of the Bulge. He served for 2 months in the European war zone. He had an aunt in Winamac. He was married with three children.

Nephew Is Killed

Mrs. E. J. Yocom of Winamac received word Tuesday that her nephew, Pvt. William Busch, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Busch of Danville, Ill., was killed in action in Belgium on January 11. He is survived by his wife and three children in addition to the parents. Pvt. Busch went overseas in December.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 1 Feb 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Earl Edwin "Ed" Rans

Ed got into a fistfight a few months before he left for the service.

Born: 7/20/1917

Entered: 12/4/1942

Branch, SN, Rank: USA, 35572476, PFC

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 1/15/1945

Parents: Nellie Mae Smith (Emanual Edwin) Rans (Glen) Thompson

On 16 January 1945, Ed Rans, 25, initially reported as missing, was killed in action in Germany. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He served for 25 months, including 7 months in the European war zone. He was a resident of Winamac for most of his life. He was buried in the Reed Cemetery near Winamac.



Earl Edwin Rans (Collection of Mary Rans)

Russell Bud pleaded guilty in Justice Manders' court Saturday to assault and battery and paid a fine and costs amounting to \$15. The charges were signed by **Edwin Rans**. The men were said to have engaged in a fist fight in Star City.

—V—

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 29 Oct 1942: 5.

Winamac Man Listed Missing In Germany

PFC Earl Edwin Rans
Is Unaccounted for
Since January 15

Mrs. Nellie Thompson of the Winamac vicinity received word from the War Department Friday that her son, PFC Earl Edwin Rans, has been missing in action in Germany since January 15.

In the infantry, PFC Rans was with the Ninth Army in Germany. He has been in the Army for over two years, and overseas since September. In the last letter he wrote to Winamac relatives, which was dated January 11, he stated that he was in France then but was on the move. His sister, Mrs. Florence Richard, received that letter Tuesday.



PFC EARL E. RANS

Mrs. Thompson also received word this week that her son, PFC Henry Clifford Rans, who is in the infantry, has arrived in the Philippines. Her third son, Pvt. Raymond Rans, is also with the Ninth Army in Germany.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 8 Feb 1945: 1.

Winamac Man War Victim In Germany

**PFC Earl Edwin Rans
Killed in Action
Jan. 15, Mother Notified**

Previously reported missing, PFC Earl Edwin Rans of Winamac has now been listed as killed in action in Germany on January 15. This word was received Monday from the War Department by his mother, Mrs. Nellie Thompson of the Winamac vicinity.

PFC Rans was born in Pulaski county on July 20, 1917. He was inducted in the Army on December 12, 1942, and had been overseas since last September, serving in the infantry with the Ninth Army.

Besides his mother, he is survived by sisters, Mrs. Florence Richard, Misses Fern and Alice Rans, all of Winamac; brothers, PFC Henry C. Rans, in the Philippines, Sgt. Raymond J. Rans, in France; grandfather, John J. Smith of Winamac. His father, Emanuel E. Rans, passed away last summer.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 1 Mar 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Clarence A. Kline

Having survived the Bataan Death March, Clarence was the only case of "friendly fire" reported for Pulaski County. Sadly, Clarence was predeceased by his wife and daughter some years before.

Born: 1/3/1910

Entered: 11/6/1939

Branch, SN, Rank: USA, 19019157, PFC

Medals: Prisoner of War Medal, Purple Heart

Died: 01/22/1945

Spouse: Dorothy Westgard Kline [deceased]

Parents: Elmus Martin and Maud E. Hickman Kline

On 22 January 1945, Clarence Kline, 35, died of head wounds and colitis after the unmarked Japanese prisoner ship on which he was being transported was struck by the U.S. Navy in the Pacific. Earlier, he was identified in a *Time* magazine article on the Corregidor Death March. He was awarded the Prisoner of War Medal and the Purple Heart. He served 60 months, including 48 months in the Pacific war zone. His parents were from Winamac. He was memorialized on the Walls of the Missing at the Manila American Cemetery in Taguig City, Philippines.

Third Prison Ship is Sunk; 800 Men Lost

Naval Lieutenant is One of Two Men Who Escaped From Japanese Captors

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22—(UP)—A navy officer today disclosed a third sinking of a jam-packed Japanese prison ship, with a loss of more than 800 Americans.

The vessel was sunk Dec. 15 by American planes which could not distinguish it from a cargo ship. In this case, however, the cargo was 1,600 Americans held in the ship's holds at rifle point. Fewer than half survived.

In two previously-disclosed cases allied submarines unknowingly sank two Japanese prison ships. The first such incident occurred Sept. 7, when only 83 out of 750 American prisoners aboard the ship survived. On Oct. 24 another prison ship carrying 1,800 Americans was sunk, with only five known survivors.

Brings Toll to 3,200
Apparently upward of 3,200 Americans perished in the three tragic incidents of war.

The story of the Dec. 15 sinking was related by Lt. George K. Petritz, of Rockford, Ill., in a press conference at the navy department. He said he and an army private were the only two out of the 1,600 prisoners aboard who got away from the Japs.

The 27-year-old lieutenant told how he and the other prisoners were stuffed into the ship's small holds on Dec. 15, 1944. That night the vessel steamed quietly out of Manila harbor.

The next day, American planes subjected the vessel to intermittent bombing attacks which caused some casualties among the prisoners.

Jap Civilians Escape

That night Japanese civilians were taken off the damaged craft. But a guard of Japanese soldiers stayed aboard and kept the prisoners in the holds at rifle point.

The next morning—Dec. 15—the ship was bombed again. Fewer than 800 survivors got into the water and swam for shore, Petritz said.

He said most of those who lost their lives were prisoners unable to get out of the hold before the ship went down.

Conditions aboard the vessel were frightful, the officer told newsmen. Half of the prisoners were put into the after hold of the vessel, which was less than the size of a regulation tennis court and only as high as a man's head.

Some of the Americans died from suffocation in the short time they were aboard the vessel.

Recognize Prisoner Son In Magazine Picture

The War Department has notified Mr. and Mrs. Elmus Kline, who moved this week from Marion to Lawton, that no trace has been found of their son Clarence, who was taken prisoner by the Japs with the fall of Corregidor. The last they heard from him was in May, 1944, but they identified him as one of the men in the Corregidor death march picture published in *Time* magazine. He enlisted in the Coast Guard while working as a cowboy in Montana, and was sent to the Philippines about a year before the Pearl Harbor attack.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 22 Feb 1945: 1.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 14 Jun 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

~~CONFIDENTIAL - SOURCE - UNCLASSIFIED~~

KIA

WAR DEPARTMENT
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DATE 25 July 45

REPORT OF DEATH

FULL NAME Kline, Clarence A		ARMY SERIAL NUMBER 186 19 019 157	GRADE Pfc			
HOME ADDRESS Roundup, Montana		ARM OR SERVICE Medical Dept.	DATE OF BIRTH 3 Jan 10			
PLACE OF DEATH Pacific Area		CAUSE OF DEATH Killed in action	DATE OF DEATH 15 Dec 41			
STATION OF DECEASED Pacific Area		DATE OF ENTRY ON CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE 21 Oct 40	LENGTH OF SERVICE FOR PAY PURPOSES over 3 yrs.			
EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE (Name, relationship, and address) Elmus M Kline, father, 1622 E 37th St., Marion, Indiana						
BENEFICIARY (Name, relationship, and address) Elmus M Kline, father, same as above Maude E Kline, mother, Upland, Indiana						
INVESTIGATION MADE YES NO	IN LINE OF DUTY YES NO	OWN MISCONDUCT YES NO	WAS DECEASED ON DUTY STATUS YES NO	AUTHORIZED ABSENCE YES NO	IN FLYING PAY STATUS YES NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OTHER PAY STATUS (Specify below) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BATTLE <input type="checkbox"/> NON-BATTLE
ADDITIONAL DATA AND/OR STATEMENT						

The individual named in this report is shown by the records of the War Dept. to have been in a beleaguered status from 8 Dec 41 to and including 6 May 42 (Sec 14, Public Law 490) and absent in a missing in action status on and subsequent to 7 May 42 and until such absence was terminated by a report from the Japanese Govt. through the International Red Cross of a prisoner of war status on 16 June 43. The prisoner of war status was terminated on 25 July 45, on which date evidence considered sufficient to establish the fact of death was rec'd by the Secretary of War from the Japanese Govt. through the International Red Cross. Death was result of sinking of Japanese vessel on which soldier was being transported while a prisoner of war.

Mr. Elmus M. Kline
1622 E. 37th Street
Marion, Indiana

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR
J. A. Liskay

ADJUTANT GENERAL

WD AGO FORM 52-1
1 JUN 1945

EDITION OF 1 FEBRUARY 1945 MAY BE USED.

Clarence Kline, Report of Death 25 Jul 1945. National Personnel Records Center

Son Lost on Jap Prison Ship, Parents Learn

Mr. and Mrs. Elmus Kline of Lawton received a message Tuesday informing them that their son Clarence lost his life on December 15 in the sinking of a Japanese prison ship.

Clarence was taken prisoner by the Japs with the fall of Corregidor. The parents last heard from him in May of 1944, but they identified him as one of the men in a death-march picture published in a magazine a few weeks ago. The message this week confirmed their fears that he was a war victim. He was thirty-five years of age last January 3.

A boyhood resident of this community, Clarence went west as a young man and entered the Coast Guard while working as a cowboy in Montana. He was sent to the Philippines two years before the Pearl Harbor attack. During his residence in Montana, he was married to Miss Dorothy Westgard, but she and a daughter preceded him in death.

The parents moved from here to Marion some years ago, but recently purchased property at Lawton and moved back.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 26 Jul 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

1948 JUN 28

—BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT

AG 201	NAME KLINER CLARENCE A ASN 19019157	GRADE PFC SON	DATE GAS. REPORT RECEIVED 08
NAME AND AD. RESS OF E. A.	ELIAS M KLINE ROUTE ONE MARSHALLSBURG WINamac INDIANA		LETTER DATE 1948 JUN 28 SENT
30 JUNE 1948 PER S R & D			
THE INDIVIDUAL NAMED BELOW DESIGNATED THE ABOVE PERSON AS THE ONE TO BE NOTIFIED IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, AND THE OFFICIAL TELEGRAPHIC AND LETTER NOTIFICATIONS WILL BE SENT TO THIS PERSON. THE RELATIONSHIP, IF ANY, IS SHOWN BELOW. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THIS PERSON IS NOT NECESSARILY THE NEXT-OF-KIN OR RELATIVE DESIGNATED TO BE PAID SIX MONTHS' PAY GRATUITY IN CASE OF DEATH.			
THE SECRETARY OF WAR HAS ASKED ME TO EXPRESS HIS DEEP REGRET THAT YOUR SON			
GRADE	NAME	SERIAL NUMBER	ARM OR SERVICE THEATRE STATUS
PFC	KLINER, CLARENCE A.	19019157	MD 177010- U-1X
TYPE OF CASUALTY	PLACE OF CASUALTY	DATE OF CASUALTY DAY MONTH YEAR	CASUALTY CODE
DIED OF WOUNDS	IN	22 JAN 45	

file Dem. for Feb 1948
Clerk Date JUL 21 1948

REMARKS: AG 201 /23 JUN 48/ CORRECTED COPY

MEMO -- DET UNIT. APPROVED -- OIC GAS SEC PAB. DIED ON BOARD THE "BRAZIL MARU", AT SEA BET FORMOSA AND JAPAN OF WOUNDS OF THE HEAD, INCURRED IN BOMBING AND ACUTE COLITIS, IN PAY AND LOD. STATIONED IN PI, DEATH OCCURRED IN SWPA.

HOME ADDRESS: ROUNDUP, MUSSELSHELL CO., MONTANA

DO NOT SEND TELE. RETURN TO DET UNIT FOR NOTIF.

ACTION BY COMPOSITE SECTION: REPORT VERIFIED		FORM 43	AG 201 REC.							
CASUALTY BRANCH FILE ATTACHED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OR CHARGED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		DATE								
PREVIOUSLY REPORTED NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> (AS INDICATED BELOW)										
FILE NO.	MESSAGE NO.	TYPE	DATE AND AREA							
0938261194845	178080-3-U-7 KIA		15000.44 23 JUN 45							
FORWARDED TO	SPEC. IDEN.	G. S. P.	TELEGRAM	LETTER	CERTIF.	F. REL.	COPIES	REPAT.	S. R. S. D.	NON-DEL.
REPORT NOT VERIFIED	NO FORM 43	NO CAS. BR. FILE	CHECKED BY <i>Brown</i>		REVIEWED BY <i>acg</i>					
DISTRIBUTION "A" <input type="checkbox"/>	30 COPIES	DISTRIBUTION "B" <input type="checkbox"/>		COPIES		<i>Mlm</i>				
WD AGO FORM 0365 1 MAY 1948		EDITION OF 1 JAN. 1945 MAY BE USED.								

Clarence Kline, Battle Casualty Report 28 Jun 1948. National Personnel Records Center

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Vincent H. Shafer

Vincent was a classmate of Fr. Harold Roth of Pulaski and taught with him at St. Joseph College, as well as his brother, Richard, who was killed in 1944.

Born: 10/4/1915

Entered: 7/6/1942

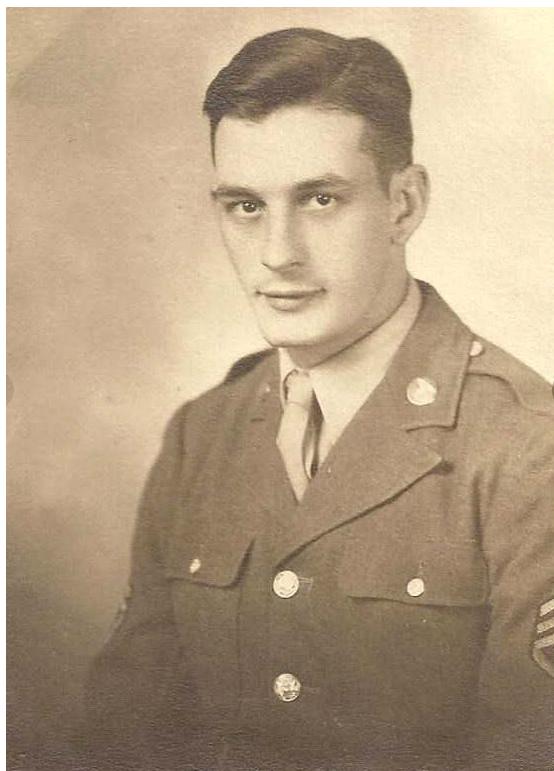
Branch, SN, Rank: USA, 35502374, SSGT or T3

Medals: Bronze Star, Purple Heart

Died: 1/22/1945

Parents: Matilda Perra (Clifford Henry[deceased]) Shafer

On 23 January 1945, Vincent Shafer, 29, was killed in action in Luxembourg, probably during the Battle of the Bulge. He was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. He served 8 months. He was known in Pulaski County. He was buried in the Luxembourg American Cemetery in Luxembourg and memorialized at Calvary Cemetery in Evanston, OH.



Vincent Shafer (Collection of smsmith961) -
ancestry.com/mediaui-
[viewer/collection/1030/tree/65078023/person/36136142429/me](https://viewer.collection/1030/tree/65078023/person/36136142429/me)
dia/c8a42c0d-23e9-4b12-a27a-9544cae71cf0

KILLED IN LUXEMBOURG.
T/3 **Vincent H. Shafer**, 29, son of Mrs. Matilda Shafer, 1644 Jonathan Ave., Evanston, was killed in action in Luxembourg January 23. He had been reported missing. A medical technician, he had entered the Army two years ago and had gone overseas in July, 1944. He was a graduate of St. Mark School, Evanston, and of St. Xavier College, Rensselaer, Ind. A brother, Sgt. Clifford W. Shafer, is serving with the Army in Belgium. Other survivors include a sister, Mrs. Harold Smith, and two aunts, Misses Anna and Geneva Perra, managers of the Arcade Novelty and Toy Shop.

Cincinnati (OH) Enquirer 18 Feb 1945: 18.

Webpage (newspapers.com).

Friend Is Casualty

Mr. and Mrs. William Roth of Winamac have been informed that S/Sgt. Vincent Shafer, son of Mrs. Mary Shafer of Cincinnati, was killed in action in the European war theatre on January 23. S/Sgt. Shafer, was a medical officer attached to the infantry. A classmate for twelve years of Capt. Harold Roth, he is known in the Winamac and Pulaski vicinities through visits in the Roth home. He was a graduate of St. Joseph's college, Rensselaer, and taught there for a year before entering service.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 22 Feb 1945: 1.

S/Sgt. Vincent E. Shafer, a member of a Mechanized Detachment of the 317th Infantry Regiment, has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroic achievement in military operations. He is the son of Mrs. Matilda Shafer, 1644 Jonathan Ave.

Cincinnati (OH) Enquirer 18 May 1945: 12.
Webpage (newspapers.com).

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Earl Edward Tyler

Although from Medaryville, there was no mention of Earl's death in either the *Pulaski County (IN) Democrat* or the *Winamac (IN) Republican*.

Born: 10/21/1915

Entered: 9/30/1943

Branch,SN,Rank: USMC,35895892,PFC

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 1/25/1945

Spouse: Cora Ellen Hall Tyler

Parents: Alvah Elmer (Ella Dorothy Beckman[deceased]) Tyler

On 25 January 1945, Earl Tyler, 29, was killed in action in the Pacific. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He served 16 months, including the Pacific war zone. He was from Medaryville. He was buried in the Manila American Cemetery in Taguig City, Philippines. He was married.

**ARMY AND NAVY
TAKE MORE MEN**

Another Group Goes From
County for Physical
Examinations.

The Army and Navy accepted a number of Pulaski county young men when a group went from Winamac the latter part of last week for physical examinations at Indianapolis. The men taken by the Army will leave three weeks after the examination; men in the Navy are subject to call sooner.

Army.
Earl E. Tyler, Medaryville
Frederick C. Reunn, Winamac
Max L. Russell, Oak
Foster D. Vogel, Monterey
Albert J. Weaver, Star City
Bernard A. Scheffer, Winamac
Francis J. Elston, Francesville
Richard E. Fry, Winamac
Roy J. Sims, Winamac
Navy.
Ivan D. Roberts, Francesville
Wallace W. Roller, Winamac
Paul L. Nelson, Francesville
John J. Anderson, Francesville
Ralph G. Wall, Medaryville
Maurice Greulach, Fort Wayne
Raymond J. Hamblin, Francesville
Woodrow W. Shidler, Star City
Robert C. Ewing, Francesville
Rex V. Karr, Winamac

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 17 Oct 1943: 1.

WEDDING ANNOUNCED

Miss Cora Ellen Hall and **Earl Edward Tyler** were married Oct. 16, at Crown Point, by Justice of Peace Harvey T. Minas, with her aunt, Mrs. Pansy Buell, Lowell as a witness. Mr. Tyler was called in the draft Oct. 22, and is at present at Ft. Benjamin Harrison. Mrs. Tyler will reside for the present with her grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Cora DeWitt.

The Polly Ann Sewing club will meet Nov. 3 with Mrs. William Stalbaum.

(Lafayette IN) Journal and Courier 28 Oct 1943: 13.

Webpage (newspapers.com).

Pvt. **Earl Tyler** has been transferred from Ft. Benjamin Harrison to Camp Shelby, Miss.

(Lafayette IN) Journal and Courier 4 Nov 1943: 12.

Webpage (newspapers.com).

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Ora "Jack" Jordan

Like his older brother, Jay, who also perished in the war, Jack's sister and twin, 6, wrote a letter to Santa on their behalf. Jack's enlistment caused his employer to close the business. Jack may have been one of the last fatalities of the Battle of the Bulge.

Born: 7/22/1918

Entered: 5/7/1944

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35838079,PFC

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 1/29/1945

Spouse: Georgia "Georgie" Bell Poor Jordan

Parents: Thomas Jefferson and Icile Valdora "Dora" Hickman [both deceased] Jordan

On 29 January 1945, Jack Jordan, 26, was killed in action in Luxembourg, probably as the Battle of the Bulge was winding down. He served 8 months, including one month in the European war zone. He was awarded a Purple Heart. He lived in Winamac for several years before his death. He was buried in Winamac Cemetery. He was married with two children.



Pvt. Jack Jordan, with the Army in Italy. His wife and children live in Winamac.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 11 Jan 1945: 1.

Winamac, Ind.

Dear Santa: --Thought we would write you a few lines to let you know what we want for Christmas. I want a doll, hickory nuts, candy and gun. Bring my twin brother Ora a tricycle, hickory nuts, peanuts and candy, that's all. Our stocking will hang close to the chimney. Ora and Nora Jordan.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 14 Dec 1922: 2.

Dear Santa: I will tell you what I want. I want a ball, tricycle, automobile, train and cars, some candy, nuts, chewing gum. I am 7 years old and in the primary class. Your friend, Jay Jordan.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 14 Dec 1922: 2.

FORMER RESIDENT DIES IN ACTION

Jay Jordan, Brother of Two Winamac People, Is Killed.

Sgt. Jay Jordan, brother of Jack Jordan and Mrs. Thomas Hatfield of Winamac, has been killed in action, according to word received Saturday by relatives here. He was in the Marine Corps. No other information was received.

The young man would have been twenty-eight years of age next January 5, and was born near Winamac, a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Jordan. He lived in this vicinity until moving to Michigan with his parents when he was about five years old, and was a resident of Ypsilanti previous to entering the Marines.

Surviving are the brother and sister mentioned, the widow, living at Ypsilanti; brothers Wayne and Joseph of Hartford, Mich.; sisters Mrs. Paul Ackerman of Hartford and Mrs. Nora Tart of Benton Harbor, Mich.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 12 Aug 1943: 1.

After having been in continuous operation for more than forty-five years, the Kocher meat market is quitting business after Saturday night of this week. The proprietor, A. E. Kocher, states that he has been unable to find a workman to replace Orr "Jack" Jordan, who leaves for the Army this week end. Oscar Kocher, long an employee in the meat shop, will be associated with his brother in the latter's wholesale beer business.

Quitting Business

Because of the help shortage, we have decided to close our market after Saturday night of this week.

We are sorry to do this, but we realize that the Army's demand for men comes first.

The store will be open all next week, May 8 to 13, for collection of accounts and payment of bills. All persons owing us, or whom we owe, will please take notice.

Kocher's Meat Market

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 4 May 1944: 1&4.

Pvt. Jordan Killed In Luxembourg

WINAMAC, Ind. — Pvt. Jack Jordan, former employee of the Kocher Meat Market here, was killed in action at Luxembourg, Jan. 29, according to word received by his wife from the war department on Thursday.

Survivors include the wife, Georgia, and two children.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 9 Feb 1945: 3.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

'Pvt. 'Jack' Jordan Loses Life in Luxembourg'

Pvt. Ora (Jack) Jordan of Winamac was killed in action in Luxembourg on January 29, it was revealed in a message received by his wife, Mrs. Georgia Jordan, late last Thursday afternoon.

He entered service in May, 1944, and his last furlough home was on November 5 because of the death of a sister, Mrs. Thomas Hatfield.



He was sent overseas soon after his return to camp and had been in England and France before going to Luxembourg.

Twenty-six years of age, Pvt. Jordan was born in the Ora vicinity July 22, 1918, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Jordan. After the death of his parents he made his home with his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Hatfield, and was employed at the Kocher meat market for a number of years before entering service.

On January 18, 1938, he was married to Miss Georgia Poor, who survives with their two children, Montie and Joan, nearing five and two years of age. Also surviving are two brothers, Wayne and Joseph Jordan of Hartford, Mich., and two sisters, Mrs. Paul Ackerman of Hartford and Mrs. Nora Tart of San Francisco.

A brother, Sgt. Jay Jordan, with a Raider battalion of the Marine Corps, was killed in action on August 12, 1943. A sister, Mrs. Thomas Hatfield, died in November, making Ora's death the third in the family within seventeen months.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 15 Feb 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Robert Lewis Plumb

Robert was killed in action just days after his promotion to PFC.

Born: 10/4/1915

Entered: 4/28/1943

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35142622,PFC

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 2/1/1945

Spouse: Cecelia Pearl Plumb

Parents: Gladys May Foust (Jesse Edward) Plumb

On 1 February 1945, Robert Plumb, 29, was killed in action in Italy. He served 30 months, including 9 months in the European war zone. He had relatives in Winamac. He was buried in Idaville. He was married.

Robert L. Plumb has been promoted from private to private first class, according to word received by his wife, Mrs. Cecelia Plumb, 814½ Brown street. Pfc. Plumb has been in the service 22 months, going overseas in July, 1944. He is serving with the infantry in Italy.

(Lafayette IN) Journal and Courier 8 Feb 1945: 5.

Webpage (newspapers.com).

Pfc. R. L. Plumb Killed in Action

Pfc. Robert L. Plumb, 29, lost his life February 1, in Italy, according to word received by his wife, Mrs. Lucille (Anderson) Plumb, Brown street. Pfc. Plumb attended Jefferson high school and was employed at Purdue prior to entering service in April, 1943, going overseas in 1944. He served with an infantry unit in England, France and Italy and is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Jess Plumb, 526 South Fourth street.

(Lafayette IN) Journal and Courier 16 Feb 1945: 14.

Webpage (newspapers.com).

Nephew Killed

Bert Howard of Winamac was notified this week that his nephew, Pvt. Robert Plumb of Lafayette, had been killed in Italy. The young man was in the infantry.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 1 Mar 1945: 1.

Bert Howard received word this week that his nephew, Pvt. Robert Plumb, son of Mrs. Gladys Plumb of Lafayette, was killed in action in Italy recently.

Winamac (IN) Republican 1 Mar 1945: 1.

Gets Purple Heart For Late Husband

Mrs. Cecelia Plumb, 814½ Brown street, has received the Purple Heart awarded her husband, Pfc. Robert L. Plumb, posthumously. Pfc. Plumb was killed in action in Italy, February 1, 1945.

(Lafayette IN) Journal and Courier 28 Apr 1945: 10.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Arthur Raymond Doyle

Three months before his death, Arthur had earned a Bronze Star.

Born: 9/21/1915

Entered: 12/4/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35572480,PFC

Medals: Bronze Star, Purple Heart

Died: 2/3/1945

Parents: Magdalina "Maggie" Julia McGee (Francis "Frank" R.) Doyle

On 3 February 1945, Arthur Doyle, 29, was killed in action in Campholz Woods, Germany. He served 27 months, including 9 months in the European war zone. He was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. He spent most of his life in Francesville. He was buried in the Roseland Cemetery in Francesville.



Pvt. Arthur R. Doyle, in the Army, son of Mrs. Magdalina Doyle, southwest of Winamac.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 8 Jul 1943: 1.

Beaver Mother Gets Confirmation Of Son's Death

Mrs. Magdalina Doyle of Beaver township has received letters from the War Department concerning the death of her son, PFC Arthur R. Doyle, but no additional information concerning details was given. He lost his life in Germany on February 3, according to the first telegram, published three weeks ago.

Twenty-nine years of age, PFC Doyle had spent most of his life in the Francesville vicinity. He was born September 21, 1915, at Washington, Ind., and came to this county when he was eleven. He attended Francesville school and was employed at the Gutwein Milling company for ten years. In the infantry, he entered the Army in December of 1942 and went overseas last July.

Surviving, besides the mother, are two sisters, Mrs. Camilla Hayden of Chicago and Mrs. Maxine Gurrola of Kingsford Heights; brothers, Ambrose of the Francesville vicinity, John and Joseph, at home.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 8 Mar 1945: 1.

Gold Star Mother Receives Medals Awarded Hero Son

Mrs. Magdalena Doyle of the Francesville vicinity last Thursday received the medals which the War Department has awarded posthumously to her son, PFC Arthur Doyle, who was killed in Europe on Feb. 3, 1945. Services for the young hero were held at Pulaski last Aug. 14, with burial at Francesville.

Medals received by the mother are: Bronze Star Medal, for exemplary conduct in ground combat against the armed enemy on or about Nov. 1, 1944, in the European theater of operations; American campaign medal for the European-African-Middle East campaign with three bronze service stars for the Northern France, Rhineland and Ardennes campaigns.

Others are expert infantryman badge, combat infantryman badge, good conduct medal, meritorious service unit emblem and World War victory medal. A purple heart award was received soon after notification of his death was received.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 4 Nov 1948: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

John Charles "Bud" Connelly

Bud was killed in action over Germany.

Born: 8/26/1924

Entered: 1/28/1943

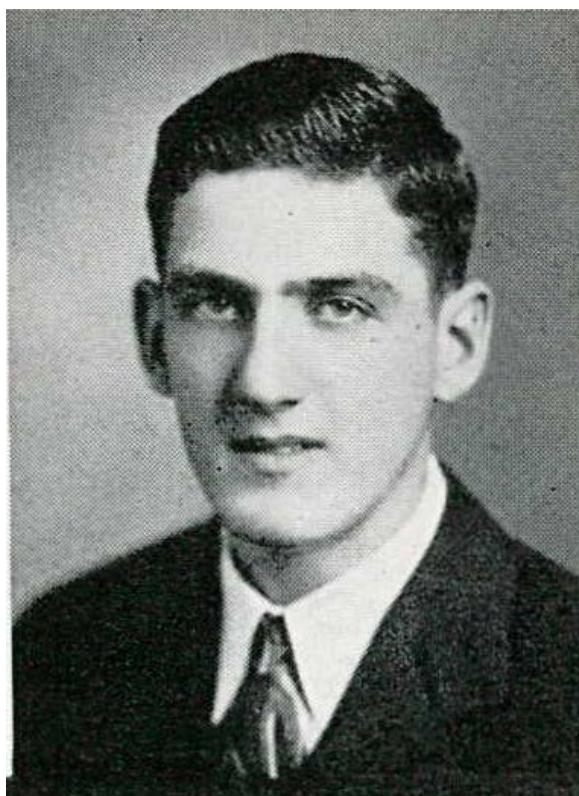
Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,35585041,SGT

Medals: Air Medal, Purple Heart

Died: 2/6/1945

Parents: J.M. and Celesta D. Master Connelly

On 6 February 1945, Bud Connelly, 20, was killed in action in Germany. He was awarded the Air Medal and the Purple Heart. He had relatives in Monterey. He was buried in the Cambridge American Cemetery in Cambridge, England.



John Connelly (Collection of Christine Hearn Gannon) -
ancestry.com/mediaui-

[viewer/collection/1030/tree/153264256/person/182046588144/media/c27b466c-745d-41c7-9b74-d21665771207">https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui/](https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui/)

Grandson Killed

Mrs. Margaret Master of Monterey received word Monday that her grandson, Sgt. John C. Connelly, was killed in action over Germany. In the Air Corps, the young man was a son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Connelly of East Chicago. His mother is the former Miss Celesta Master of Monterey.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 22 Feb 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Damon Elwood Sanders

Damon, killed in the Battle of the Bulge, had earned a Bronze Star.

Born: 6/21/1920

Entered: 5/13/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35353826,SGT

Medal: Bronze Star

Died: 2/8/1945

Parents: Samuel Arlie "Arlie" and Jessie Mae Spriggs Sanders

On 8 February 1945, Damon Sanders, 24, was killed in action in Germany. He served for 33 months, including 11 months in the European war zone. He was awarded the Bronze Star. He lived most of his life in Medaryville. He was buried in the Independence Cemetery in Baileys Corner.



SGT. DAMON SANDERS

Sgt. Damon Elwood Sanders lost his life in Germany on February 8. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Arlie Sanders of Valparaiso, former residents of Medaryville. Twenty-four years of age, he entered the Army in May, 1942, and had been overseas for nearly a year. Sgt. Sanders was with a tank destroyer company and held the Bronze Star. The Sanders family lived in Medaryville until five years ago.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 8 Mar 1945: 1.

Former Medaryville Resident Killed In European War

Mr. and Mrs. Arlie Sanders of Valparaiso received a message from the War Department Saturday informing them that their son, Sgt. Damon Elwood Sanders, had been killed in action on February 8 in Germany.

Sgt. Sanders was born June 21, 1920, at Medaryville and lived there until five years ago, when he moved with his parents to Valparaiso. He entered service in May, 1942, and received his training in Texas. He had been overseas since March, 1944, as a gunner with a tank destroyer company, and held the Bronze Star.

Besides the parents, he is survived by three sisters, Mrs. Ada Hill, Misses Nadine and Catherine Sanders, all of Medaryville, and five brothers, Jack, James and DeLois of Valparaiso, Pvt. Randolph J. Sanders, in Belgium, and Cpl. Gilbert J. Sanders, in Luxembourg.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 1 Mar 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Clifford George "Tip" Baker

Tip's remains were buried together with two of his crewmates in St. Louis, MO, equidistant from each of the three families.

Born: 2/25/1910

Entered: 4/19/1943

Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,35142166,SGT

Medals: Air Medal, Purple Heart

Died: 2/21/1945

Spouse: Mary Straw Baker

Parents: George Henry and Ida Emma Conner Baker

On 21 February 1945, Tip Baker, 35, was reported missing in action when the A26 Invader bomber on which he was a gunner was shot down near Buende, Germany. Nine months later, he was reported dead, and almost four years later, his body was recovered. He was awarded the Air Medal and the Purple Heart. He served 22 months, including 6 months in the European war zone. He was a lifelong resident of Pulaski County. He was buried in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis, MO. He was married.



PFC Clifford Baker, gunner in the Air Corps, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Baker of Harrison township. His wife was formerly Miss Mary Straw.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 27 Apr 1944: 1.

Plane Gunner Listed Missing Over Germany

Sgt. Clifford (Tip) Baker
Of Winamac Unaccounted
For Since February 21

Word was received Wednesday night by Mrs. Clifford Baker of Winamac that her husband, Sgt. Clifford (Tip) Baker, was missing over Germany on February 21. Thirty-five years of age, he is a turret gunner on a new Invader (A-26) fighter plane.

Sgt. Baker entered the Air Corps in April, 1943, and went overseas last September. He had trained at Keesler Field, Miss., Lowry Field, Colo., Kingman Field, Ariz., and Florence Field, S. Cal., and was based in France with the Ninth Air Force.

A graduate of Winamac high school in 1928, he is a son of Mr. and Mrs. George Baker of Harrison township. The last letter his wife received from him was dated February 19, in which he reported

Airman Fails
To Return from
Fighting Mission



SGT. CLIFFORD BAKER

he had completed his eighteenth mission. He had recently been awarded the Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters and had qualified for a third cluster.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 8 Mar 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Missing Man's Plane Crashes, Letter Reveals

Mrs. Clifford G. Baker received a letter last week from the War Department in reference to her husband, who was reported as missing in action over Germany since February 21. Parts of the letter follow:

"Additional information has been received indicating that Sgt. Baker was the gunner on an A-26 bomber which participated in a combat mission to Lage, Germany, on February 21. The report reveals that during this mission, while leaving the target, your husband's bomber sustained damage from enemy anti-aircraft fire. The disabled craft

left the formation and subsequently fell to the earth. Because of the intensity of enemy action the crew members of accompanying planes were unable to continuously observe your husband's bomber, and it is regretted that the foregoing constitutes all the information available in this headquarters.

"Please be assured that a continuing search by land, sea, and air is being made to discover the whereabouts of our missing personnel. As our armies advance over enemy occupied territory, special troops are assigned to this task, and agencies of our government and allies frequently send details which aid us in bringing additional information to you."

Addressess of next-of-kin-of either members of the crew were enclosed so that Mrs. Baker could get in touch with them.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 26 Apr 1945: 1.

Receives Hopeful News About Missing Husband

Mrs. Clifford Baker of Winamac has received a letter containing news of her husband, Sgt. Baker, who has been missing since February 21, when his plane went down over Germany. Mrs. Helen Harrison of Goldsboro, N. C., is the wife of the other gunner in the plane and she was visited by Capt. James Heyward, who was flying behind the craft which went down.

Capt. Heyward stated that the engine of the plane was struck but that Lt. Murphy, pilot, did not lose control. The ship was last seen near the Netherlands border, so that there was a good chance of its getting down safely and of the men's contacting the underground. He told the women they had "every reason to be hopeful."

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 10 May 1945: 1.

Receives Missing Husband's Belongings

Mrs. Clifford Baker has received the personal belongings of her husband, Sgt. Baker, who has been missing since last February 21, when his plane went down over Germany. Included was the Air Medal which Sgt. Baker had been awarded two weeks before he was listed as missing, and his bar and civilian pin. The two oak leaf clusters to which he was entitled were missing, but are expected to be sent home later.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 20 Sep 1945: 2.

Local Gunner, Missing a Year, Reported Lost

War Department Lists
Sgt. Clifford G. Baker
Of Winamac as Dead

Mrs. Clifford G. Baker was notified by the War Department last Friday that her husband, Sgt. Baker, was killed in action in Germany on February 21, 1945. He had previously been reported missing but it has now been officially established from reports that he was killed in action near Buerne, Germany, the letter stated.

Mrs. Baker has learned from correspondence with relatives of other members of the crew that the A-26 in which Sgt. Baker served as a gunner was returning from a bombing mission over Lege, Germany. Men in other planes reported that the lost plane was hit by flak and later crashed. No parachutes were seen.

Sgt. Baker, known to his friends as "Tip," entered service in April, 1943, and went to Europe in September, 1944. He was stationed at an airfield near Paris and had completed eighteen missions, earning the Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters.

Air Casualty



SGT. CLIFFORD BAKER

A son of Mr. and Mrs. George Baker of Harrison township, the young man was born February 25, 1910, and spent all his life in Pulaski county. He graduated from the Winamac high school in 1928, and his marriage to Miss Mary Straw took place November 9, 1936. Surviving, besides the wife and parents, are brothers Clem of Glendive, Mont., Clarence, Chester and Clayton Baker of Harrison township; sisters, Mrs. Opal Carey of Calumet City, Ill., and Mrs. Millie Smith of Kewanna.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 31 Jan 1946: 1.

Purple Heart Medal Awarded Posthumously

Mrs. Mary Baker of Winamac, who was recently notified of the death of her husband, lost a year ago over Europe, on Tuesday received a letter from the War Department. It was signed by Robert P. Patterson, Secretary of War, who said:

"At the request of the President, I write to inform you that the Purple Heart has been awarded posthumously to your husband, Sergeant Clifford Baker, Air Corps, who sacrificed his life in defense of his country.

"Little that we can do or say will console you for the death of your loved one. We profoundly appreciate the greatness of your loss, for in a very real sense the loss suffered by any of us in the battle for our country, is a loss shared by all of us. When the medal, which you will shortly receive, reaches you, I want you to know that with it goes my sincerest sympathy, and the hope that time and victory of our cause will finally lighten the burden of your grief."

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 28 Feb 1946: 1.



SGT. CLIFFORD BAKER

Body of Gunner, Lost in 1945, Now Recovered

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 8 Dec 1949: 1.

Local Gunner To Be Buried With Crew

Sgt. Clifford Baker,
Two Others Will Be
Interred at St. Louis

Group burial for a Winamac airman and the other two members of the crew will be held June 12 at Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, Mo. He is Sgt. Clifford Baker, who lost his life when his plane went down over Germany in February of 1945.

The bodies of the three crew men were located about a year ago, but individual identification was impossible. Thus the group burial will be made at National cemetery. Others on the plane were Lt. Murphy of San Diego, Calif., and Sgt. Tom Harrison of Chapel Hill, N. C.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 25 May 1950: 1.

Mr. and Mrs. George Baker have been notified by Col. E. V. Freeman of the Army Memorial Division that the remains of their son Clifford, along with the remains of two companions, are to be removed from the temporary military cemetery in Belgium for group interment in the Jefferson Barracks National cemetery, located at St. Louis, Mo. The shock of the message is thought to have hastened the death of his mother, which occurred Tuesday morning.

The letter stated that individual identifications could not be established at the time of the recovery, but the investigation has now been completed, and sufficient evidence was present to make group identification of Sgt. Baker and his two companions. Their fighter plane was shot down near Buende, Germany, as they were returning from a bombing mission over Lege, Germany, on Feb. 21, 1945. Sgt. Baker, known as "Tip" to his family and friends, was turret gunner.

The family will be informed of the date and time of final interment sufficiently in advance to permit attendance at the ceremonies at the national shrine, the message from Col. Freeman stated.

Sgt. Baker was a son of George Baker and the late Mrs. Baker of Harrison township and was born Feb. 25, 1910. He spent most of his life in this community and graduated from Winamac high school in 1928. His marriage to Miss Mary Straw took place in 1936, and he entered service in April of 1943. He was stationed at an airfield near Paris, and the A-26 in which he was serving as a gunner was returning from a mission over Lege, Germany, when it went down. Sgt. Baker had completed eighteen missions, earning the Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters.

Details of the services, which will be at 10:30 in the morning, were sent by the superintendent of the cemetery. Those who expect to attend include the soldier's father, George Baker; brothers, Clem of Glendive, Mont., Chester and Clarence of Winamac; sisters, Mrs. Millie Smith of Kewanee and Mrs. Opal Carey of Hammond; Mr. and Mrs. Dale Combs of Winamac.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Melvin Leroy "Butch" Welsh

Butch was among the first to land on Iwo Jima.

Born: 8/28/1921

Entered: 4/30/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USMCR,307937,SGT

Died: 2/21/1945

Spouse: May Girton Welch

Parents: Palmer Henrichs and Jennifer "Jennie" R Pease Welch

On 21 February 1945, Butch Welch, 24, was killed in action on Iwo Jima. He served for about 48 months, including over 16 months in the Pacific war zone. He had worked in Pulaski County for three years, and his wife lives in Winamac. He is buried in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, HI. He was married.



Melvin Welsh 11 Apr 1941. - vetracs.nprc.archives.gov.



PFC Melvin Welsh, paratrooper in the Marines, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Welsh of Hammond, former residents of the Winamac vicinity.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 3 Jun 1943: 1.

4,000 Marines Die In 25 Days Of Iwo Battle

Japs Report Warship and Transport Landings North of Iwo; Fighting at an End

GUAM — (UP) — American dead in the 25 days of savage fighting on Iwo have amounted to less than 4,000 compared with Japanese casualties of at least 20,000 killed, front dispatches disclosed Thursday, as the Stars and Stripes were raised over the bloodiest battlefield of the Pacific war.

Marines were still mopping up fanatic enemy troops entrenched in caves on the northern tip of Iwo, but the "major fighting" effort of the leathernecks was said to have been completed.

(Tokyo, quoted by the German transocean agency, said that warships and transports had been sighted north of Iwo, possibly indicating a new American landing.)

Vice Adm. Richmond Kelly Turner disclosed American losses had been less than one-fifth of those of the Japanese defenders, United Press Correspondent Mac R. Johnson reported in a dispatch from Turner's flagship off Iwo.

Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz had announced yesterday that at least 20,000 Japanese were killed in the first 24 days of the Iwo battle—a rate of approximately 833 Japanese per day. Iwo covers only eight and one-half square miles.

In proportion to forces engaged, both the U. S. and enemy casualties were the heaviest of the war. On "bloody Tarawa", considerably larger than Iwo, American killed, wounded and missing amounted to 3,069 and Japanese losses to 4,500. On Guam, 26 times the size of Iwo total American casualties were 7,247 and Japanese 17,701.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 16 Mar 1945: 3.

Marine Killed On Iwo Jima

Sgt. Elvin Welsh, 23, of Winamac, Died Feb. 20, Wife Notified.

WINAMAC, Ind., March 16 — Sgt. Elvin Welsh, 23, local Marine, was killed Feb. 20 on Iwo Jima, according to a telegram received last night by his wife, Mrs. May Welsh.

Sergeant Welsh joined the Marines on April 30, 1941, and was stationed in the Pacific, returning to the United States last year. He was married on March 5, 1944, to Miss May Girton. After seven months in this country, he returned overseas and was with the Fifth Marine Corps.

The last letter received from him was dated Jan. 24. Sergeant Welsh was born in Hammond, but attended Winamac high school.

Surviving are the widow; the parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Welsh, of Hammond; and three sisters, Mrs. Fern Boyd, Scircleville; Mrs. Clara Fiebleborn, Griffith; and Mrs. Ella Cross, Hollywood, Calif.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 16 Mar 1945: 2.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Sgt. Melvin Welch Is Victim of Attack on Iwo

Sgt. Melvin Leroy Welch, familiarly known as "Butch" during the three years that he worked in the vicinity of Winamac, was one of the American casualties in the attack on Iwo Jima.

A War Department message received last week end by his wife, the former Miss May Girton, stated that he was killed in action on February 21. This was the second day after the U. S. Marines, of which Sgt. Girton, was a member, made their first landing on that island, against strong Jap resistance.

The young man was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Palmer Welch of Hammond, and came here as a lad to work for his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Dodd, while they lived on the former J. M. Baker farm southwest of town. Later he worked for Galen Girton on the R. E. Horner farm. About four years ago he went to Hammond and joined the Marines.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 22 Mar 1945: 1.

After serving sixteen months in the Southwest Pacific area, undergoing severe battle activities but escaping without a scratch, he was returned to this country on furlough. He and Miss Girton were married on March 5, 1944, at the church in Buffalo, White county.

Following his marriage he was assigned to training camps on the west coast and in Hawaii, receiving promotion from corporal to sergeant.

Sgt. Welch was twenty-four years of age last August 28. Surviving, besides the wife and parents, is a sister, in California.

Buddy Is Wounded

Word came Monday to Mrs. Joseph Ross, the former Miss Dorothy Morrison of Winamac, that her husband was wounded on Iwo Jima. He is known to have been with the same outfit as Sgt. Welch, and the two were close friends. The message did not give the extent of his injuries. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Olin Ross of Lucerne.



Sgt. Melvin Welch

Winamac (IN) Republican 22 Mar 1945: 1.

Sgt. Melvin L. Welsh, 23 years old, husband of Mrs. May Welsh, was killed in action on Iwo Jima February 20, according to a Marine Corps telegram received here this week end. Sgt. Welsh was the son of Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Welsh of Hammond.

His widow is employed at the Schultz Brother Winamac store and is living with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Galen Girton.

The couple was married on March 5, 1944 before Sgt. Welsh left this country. He was serving with the Fifth Marine Corps which captured Iwo Jima.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Maurice Edmund McFadden

Maurice was on a “mop up” campaign on Iwo Jima with his best friend, A.J. “Tex” Stanton, when a mortar killed Maurice and blew Tex’s feet off.

Born: 11/2/1925

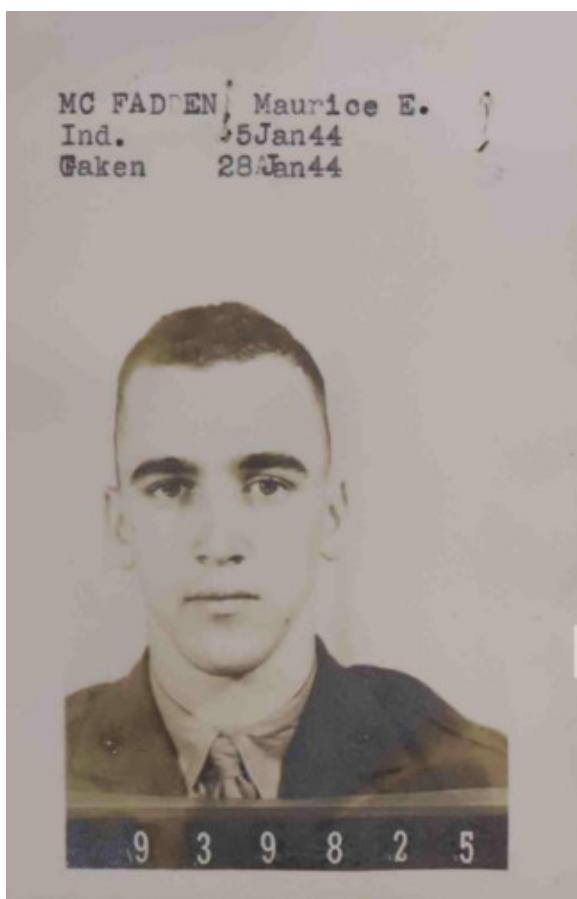
Entered: 1/20/1944

Branch,SN,Rank: USMC,939825,PVT

Died: 2/22/1945

Parents: L.J. and Muriel Edris O'Donnell McFadden

On 22 February 1945, Maurice McFadden, 19, was killed in action by a mortar shell on Iwo Jima. He served 14 months, including 6 months in the Pacific war zone. He had relatives in Winamac. He was buried in the Yorktown Cemetery in Yorktown.



Maurice McFadden, 28 Jan 1944. - [ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/27504089/person/26063900507/media/eb9ede35-0fa4-4ba9-88d3-8d0a73705424](https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/27504089/person/26063900507/media/eb9ede35-0fa4-4ba9-88d3-8d0a73705424)



Maurice McFadden (Collection of bdulworth2) - [ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/27504089/person/26063900507/media/9eec9d54-20d2-4aa4-bc01-2c0614f9f996](https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/27504089/person/26063900507/media/9eec9d54-20d2-4aa4-bc01-2c0614f9f996).

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Yorktown Marine Is Killed

Former Tiger Athlete Dies On Iwo Jima.

A Delaware County youth has been killed in action and a Muncie soldier is listed as missing, their parents have been notified. They are:

Pvt. Maurice McFadden, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. McFadden of near Yorktown, killed Feb. 22 on Iwo Jima, in the Volcano Islands.

Sgt. Wallace Airhart, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Airhart of 901 S. Brady St., missing over Germany since Feb. 21.

Pvt. McFadden was well-known in Yorktown High School athletics. He was a member of the basketball team of that school and played in the 1944 county tourney the day before he entered the marine corps. He also was a member of the county championship baseball team.

The last letter received by Mr. and Mrs. McFadden from their son was written Feb. 3 aboard ship. He was with the Fifth Division, and it is believed that he landed with the invasion forces on Iwo Jima.

Trained in California.

Pvt. McFadden enlisted in January 1944, before completing his high school work. His diploma was presented to his mother during the graduation exercises of his class. He was trained at the marine bases in San Diego and Oceanside, Calif., and had been stationed in the South Pacific since last September.

Surviving besides the parents are three sisters, Mrs. Richard Thompson of Seattle, Wash., and Mary Margaret McFadden and Sharon Sue McFadden, both at home.

An army air force engineer, Sgt. Airhart, has been stationed in France. He holds the Air Medal and an Oak Leaf cluster, which he was awarded a few days before being reported missing.



PVT. MAURICE MCFADDEN

Sgt. Airhart was graduated from Central High School with the class of 1940. He entered the air corps on Oct. 20, 1942, and received his wings at Tyndall Field, Fla. He later was graduated from an aerial mechanics school at a North Carolina field.

He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Kirkpatrick of 920 S. Ebright St. He has a sister, Miss Rosemary Airhart, and a half-sister, Mrs. Margaret Thomas.

Nephew Killed

Mrs. Ira N. Taylor, west of Winamac, has received word that her nephew, Maurice McFadden, was killed in action on Iwo Jima on February 22. His father, L. J. McFadden of Muncie, formerly lived in the Winamac vicinity. Nineteen years of age, the soldier was known here through visits in the Taylor home.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 22 Mar 1945: 1.

Muncie (IN) Evening Press 15 Mar 1945: 1.

Webpage (newspapers.com).

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Robert Arnold Bach

Robert had a degree in construction and estimating.

Born: 11/29/1915

Entered: 3/26/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,36013147,TSgt

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 2/25/1945

Spouse: Elizabeth Lawing Bach

Parents: John Nicholas and Lydia V. Von Tobel Bach

On 25 February 1945, Robert Bach, 29, initially reported as missing, was killed in action in Germany. He served 47 months, including 5 months in the European war zone. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He had relatives in Francesville. He was buried in the Netherlands American Cemetery in Margraten, Netherlands. He was married with two children.



Robert Bach (Collection of Laurie Bittner Jasinski) -
ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/181875615/person/372366763916/media/589bec20-8b70-4554-96e5-8107cfdc6702

T. Sgt. Robert Bach of Fairbury, a brother of Mrs. Henri Mohar of this city was reported killed somewhere in Germany, February 25. It was first reported on Sunday that he was missing, but on Tuesday later word came to his wife, announcing his death. Sgt. Bach was the youngest of 9 children and is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Bach of Fairbury, three sisters and five brothers. He was married three years ago and is also survived by his wife, and two children, Sue and Tommy, of North Carolina.

Sgt. Bach left Fairbury in 1943 with the first contingent drafted from Fairbury.

(Streator IL) Times 29 Mar 1945: 10. Webpage (newspapers.com).

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Youngest Son Killed

FAIRBURY.— (PNS) — **Mr.** and **Mrs.** J. N. **Bach** Sr., have received word that their youngest son, T. Sgt. Robert A. **Bach**, was killed in action Feb. 25 in Europe. A message Sunday stated he was missing in action and a second telegram received Tuesday told of Sgt. **Bach**'s death. He was believed to have been serving with the Ninth army.

He was born Dec. 29, 1915, in Fairbury. He attended Fairbury schools, graduating from the high school in 1932. He attended Bradley Tech at Peoria two years. He was a member of Alpha Pi fraternity. He then attended Illinois Technical college, Chicago, and received a degree in building construction and estimating.

(Bloomington IL) Pantagraph 29 Mar 1945: 7.

Webpage (newspapers.com).

He was a member of the J. N. **Bach** and Son firm when called for service on March 26, 1941. He trained at Camp Croft, S. C., where he served until going overseas in October, 1944. He had a short furlough before going overseas.

Sgt. **Bach** was married Sept. 5, 1942 to Miss Elizabeth Lawing, who lives with their two children, Suzanne Elizabeth and Tommy William, at Forest City, N. C. Also surviving are his parents, Fairbury; eight brothers and sisters Harry and Edward, Fairbury; Alfred, Champaign; **Mrs.** Clara Kaufman, Silverton, Ore.; **Mrs.** Kathryn Hanna, Memphis, Tenn.; **Mrs.** Caroline Mohar, Minonk; Edmund, Decatur; J. N. Jr., Forrest.

Nephew Killed in Action

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Von Tobel Sr. of Francesville, son Paul Jr. and daughter Miss Kathryn, spent last Friday with Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Bach of Fairbury, Ill. On Tuesday of last week Mr. and Mrs. Bach received word from the War Department that their son, T/Sgt. Robert A. Bach, who was first reported missing in action in Germany on February 25, is now reported to have been killed on that date. Mrs. Bach is a sister of Mr. Von Tobel. Surviving, besides his parents, are a wife and two small children, five brothers and three sisters.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 5 Apr 1945: 2.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Robert Cody "Red" Norton

While Dick was the daredevil twin who caused a commotion in 1930, after World War II, he installed a dedication plaque for his fallen brother, "Red, in his new movie theatre.

Born: 5/16/1923

Entered: 3/26/1943

Branch, SN, Rank: USA, 15359639, SGT or T3

Medals: Bronze Star, Purple Heart

Died: 2/25/1945

Parents: John Edwin "Ed" and Marie Helen Bresenhan Norton

On 25 February 1945, Red Norton, 21, was reported missing in action when his boat capsized in the Ruhr River near Lendersdorf, Germany. After one year, he was declared dead. He was awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. He served 23 months, including 9 months in the European war zone. He lived in Winamac as a child. He was buried in the Netherlands American Cemetery, Margraten, Netherlands.



Robert Cody Norton (Collection of Kathy Selman) American Legion Honor Roll Book

**FORMER PORTLAND H. S.
ATHLETE IS MISSING**

Portland, Ind.—Sgt. **Robert** C **Norton**, 21, former Portland High school athlete, was reported missing in action in Germany February 25, according to a telegram received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Norton, of **Redkey**.

Entering the service March 26, 1943, while a sophomore at Ball State College, he had been overseas since July 11, 1944.

He received the Purple Heart last September.

His twin brother, Ensign W. R. **Norton**, is stationed at New Orleans, La. Another brother, Jack lives with the parents in **Redkey**.

Edinburg (IN) Daily Courier 21 Mar 1945: 3. Website (newspapers.com).

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

War Department Confirms Death Of Former Resident

The death of Sgt. Robert C. Norton, son of Mr. and Mrs. John E. Norton of Redkey, formerly of Winamac, has been confirmed by the War Department. Missing since February 25, 1945, he has now been declared dead.

"Red", as he was known to his friends in Winamac, entered service in 1943, while a sophomore at Ball State Teachers' college, and went overseas in July of 1944. He was wounded the following September. It was while his unit was crossing the Roer river near Lendersdorf, Germany, that the boat he was in capsized, and the young man was not among those who reached the shore.

The Norton family lived in Winamac when Sgt. Norton was a boy, later moving to Portland and then to Redkey. He graduated from Portland high school. Surviving are his twin brother Richard, now manager of the city airport at Peru, and another brother Jack of Redkey.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 28 Mar 1946: 1.

[Robert's brother]

KIDS ENJOY TRICK BICYCLIST

Tuesday was a great day for small boys here, not to mention some of the older boys, who hugely enjoyed themselves at two performances by a trick bicyclist. The first performance was given at 10 o'clock in the morning in front of The Republican office. At 8 in the evening the bicyclist went through the same evolutions with bicycles varying in height from one to eight feet. As an added attraction in the evening he jumped over little Dick Norton, who nervously lay down in the street for the sum of a quarter.

Winamac (IN) Republican 17 Jul 1930: 6.



Portland High School Yearbook 1941. Website (ancestry.com).

Our Boys: A Community During World War II



Portland High School Yearbook 1941. Website (ancestry.com).

Theater Dedicated to Twin Brother, War Victim

A new movie theater to open next Sunday at Redkey is dedicated to a former resident of Winamac who lost his life in World War 2—Robert C. Norton, son of Mr. and Mrs. John E. Norton. The theater has been erected by his twin brother, Richard, who has placed a plaque in the outer lobby reading: "This theater dedicated to the memory of Robert C. Norton."

The senior Mr. Norton was associated with the Standard Oil Co. during the family's residence in Winamac. They moved from here to Portland, where the twin sons graduated from high school, then to Redkey. Robert, familiarly known as "Red," was wounded in Germany in September of 1944 while his unit was crossing a river, and he was not among those who reached shore after the boat capsized.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 26 Feb 1948: 6.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Willard Ralph Weltzin

Willard had an aunt and an uncle in Francesville.

Born: 6/18/1916

Entered: 12/21/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,39460520,SGT

Died: 3/1/1945

Parents: Christina "Tina" Katherine Rohde (Henry[deceased]) Weltzin

On 1 March 1945, Willard Weltzin, 28, was killed in action in Germany. He served 28 months, including the European war zone. He had relatives in Francesville. He was buried in Olney Cemetery in Pendleton, OR.



Willard Weltzin (Collection of Douglas Rohde) -
ancestry.com/mediaui-

[viewer/collection/1030/tree/20653410/person/18765951875/me
dia/1b9ef907-bf70-472e-8c81-7d777fae3b2d](https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/20653410/person/18765951875/media/1b9ef907-bf70-472e-8c81-7d777fae3b2d)

Mrs. Henry Weltzin of Echo, Ore., received word March 15 that her son, Willard Weltzin, twenty-eight years of age, was killed in action in Germany on March 1. Willard was a nephew of Mrs. J. C. Malchow, Ernest and Ferdinand Weltzin of Francesville.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 12 Apr 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Robert Clausen

Mortally wounded while returning a radio to his company after taking it under fire to an observation post, Robert earned a Bronze Star.

Born: 2/28/1919

Entered: 5/1/1943?

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,36667245,CPL

Medals: Bronze Star, Purple Heart

Died: 3/5/1945

Spouse: Maxine Faye Weltzin Clausen

Parents: Claus and Jennie Anne Andersen Clausen

On 5 March 1945, Robert Clausen, 26, was killed in action in Germany. He served 22 months, including 16 months in the European war zone. He earned the Bronze Star and Purple Heart posthumously. He was from Francesville. He was buried in the Luxembourg American Cemetery. He was married with one child.

Cpl. Robert Clausen

Killed in Action

In European Area

Mrs. Robert Clausen of Francesville received word Saturday from the War Department that her husband, Cpl. Robert Clausen, was killed in action in Germany on March 5. He was serving in an infantry division of the Third Army, under General Patton.

Cpl. Clausen entered the service in May, 1943, and was sent overseas the first part of December, 1944.

Twenty-six years of age on February 28, 1945, he was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Claus Clausen of Chicago, where he spent most of his life. On October 31, 1943, he was married to Miss Maxine Weltzin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Weltzin of Francesville.

Besides his wife and parents, he leaves two sisters and two brothers.

Mrs. Clausen spent some time with her husband while he was stationed at Camp McCoy, Wis., before overseas embarkation.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 22 Mar 1945: 1.



Mrs. Robert Clausen of Francesville received word from the War Department Saturday of the death of her husband, Cpl. Clausen who was reported killed in action in Germany on March 5.

At the time of his death, he was serving in the 3rd army under General Patton. He was 26 years old on February 28.

He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Claus Clausen of Chicago. Sgt. Clausen was married to Miss Maxine Weltzin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Weltzin of Francesville, on October 31, 1943.

Winamac (IN) Republican 22 Mar 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead



Francesville Man Honored

Mrs. Claus Clausen of Chicago recently received, in behalf of Mrs. Maxine Clausen and baby of Francesville, the Bronze Star Medal, awarded posthumously to Cpl. Robert Clausen, who was killed in action in Europe several months ago.

Accompanying the medal was a citation, which reads, in part:

"Cpl. Clausen distinguished himself by heroic action in connection with military operations . . . on March 4, 1945. During the attack on Orenhofen, Germany, Cpl. Clausen traveled three hundred yards with a radio over terrain covered by heavy mortar and machine gun fire from the enemy, and with no friendly troops in front of him. Through his efforts in getting the radio to an observation post, mortar fire was placed on the enemy in time to disrupt a counterattack which was in progress. In returning the radio to his company, where it was urgently needed, Cpl. Clausen was mortally wounded. His steadfast courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces."

In addition to the above recognition, the Chicago Retail Druggists Association, in their daily radio program over station WIND, saluted Cpl. Clausen today.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 18 Oct 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

John Martin "Johnny" Conn, Jr.

Three years after his death, Johnny's folks visited with his buddy, who was with him at his death.

Born: 5/4/1924

Entered: <4/15/1943

Branch,SN,Rank: USMC,819016,PFC

Died: 3/6/1945

Parents: John Howard and Goldie Pearl Kisler Conn

On 6 March 1945, Johnny Conn, 20, was killed in action on Iwo Jima Island. He served 25 months, including 15 months in the Pacific war zone. He was a lifelong resident of Winamac. He was buried in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, HI.



PFC John M. Conn, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Conn of Winamac, with a parachute company in the Marines.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 25 Nov 1943: 1.

High School Honor Student Is Iwo Victim

Marine PFC John Conn
Of Winamac Listed as
Casualty in Attack

The county's second Iwo Jima casualty was reported Tuesday night when Mr. and Mrs. John Conn, west of Winamac, received a telegram from the Marine Corps stating that their son, PFC John Conn Jr., was killed in action on Iwo. No date of his death was given.

Tweaty years old, the young man was a member of the Fifth Marine division, which landed on the island when it was first attacked. He enlisted in February, 1943, and trained as a paramarine until that division was disbanded. In January of 1944 he started training in the Marine Corps infantry at Camp Pendleton, Calif., and was sent to the Hawaiian Islands for further training last July. The last letter his parents received from him was written after the initial landings on Iwo.

Marine Loses Life



PFC JOHN CONN

PFC Conn was born May 4, 1924. He graduated from Winamac high school in 1942, receiving the Carpenter scholarship. He entered Purdue that fall and studied there until his enlistment. The young man was a member of the Winamac Presbyterian church.

Besides his parents, he is survived by two brothers, Pvt. Richard Conn, also in the Marines and now home on furlough from Camp Lejeune, N. C., and Edward, at home; two sisters, Carol and Joyce, at home.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 29 Mar 1945: 1.

Visit Son's 'Buddy'

Mr. and Mrs. John Conn and daughters Carol and Joyce visited in Louisville, Ky., the last of the week with Mr. and Mrs. Gene Simpson. Now only twenty-one, Gene was with Johnny Conn when he lost his life on Iwo Jima. The two marines had been buddies while in service. Mr. Simpson escaped injury, but suffered from a serious exhaustion after the battle. He and his wife plan to return the Conns' visit some time during the coming summer. The Conns went on through the Smoky Mountains to Alabama, and stopped en route home at Mammoth Cave, Ky. They were gone from Wednesday through Sunday. Carol returned that evening to her employment in South Bend.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 6 May 1948: 5.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Chester Evert Freel

Chester never saw his son.

Born: 8/13/1915

Entered: 3/25/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,O-1999158,2LT

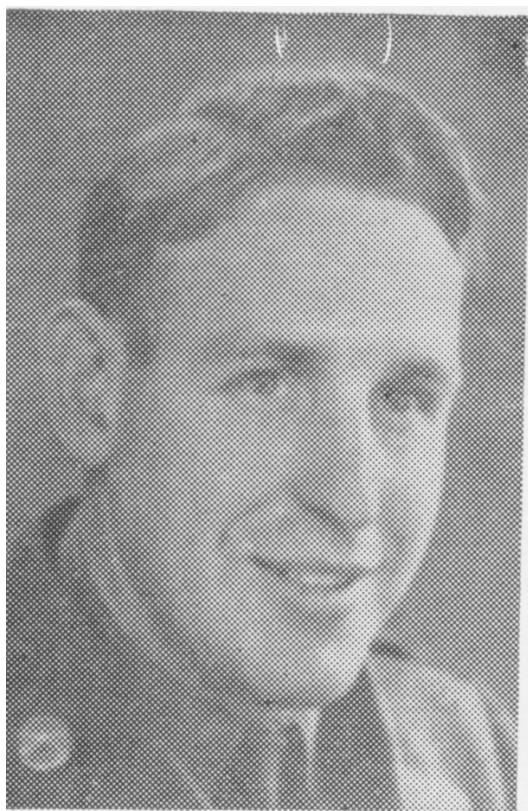
Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 3/7/1945

Spouse: Hazel Crane Freel

Parents: Grover Felix and Etta L. Grimes Freel[both deceased]

On 7 March 1945, Chester Freel, 29, died of wounds received in Italy from stone debris from an exploding German artillery shell while loading a mule train with rations for troops. He served 48 months, including 18 months in Iceland and 15 months in the European war zone. He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart. He lived in Monterey. He was buried at the Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Bruce Lake Station. He was married with a child.



Cpl. Chester Freel, stationed in Iceland. His wife is Mrs. Hazel Crane Freel of Harrison township.

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

Chester Freel
Dies in Italy

Pulaski County Man Killed in Action March 7, According to Message to Widow.

WINAMAC, Ind., March 21—Second Lieut Chester Freel, 29, an infantry officer, was killed in action on March 7 in Italy, according to a War department message received by his wife, the former Hazel Crane, to whom he was married four years ago today.

Lieutenant Freel was born Aug. 13, 1915, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Grover Freel. He was graduated from Monterey high school, and had been employed in a store at Monterey for a time. He entered the service four years ago, four days after his marriage.

His first overseas service was in Iceland, where he was stationed 18 months. He returned overseas for the second time in January, 1944.

Surviving besides the widow are a one-year-old son, Lee, whom he had never seen; and five brothers, Basil, of Mishawaka; Dale and Marvin of South Bend; William, LaPorte; and Charles, of Lawton.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 21 Mar 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Lt. Chester Freel Dies of Wounds Suffered in Italy



Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 22 Mar 1945: 1.

Second Lt. Chester E. Freel, twenty-nine years old, died of wounds in Italy on March 7. This word was received from the War Department Sunday by his wife, who lives with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Orin Crane of Harrison township.

With the Fifth Army in northern Italy, Lt. Freel was commissioned in the field on January 19, having been a staff sergeant until that time. He entered service March 25, 1941, served in Iceland for eighteen months, returned to the States for a while and then was sent to Italy, taking part in the drive from the Anzio beach head through Rome. He held the American Defense, European Theater of Operations and good conduct ribbons and the Infantry Combat Medal. His last visit home was a year ago last January.

The officer was born August 13, 1915, in Kewanna, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Grover Freel, both deceased. He graduated from Monterey high school in 1935 and was married March 21, 1941, to Miss Hazel Crane, who survives. He also leaves a son, Lee Gordon, eleven months old, whom Lt. Freel had never seen; brothers, Basil of Mishawaka, Charles of Lawton, William of Laporte, Dale and Marvin of South Bend.

Widow Receives Letter from Colonel Of Husband's Unit

Mrs. Chester Freel of Harrison township last week received a letter from the colonel of the unit to which Lt. Chester Freel belonged. The young man died of wounds suffered on March 7 in Italy. The letter follows:

Dear Mrs. Freel:

As Chester's Regimental Commander, I extend to you my deepest sympathy in behalf of myself, my officers and my men, in this hour of grief and sorrow. We know how you must feel, for all of us here share your grief with you. You have given your beloved husband. We have lost a fine officer, a real man, and a true friend.

Without a doubt, Chester was the outstanding officer of this regiment. He was possessed of an initiation and interest in his work that drew special attention to him. It was for this reason that I selected him to receive a battle-field commission when his unit was in need of an officer to handle supplies. He had done the job in a superior manner as an enlisted man. When he became a commissioned officer, he proved to me that I had not been wrong in my judgment. He was respected and admired by all who knew him.

At just about dark, one evening, Chester was in a battered village in the mountain country of northern Italy. He was supervising and assisting in the loading of a mule train which was to take rations to units on the front lines. While the loading was going on, the Germans threw some heavy caliber artillery-shells into the area. One of the shells struck the side of a near by stone house and exploded. One of the fragments hit your husband in the chest and came out through his back.

Chester was rushed to an aid-station close at hand and was given treatment. A little later he was evacuated to a hospital, in the rear area. All of us hoped he would pull through but the shock and the fragment were too much for him. He died soon after we arrived at the hospital.

Chester was buried with appropriate religious ceremonies by one of our chaplains in an American Military cemetery in northern Italy. There he sleeps the Sleep of Peace by the side of other great Americans who, like him, have laid down their lives that freedom-loving people all over the world might have preserved for them the God-given right to be free.

We already miss Chester. I know that we will always miss him. We will not forget him. If I can assist you in any way, please let me know.

Sincerely,
WALDON S. LEWIS,
Colonel, Infantry

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 5 Apr 1945: 6.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Lawrence Eugene Nims

Lawrence crashed during his last flight before leaving for overseas duty.

Born: 6/1/1921

Entered: 9/18/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,0781029,2LT

Died: 3/13/1945

Parents: Amil Charles and Lydia E. Rife Nims

On 14 March 1945, Lawrence Nimz, 23, was killed when his P-38 Bomber/Fighter crashed near Santa Maria, CA. He served 30 months. He had relatives in Francesville. He was buried in the Gilman, IL, cemetery.



Lawrence Nims (Collection of Joel Frampton Gilfert) -
findagrave.com/memorial/102439903/lawrence-eugene-nims

Attend Rites for Relative Killed in Plane Crash

(Francesville Correspondence)

Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Nimz, of the Francesville vicinity attended the funeral services for his cousin, Lt. Lawrence Nimz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Nimz, at Gilman, Ill., on Wednesday afternoon of last week. Lt. Nimz was killed at Santa Maria, Calif., on March 14, when his plane, a P-38, crashed into a mountain side. He was on his last flight before leaving for duty overseas.

Others attending the funeral were: Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Kopka and Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Kruger of Jefferson township, Mrs. Hattie Kruger of Winamac, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Nimz and sons, of the Winamac vicinity. Lt. Nimz was a nephew of Ernest Nimz.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 29 Mar 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Norman D. Tippett

The previous December, Norman had been wounded and then returned to duty.

Born: 3/10/1916

Entered: 9/2/1943

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,36874560,T5

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 3/16/1945

Parents: John Henry and Connie "Cora" E. Davis Tippett

On 16 March 1945, Norman Tippett, 29, died of wounds received in action in France. He served 19 months, including the European war zone. He had relatives in Winamac. He was buried in Morgan Memorial Park Cemetery in Advance, MO.

NORMAN TIPPETT

WOOD RIVER—Mr. and Mrs. John Tippett of 884 Haller, today received a letter from their son, T-5 Norman Tippett, 28, in which he informed them that he had recovered from slight wounds received last Dec. 23 in France and now is back on duty at the front. He is a member of a communications section with an infantry division.

Word that Tippett was wounded first came to his parents in a telegram from the War Department, but a few days later they received a letter dated, Dec. 26, which he wrote them from a hospital. The letter gave no details about his wound, but informed them he had been awarded the Purple Heart decoration.

Technician Tippett is a tool and die maker, having learned the trade at Western Cartridge Co., but for three years immediately before entering service in September, 1943, he was employed in Detroit. He was trained at Camp Van Doren, Miss., and early last June, just a month before he went overseas, he spent a furlough with his parents here. A resident here since age of 9, Tippett attended Community high school. He will be 29 next March 10.

T-5 Norman D. Tippett, 29, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Tippett of Wood River, Ill., died of wounds received in action in France on March 16. He is a nephew of A. R. Tippett of Winamac.

Winamac (IN) Republican 12 Apr 1945: 1.

Alton (IL) Evening Telegraph 17 Feb 1945: 2.

Webpage (newspapers.com).

Cpl. N. Tippett's Body Returned

Remains of T/5 **Norman** D. Tippett will arrive at Advance, Mo., Thursday morning and will be taken to the Morgan Funeral chapel where it will remain until time of services at 2 p. m. Saturday. Burial will be in the Morgan cemetery. Friends may call at the funeral chapel after 9 a. m. Thursday.

Cpl. Tippett, an infantryman in the Seventh Army, was killed in action March 16, 1945 in France. He entered service in September, 1943, and trained at Camp Van Dorn, Miss. He received the Purple Heart medal for wounds received Dec. 23, 1944.

Born March 10, 1916, at Advance, Mo., Cpl. **Tippett** came to Wood River at the age of 9 with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. **Tippett** of 324 Picket. He attended the Wood River grade schools and was graduated from East Alton-Wood River Community High school and learned the tool and die maker trade at Western Cartridge Co. He was employed in Detroit, Mich., at the time of his induction.

Besides his parents he is survived by a sister, Mrs. Audrey Walls of Wood River.

Alton (IL) Evening Telegraph 13 Dec 1948: 14.

Webpage (newspapers.com).

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Clem Dudley "Dudley" Snyder

Dudley's folks heard from him a week before his death, and his boyhood friend's dad got a letter two days before his death.

Born: 1/15/1921

Entered: 2/2/1941

Branch, SN, Rank: USAAC, 16028890, TSGT

Medals: Air Medal, Purple Heart

Died: 3/22/1945

Parents: Otto G. and Marguerette Weddman Snyder

On 22 March 1945, Dudley Snyder, 24, was reported missing in action as radio operator/gunner on a B-24 Liberator bomber over Vienna, Austria. One year later, he was declared dead. He served 49 months, including 4 months in the European war zone. He was posthumously awarded the Air Medal and Purple Heart. He was a lifelong resident of Winamac. He was buried at the Lorraine American Cemetery in St. Avold, France.



Sgt. Dudley Snyder, in the radio division of the Air Corps, son of Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Snyder of Winamac.

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

Dudley Snyder Is Missing



Sgt. Dudley Snyder, reported missing in action, is pictured here with a fellow crewman, Luhane, as they crouched before a Christmas tree which Snyder had rigged up with flashlight bulbs and other make-shift decorations which the group gathered around the camp.

T-Sgt. Dudley C. Snyder of Winamac.

Sgt. Snyder, the son of Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Snyder, was reported missing after a flight over Austria on March 22 as a radio man in the crew of a bombing plane.

He has been in the service for four years and was sent overseas four months ago. He has at least 12 sorties to his credit, according to a letter received by his parents dated March 17.

Sgt. Snyder is 24 years old. He was stationed at a bomber crew base in Italy.

Winamac (IN) Republican 12 Apr 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Officer's Letter Sent to Missing Pilot's Parents

Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Snyder received further word Friday regarding their son, T/Sgt. Dudley Snyder, who was reported as missing in action since March 22 over Austria. A letter written by his commanding officer, Major General N. F. Twining, follows:

"Another of the few oil refineries left to the Nazis underwent a heavy bombardment on March 22, 1945, when Liberators of this air force attacked Vienna, Austria. Over the target, the ship in which your son, Technical Sergeant Dudley Snyder, was flying as radio-operator-gunner, became disabled when it received a direct flak hit.

in the bomb bay. Because of the serious damage, the plane left the formation and began to lose altitude in a spin. Observers report that one parachute was seen before the stricken aircraft finally passed from sight. Since that time, Dudley and his crew have been missing in action.

"Your son's personal possessions have been gathered and will be sent to the Effects Quartermaster, Army Effects Bureau, Kansas City, Mo., from which place they will be forwarded to the designated beneficiary.

"In recognition of the splendid service he has rendered his country during her hour of need, Dudley has been awarded the Air Medal with one oak leaf cluster. I share your anxiety for his safety. The War Department will notify you immediately should there be a change in your son's status."

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Snyder have received the first direct word of their son, T-Sgt. Dudley Snyder, who was reported missing in action over Austria March 22 of this year. The word was a telegram from George B. Frazier saying he had received word that his son, who was on the same plane with Dudley, was safe.

Winamac (IN) Republican 7 Jun 1945: 1.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 19 Apr 1945: 8.

Missing Pulaski Flier May Be Alive, His Chaplain Tells Father

WINAMAC, Ind., April 25 — Tech. Sgt. Dudley Snyder, who was reported missing in action since March 22, was radio-gunner on a plane which was shot down in a mission over Austria, according to a letter received by the flier's father, Otto Snyder, from Chaplain John Eastwood.

The chaplain informed the father that the plane received a direct hit, but that at least one and possibly four people were seen leaving the plane before it burst into flames and hit the ground. He said it was reasonable to believe that part of the crew was saved. Enclosed were the names and addresses of the parents of the members of the crew.

V

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 25 Apr 1945: 8.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Missing Flyer Now Listed Among Dead

T/Sgt. Dudley Snyder's Parents Receive Final Word from Department

After having been missing a full year, T/Sgt. Dudley Snyder is now regarded by the War Department as dead, according to a letter received during the past week by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Snyder of Winamac.

On duty as radio man on a bombing plane, the young sergeant was reported missing over Austria as of March 22, 1945. He was based in southern Italy, but was not with his regular crew at the time, having volunteered to take the place of the regular radio man in another crew who was unable to go. Only one of the group survived the crash that cost the others their lives. He was severely burned and is still in a hospital in this country, but has written to members of the Snyder family several times, telling them of Dudley's activities.

Other buddies of the lost flyer have corresponded with the family, and one recently made a special trip here from Findlay, Ohio, to tell parents and sisters of the esteem in which he was held. Buddies have also revealed that fire destroyed the outfit's tent a short time after Dudley was lost, and that but few of his effects could therefore be sent home.

Records Reveal Loss of Plane.

The official letter from the War Department carries the following: "The records concerning your son reveal that he was a crew member of a B-24 (Liberator) aircraft which departed from Pantanella Air Base, Italy, 22 March 1945, on a bombing mission. As soon as the formation entered the target area, in the vicinity of Vienna, Austria, your son's aircraft received a direct hit by enemy antiaircraft fire, went into a spin, and blew up. Only one chute was seen leaving the plane. The

Shot Down in Plane



T/SGT. DUDLEY SNYDER

one crew member who is known to have survived stated that he had an impression of seeing your son apparently unconscious on the floor near the waist windows of the plane. He could not tell whether or not your son was wounded. However, this crew member stated that as he had been injured by flak, he suspected that your son may also have been wounded, as he and your son were standing near each other when the plane was hit."

Well Known in Native Town.

Dudley was born in Winamac on January 15, 1921, and spent his entire life here, popular among all acquaintances. He graduated from the local high school in 1939, and entered service less than two years later, in February of 1941. Bernard Freeman and James Hair enlisted in the Air Corps at the same time, and all three went to Rantoul, Ill., for training. Bernard became a Lieutenant and was lost in the Pacific theater about two months before Dudley failed to come back. Hair has returned home following his discharge.

Besides his parents, Dudley leaves three sisters—Miss Bernice Snyder of Indianapolis, Mrs. Jeanette Stark of Chicago, and Mrs. Annabelle Mangold of Winamac.

A public memorial service in honor of the lost flyer are to be held at St. Peter's church in Winamac on Saturday of next week, April 13, at 9:00 a.m.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 4 Apr 1946: 1.

Sgt. Dudley Snyder Declared Dead

Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Snyder of Winamac received word this week from the War Department stating that their son, T-Sgt. Dudley C. Snyder, who has been missing in action since March 22, 1945, now has been declared dead.

Records reveal that he was a crew member of a B-24 aircraft which departed from Pantanella Air Base, Italy, on March 22, 1945, on a bombing mission. As soon as the formation entered the target area, in the vicinity of Vienna, Austria, his plane received a direct hit by enemy anti-aircraft fire, went into a spin and blew up.

Only one chute was seen leaving the plane, according to details received by the War Department.

"The one crew member who is known to have survived, stated that he had an impression of seeing your son apparently unconscious on the floor near the waist windows of the plane," the letter stated, "But did not know if he were wounded. He and your son were standing near each other when the plane was hit."



Dudley Snyder

Dudley was born on January 15, 1921. He was graduated from Winamac high school in 1939.

Winamac (IN) Republican 4 Apr 1946: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Jack Dudley Lawler

Jack was killed, and his missing younger brother, Allan, was declared dead, leaving their parents to mourn their only children.

Born: 6/20/1917

Entered: 4/1/1941

Branch, SN, Rank: USA, O-380142, CPT

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 3/24/1945

Spouse: Jeanne Lenore Holstein Lawler

Parents: Horace Joseph "Curley" and Bess A. "Bessie" Mopps Lawler

On 24 March 1945, Jack Lawler, 27, was killed in action in Germany when his parachute was caught in a tree. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He served about 47 months, including 8 months in the European war zone. He had relatives in Winamac. He is buried in Paris, IL. He was married.



Jack Lawler (Collection of Kevin Davenport) -
ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/208891/person/301177147/media/3
a3623b1-9e42-4e7b-8241-3f0edc02d777

FORMER PARIS NEWSPAPER MAN KILLED IN GERMANY

Paris, Ill.—Capt. **Jack D. Lawler**, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Lawler and a former member of the editorial staff of the Paris Beacon-News, was killed in action in Germany on March 24. Captain Lawler had been overseas since August, 1944, and served with the airborne infantry.

Captain Lawler was born in Paris June 20, 1916. He was graduated from the Paris schools and the University of Illinois at Champaign. Prior to entering service on April 1, 1941, he was employed at the Beacon-News.

Surviving are his wife, formerly Jeanne Lenore Holstein of Terre Haute, and his parents. A brother, Lieut. H. Allan Lawler, has been missing in action in the Asiatic theater since June 19, 1944.

(Mattoon IL) Journal Gazette 7 Apr 1945: 4.

Webpage (newspapers.com)

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Relatives here received word that Major Jack Lawler, 24, from Paris, Ill., had been killed in Germany March 24. He was a paratrooper and a son of Mr. and Mrs. Harve Lawler. He was a nephew of Mrs. Amanda Bartlett and Mrs. Efile Dancey of Winamac.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 11 Apr 1945: 9.

Mrs. Amanda Bartlett of Winamac has been notified that her great nephew, Major Jack Lawler of Paris, Ill., was killed in action in Europe. He was a paratrooper in the 51st Airborne Division. A brother, Lt. Allen Lawler, a graduate of West Point, has been missing over Burma since last June. The young men are the only children of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Lawler of Paris.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 12 Apr 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Orden Ross Faris

Having already been wounded in the North African/Sicilian campaigns and participating in D-Day, Ordon died the following March from a second wound incurred on Thanksgiving Day.

Born: 9/21/1916

Entered: 8/12/1941

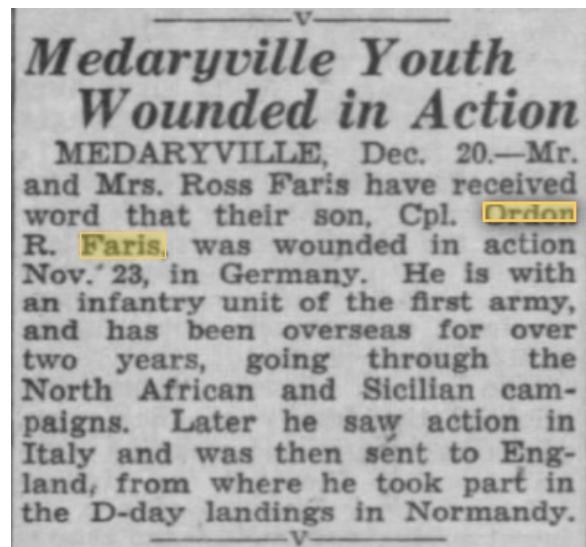
Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35166524,CPL

Medals: Bronze Star, Purple Heart

Died: 3/26/1945

Parents: George Ross "Ross" and Nancy Mae Wood Faris

On 26 March 1945, Orden Faris, 29, died of wounds incurred on the previous Thanksgiving Day from a field mine explosion in France. He served 43 months, including 33 months in the North Africa and European war zones. He was awarded a Purple Heart. He was a resident of Francesville and Medaryville. He was buried in the Independence Cemetery in Baileys Corner.



(Lafayette IN) Journal and Courier 20 Dec 1944: 15.

Webpage (newspapers.com).



Winamac (IN) Republican 21 Dec 1944: 1.

Former Francesville Man Dies of Wounds

Mr. and Mrs. George R. Faris of Rensselaer received word last Thursday evening that their son, Arden Ross Faris, had died in France on March 26. No further details concerning his death were contained in the message. The young man had been wounded in action last Thanksgiving Day. The Farises are former residents of the Francesville community, living on a farm northwest of there until recently moving to Rensselaer.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 12 Apr 1945: 1.

DIES OF WOUNDS

Mr. and Mrs. Ross Faris received a message from the war department informing them that their son, Cpl. **Ordon R. Faris**, had died in France March 26 from wounds received when a field mine exploded accidentally. A previous message came April 5, but since the first name and the serial number did not coincide with those of their son, doubt was held as to the authenticity of this report.

Faris was twice wounded, the first time while on duty in Italy, and on Thanksgiving day he was wounded along the German front, when he was hospitalized for a shrapnel wound. He was inducted August 12, 1941, and had been overseas 33 months as a member of the first army. He had participated in four invasions, North Africa, Sicily, Italy and D-Day.

Faris was born at Medaryville, September 21, 1916. The parents and the following brothers and sisters survive: Cpl. Boyd Delos Paris, who is with Patton's army, Gordon, of Hammond, Mrs. Wilbur Cook, Medaryville, and Donna and Eugene, at home. He was educated in the Medaryville schools. The family moved here last fall when Mr. Faris retired from farming.

(Lafayette IN) Journal and Courier 14 Apr 1945: 7.

Webpage (newspapers.com).

More Details Received on Death of Son

Additional information has been received on the death of Cpl. Arden Ross Faris, which occurred March 26. The parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Ross Faris of Rensselaer, formerly of the west side of the county, received a telegram two weeks ago, but since the first name and serial number did not coincide with those of their son, doubt was held as to the authenticity. However, a message from the War Department received this week disclosed that Cpl. Faris had died of wounds suffered when a field mine exploded on the German front.

Cpl. Faris was wounded twice previously, the first time while on duty in Italy, and on Thanksgiving day he was wounded along the German front, when he was hospitalized for a shrapnel wound. He was inducted August 13, 1941, and had been overseas thirty-three months. He participated in four invasions, North Africa, Sicily, Italy and Normandy, and was with the First Army.

The young man was born in Medaryville on September 21, 1916, and attended the Medaryville schools. The family moved to Rensselaer last fall when Mr. Faris retired from farming. The parents and five brothers and sisters survive—Cpl. Boyd Delos Faris, with Patton's Army, Gordon of Hammond, Mrs. Wilbur Cook of Medaryville, Donna and Eugene, at home.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 19 Apr 1945: 8.

POSTHUMOUS AWARD

Mr. and Mrs. Ross Faris have received the Bronze Star and Oak Leaf cluster, a posthumous award to their son, Cpl. **Ordon R. Faris**, who was killed in action in France, last March.

(Lafayette IN) Journal and Courier 26 Oct 1945: 6.

Webpage (newspapers.com).

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Oliver Estel "Ozzie" Marion

When he died, Marion had only been overseas a few weeks.

Born: 5/2/1921

Entered: 8/17/1944

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,36473988,PVT

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 3/27/1945

Spouse: Isabel Doris Sprague Marion

Parents: William Elias and Lizzie Dora Saltwell Marion

On 27 March 1945, Ozzie Marion, 24, was killed in action in Germany. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He served 8 months, including just a few weeks in the European war zone. His parents lived in Medaryville. He was buried at Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery in Hombourg, Belgium, and has a memorial in the Brown Cemetery in Jasper County, Indiana. He was married with three children.



Ozzie Marion (Collection of Mike Marion) - ancestry.com/mediaviewer/collection/1030/tree/74031370/person/30286574315/media/9880f676-925f-4588-8ae3-a46cfb3b4b04

West Side Man Dies In Europe

Pvt. Oliver E. Marion of Medaryville.

Pvt. Marion, 24 years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Marion of Medaryville, was reported killed in action in Germany on March 27. He had been overseas only a month.

In addition to the parents, survivors include the widow and three small children who reside in Michigan with her parents.

Winamac (IN) Republican 26 Apr 1945: 1.

Pvt. Oliver Marion Is Killed in Action

Pvt. Oliver (Ozzie) Marion, 24, formerly of Battle Creek, was killed in action in Germany March 30, while fighting with the 1st Army. Private Marion had been in combat only 19 days.

Born in Indiana, he spent most of his life in Coldwater, where he graduated from high school in 1940. He was active in athletics there, playing on baseball, football and basketball teams, and was a member of the Coldwater All-Star baseball team.

Private Marion lived in Battle Creek for two years. He was employed by the United Steel & Wire Co., and also was a pitcher on the company's baseball team. Five years ago he left Battle Creek, moving to Midland, where his wife, Isabel, and children, Sharon, Jerry, and Ira Lee, now live. Also surviving are his father, William, of Medaryville, Ind., five brothers, Walter, of 1385 West Michigan Avenue; Sergeant George Marion, at Crile General Hospital, Cleveland, O.; Charles, of Kalmarino, and Carl and Ira of Coldwater, and three sisters, Mrs. Lena Brakmann, of Hesington, Ind., and Ellen and May of Dexter.



*Battle Creek (MI) Enquirer 3 May 1945: 8. Website
(newspapers.com).*

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Raymond Gunter

Raymond died on Easter Sunday.

Born: 5/25/1926

Entered: 9/20/1944

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35908916,PFC

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 4/1/1945

Parents: Cecil Friendzel and Ruth Ford Gunter

On 1 April 1945, Raymond, 18, was killed in action during the taking of the Paderborn airport in Germany. He served for 6 months, including in the European war zone. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He was from Kewanna, but had an uncle in Star City. He was returned to his family and buried in Grass Creek.

viewer.collection/1030/tree/22822929/person/1308015877/media/8473a8ea-d2b9-4f62-9ab4-1eb0a2faa76b



Raymond Gunter (Collection of ralphmullins) -
ancestry.com/mediaui-

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Gunter of Star City have received word that their nephew, Pvt. Raymond Gunter, has been missing in action in Germany since April 1. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Gunter of the Kewanna vicinity. They have two other sons overseas.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 25 Apr 1945: 2.

Gunter Rites Set Saturday

KEWANNA, Ind.—Funeral services for the late Pfc. Raymond Gunter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Gunter, of Grass Creek, will be held at 1 o'clock Saturday afternoon from the Grass Creek Evangelical United Brethren church. The Rev. Paul Garner, of Morocco, Ind., will officiate and military rites will be conducted by the Don Moore American Legion post of Kewanna. The body will arrive at the Harrison funeral home in Kewanna Thursday afternoon.

Born May 25, 1926 near Grass Creek, he was the son of Cecil and Ruth (Ford) Gunter. He was graduated from the Grass Creek high school in 1944 and entered the service on September 20, 1944. After receiving his training at Ft. McClellan, Georgia, he was sent to Germany where he served with General Hodge's Blitz First Army, 3rd Armored Division.

He was killed in action while his unit was taking the Paderborn airport in Germany on April 1, 1945. Prior to his death, he had seen action in Cologne and the Ruhr valley.

Surviving are: the parents; six brothers, Vergil, Cecil, George, Ray, Robert and Richard, all of Kewanna; two sisters, Mrs. Marjorie Easterday, of Logansport, and Mrs. Mildred Mullins, Kewanna.

The body will remain at the Harrison funeral home where friends may call until the hour preceding the funeral.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 13 Jan 1949: 17.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Harold Hadley Stickler

Harold had an aunt and grandparents in Pulaski County.

Born: 11/19/1920

Entered:

Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,O-720356,2LT

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 4/2/1945

Parents: LeRoy Wilfa "Roy" and Sylvia Hadley Stickler

On 2 April 1945, Howard Stickler, 24, was killed in action while piloting a war plane over Germany. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He served, including 5 months in the European war zone. He had relatives in Winamac. He was buried in the cemetery in Palestine.

Lieut. Harold Hadley Stickler with the 34th Bomber Squad, 17th Bomb Group - Casualty WWII 2 April 1945

Posted 18 Jan 2016 by LastSearch

A granite memorial stone lies in the Palestine Cemetery, Palestine, Kosciusko Co Indiana as a memorial to Lieutenant Harold Hadley Stickler, born 19 November 1920 in Indiana. He was with the 34th Bomb Squadron, 17th Bomb Group and is listed as a Casualty WWII. It is not known when he joined the 34th.

The 34th presently is the 4th oldest active squadron in the US Air Force, being formed on 10 May 1917, less than a month after the US entered WWI.

Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor, the 34th flew anti-submarine warfare patrols in the Pacific NW from 22 Dec 1941 to March 1942. It was reassigned to Lexington Co. Airport, SC, on 9 Feb 1942 to meet the threat from German subs operating off the East Coast. At that time, the only B-25s in service were with the 17th Bombardment Group.

Harold Stickler (Collection of LastSearch) - ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/8642357/person/-268411799/media/e5424f21-9253-4b7b-a493-3c72c4d57341

In November 1942, the squadron deployed to North Africa; in December 1942 it was part of Operation Torch and assigned to the new 12th Air Force in Algeria, with tactical bombing raids on enemy targets in Algeria and Tunisia. It remained with the Mediterranean Theater of Operations for several years. The squadron flew combat missions in the invasion of Sicily, the invasion of southern Italy, the Corsica Campaign, and the invasion of southern France during the summer of 1944.

Moving into France, the squadron supported American ground forces moving north through Lyon and eventually joined American forces in eastern France which had participated in the northern France Campaign after the Normandy D-Day landings in June of 1944, carrying out tactical bombing missions from Lyon Airfield, primarily hitting enemy targets in central and southern Germany until the German capitulation in May 1945. (This was the time period when, it is assumed that Lieut. Harold Hadley Stickler and probably his crew and the plane did not survive a bombing mission.)

After the end of hostilities, the 34th became part of the US Air Forces in Europe occupation forces, assigned to the American Zone of Occupation in Austria until November 1945, when its personnel were demobilized in France and returned to the US.

(He died 2 Apr 1945, about a month before VE Day was declared. He left his parents: LeRoy Wilfa Stickler 1891-1974 and Sylvia Hadley Stickler 1894-1979, a sister Thelma Jane 1919-1995, his grandparents Clayton L. Major Hadley 1867-1948 and Harriet Jane "Hattie" Chambers Hadley 1877-1956, his grandmother Ella Viola Stickler 1852-1957, and 9 Hadley and Stickler aunts and uncles, plus many great aunts and uncles and cousins.)

Hear of Nephew Killed

First Lt. Harold H. Stickler, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Stickler of Warsaw, was killed in action over Germany on April 2, the parents were informed by a telegram from the War Department on Friday. He was a pilot of a bomber. Lt. Stickler was a nephew of Mrs. J. N. Dill of Winamac and a grandson of Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Hadley, who lived in Jefferson township for a number of years before moving to Warsaw a few months ago. Besides the parents, the young man is survived by one sister, Miss Jane Stickler, a teacher in the Knox school.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 26 Apr 1945: 2.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Edward Charles "Chuck" Madlung

Although a lifelong Monon resident, Chuck's wife was from Francesville.

Born: 2/19/1920

Entered: 3/23/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35044716,SGT

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 4/9/1945

Spouse: Betty Fleck Madlung

Parents: John Bernard and Feddie B. Byrad Madlung

On 9 April 1945, Chuck Madlung, 25, died of his wounds incurred the previous night in battle in Germany. He served 37 months, including 8 months in the European war zone. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He was a lifelong resident of Monon. He was buried in the Monon Cemetery. He was married with one child.

West Side Lad War Victim In Germany

Sgt. Edward G. Madlung Killed in Action April 9, Wife Is Notified

Mrs. Edward Charles Madlung of Francesville received word last Friday evening from the War Department that her husband, Sgt. Edward Charles Madlung, was killed in action in Germany on April 9. No further details were given in the message.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 26 Apr 1945: 1.

Sgt. Madlung was a son of Mr. and Mrs. John Madlung of the Monon vicinity. He was born February 19, 1920, near Monon, and had spent his entire lifetime in that community until entering service on March 23, 1942. He was married to Miss Betty Fleck of Francesville on October 26, 1941.

"Chuck," as he was known to friends on the west side of the county, as well as his home community, went overseas last September. He was serving with a tank destroyer battalion of the Ninth Army, one of the main units in the recent drive on Berlin.

Promises his wife and parents, he leaves a son Robert Charles, 14 months old. He also has two brothers in service, one stationed in Florida and the other in the southwest Pacific.

Dies in Germany

Funeral services for Sgt. Edward Charles Madlung, a World War casualty, were held Sunday afternoon at the Methodist church at Monon. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Madlung, live near that town.

Familiarly known as "Chuck," Sgt. Madlung went overseas with a tank destroyer battalion in the fall of 1944, and was injured in Germany on the night of April 8, 1945, while in charge of a two-tank unit. He died next day, and was buried in Margotten cemetery in Holland. His age was 25 years.

Before entering the Army he was married to Miss Betty Fleck of Francesville. One son, Robert Charles was born to them. Also surviving are two brothers, Bernard and Lewis, at home.

The services on Sunday were conducted by the Rev. Charles McCarty of Chicago, formerly of Monon. Final burial was in Monon cemetery, with the American Legion in charge of graveside ceremonies.

* * *

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 28 Jul 1949: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Merle Linn Dille

Merle was part of the first boatload of soldiers sent to the European war zone.

Born: 9/6/1918

Entered: 2/2/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35254981,SGT

Died: 4/12/1945

Parents: Cora Mable Linn (Allen Earl[deceased]) Dille (Sidney Monroe) Beall

Fiancee: Miss Charlotte Marie Kaiser

On 12 April 1945, Merle Dille, 26, died in Belgium of wounds incurred in a land mine explosion while helping rescue two German civilians on March 29. He served for over 36 months in the North Africa and European war zones. He was born in Winamac. He was buried in Winamac Cemetery.

Former Resident Dies Of Wounds in Europe

Sgt. Merlinn Dille, son of Mrs. Cora Beall of Crown Point, formerly of Winamac, died April 12 in a hospital in Belgium from wounds suffered in a land mine explosion on March 29. His mother had been notified of his wounds and had received a letter written by a friend of Sgt. Dille's, in which he asked the family not to worry as he was going to be all right. He suffered severe shock and injuries in one leg. Two days later she received a telegram from the War Department telling of his death.

The young man was born in Winamac on September 6, 1918, and graduated from Crown Point high school in 1936. Sgt. Dille had been overseas for three years with an Army engineer unit. Surviving, besides the mother, are two sisters, Mrs. Florence Mounce and Mrs. Fern Bartholde, and two brothers, Earle Dille and Billy Beall, all of Crown Point.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 3 May 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

George C. Freeman

Both from Winamac, George and his buddy, Henry Helm, were killed four days apart on Corregidor.

Born: 2/2/1910

Entered: 4/16/1941

Branch, SN, Rank: USA, 35176464, PFC

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 4/12/1945

Parents: Harry and Lydia E. Frieske Freeman

On 12 April 1945, George Freeman, 35, was killed in service on Corregidor Island, Philippines. He served 48 months, including 16 months in the Pacific war zone. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He was from Winamac. He was buried in the Winamac Cemetery.



PFC George C. Freeman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Freeman, in the Army.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 27 May 1943: 1.

Wires Tell of Son Killed, Another Hurt

PFC George Freeman Is Casualty on Corregidor; Roger Freeman Wounded

Two telegrams from the War department to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Freeman of Winamac announced the death of their son George in the Philippines and the wounding of their son Roger on the European war front.

The first of the tragic message came Thursday and stated that Sgt. Roger Freeman was in a hospital in France, having suffered a leg injury on April 8. The second, received on Saturday evening, stated that PFC George Freeman was killed in action on Corregidor on April 12. He was thirty-five years of age. A letter has since been received from Sgt. Freeman but he gave no details of his injury.

PFC George Freeman was born February 2, 1910, and spent all of his life before entering service in April, 1941, in the Winamac vicinity. He was sent overseas December 23, 1943, serving in the Hawaiian Islands and taking part in the invasion of the Philippines. He was killed by an underground explosion and had been buried in Bataan.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 3 May 1945: 1.

War Victim



PFC GEORGE FREEMAN

Besides the parents, he leaves five brothers and five sisters: Sgt. Roger in France, Paul and Vernal at home, Lloyd of Veedersburg, Marion of Walkerton, Mrs. Olive Braun, Mrs. Dorothy Seidel, Mrs. Marjorie Thomas and Mrs. Clara Ruth Rude of Winamac, and Mrs. Mary Jane Sloderbeck of Kingsford Heights.

A letter from the chaplain of George's unit, received by the parents Wednesday, stated that he was killed by an underground explosion and had been buried in Bataan.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Sgt. Roger Freeman wrote his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Freeman of Winamac, from a hospital in England that he was recovering satisfactorily from a wounded knee, which he suffered in Germany, and is now able to be up and around. Mr. and Mrs. Freeman also have received a Purple Heart awarded posthumously to their son, Pvt. George Freeman, and letters from his commanding officer and from General MacArthur regarding the death of Pvt. Freeman on Corregidor.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 14 Jun 1945: 1.

Rites Planned for Buddies Killed In Pacific Battles Four Days Apart



T/SGT. HENRY A. HELM



PFC GEORGE C. FREEMAN

Two Winamac young men who were members of the same company during the war in the Pacific, and who lost their lives in battle on Corregidor within four days of each other, are to be laid to rest in home cemeteries the coming Saturday and Sunday.

Rites for T/Sgt. Henry A. Helm are to be at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, in St. Peter's church, conducted by the Rev. J. J. Becker, pastor, and the Rev. Joseph Link, state V. F. W. Chaplain. Burial in the Catholic cemetery will follow, with the local V. F. W. post in charge of the services.

PFC George C. Freeman is to be buried in Southlawn addition to the Winamac cemetery on Sunday, following services at 2:00 p.m. in the Kennedy chapel, in charge of the V. F. W. post. The officiating minister is the Rev. Kenneth W. Ball.

Charles Heater and Marion Clark, two other Winamac young men now at home, were members of the same outfit. The four were together during all their Army service, and Heater and Clark helped bury the two companions who lost their lives. Efforts are being made this week to bring to Winamac four other Indiana men who were in the company and who, if they are able to come, will join Messrs. Heater and Clark as pall bearers at the two services.

Mother Gives Two Sons.

Sgt. Helm was a son of Mrs. Lizzie Helm of Winamac, and was the second son she gave in the service of the country. The first was Oscar Cloyd Helm, fatally wounded in France in 1919 during World War I. Henry was born in Winamac on May 15, 1905, and grew to manhood here. He was inducted into service in 1941, received training at several camps

and was shipped overseas in December of 1943. After extensive service in charge of a light mortar platoon, he fell in battle on the fourth anniversary of his induction, April 16, 1945, a month before his fortieth birthday. The remains were given burial in a cemetery near Manila, and reached here yesterday forenoon. They are to be in state at the Kennedy funeral home until the hour of the service.

Besides his elderly mother, living in the north part of Winamac, he leaves his wife, Mrs. Agnes (aderstorf) Helm, also of this city; brothers George and Paul of South Bend, Hale and Estel of Mishawaka, Clarence of Remington; sisters Mrs. Goldie Newman of Milwaukee and Mrs. Mazie Culligan of Chicago.

Member of Well Known Family.

PFC Freeman, thirty-five years of age at the time of his death, was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Freeman, and grew up in the family home southwest of Winamac. Born Feb. 2, 1910, he entered service on April 16, 1941. Like his brother Helm, he took training at several camps in this country and left for the Pacific war theater in December of 1943. He too took part in various battles, and received his fatal wound on April 12, 1945, four days before death came to Sgt. Helm. The remains, taken from their temporary grave near Manila, reached here Tuesday and are also at the Kennedy chapel.

Five brothers and five sisters, in addition to the parents, comprise the list of survivors. Roger, Paul and Vernal live at home, Lloyd at Rockville and Marion at Flori; Mrs. Olive Braun, Mrs. Dorothy Seidel, Mrs. Marjorie Thomas and Mrs. Clara Ruth Rude are residents of the Winamac vicinity, and Mrs. Jane Sloderbeck of South Bend.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 10 Feb 1949: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Henry A. Helm

Henry's momma lost a son in each World War. Both from Winamac, Henry and his buddy, George Freeman, were killed four days apart on Corregidor.

Born: 5/15/1905

Entered: 4/16/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35176487,TSGT

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 4/16/1945

Spouse: Agnes Raderstorf Helm

Parents: Elizabeth "Lizzie" Rose Shoaf (Oscar G.[deceased]) Helm

On 16 April 1945, Henry Helm, 39, was killed in action on Corregidor Island, Philippines. He served 48 months, including 16 months in the Pacific war zone. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He was a lifelong resident of Winamac. He was buried in St. Peter's Cemetery in Winamac. He was married.



PFC Henry Helm, in rifle infantry, husband of Mrs. Agnes Helm of Winamac.

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

Helps Knock Jap Gun

"Our mortar section got credit for knocking out a heavy Japanese weapon which was firing on our route of supply," says T/Sgt. Henry Helm of Winamac, Platoon sergeant of a light mortar platoon in the 151st infantry, he was describing how his unit eliminated the big Japanese 120 mm mortar in a western Luzon mountain pass. "It didn't take us very long to write finis to the position," T/Sgt. Helm said. "We fired only a few rounds to silence the mortar."

Sgt. Helm, whose wife lives in Winamac, has been overseas fifteen months and is a veteran of the battle to liberate Bataan and mopping up operations on Corregidor. (Special to The Democrat from headquarters, 38th Division.)

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 19 Apr 1945: 1.

"Our mortar section got the credit for knocking out a heavy Japanese weapon which was firing on our route supply," T-Sgt Henry Helm, husband of Mrs. Agnes Helm of Winamac, reports in a dispatch from the 38th Division on Luzon. He is serving as platoon sergeant of a light mortar platoon in the 151st infantry. He holds the combat infantry badge, Philippines Liberation ribbon and the Asiatic-Pacific theater ribbon with two campaign stars.

Winamac (IN) Republican 19 Apr 1945: 1.

Sgt. Helm Killed On Corregidor

WINAMAC, Ind. — Tech. Sgt. Henry Helm, who would have been 40 years old May 15, was killed April 16, on Corregidor according to word received Sunday by his wife, Mrs. Agnes Raderstorf Helm.

Formerly a farmer, he had been in service for four years and overseas sixteen months. Survivors include, beside the wife the mother, Mrs. Lizzie Helm; five brothers, George, Paul, and Hale, all of South Bend; Clarence, Remington and Estel, Baltimore, Md., two sisters, Mrs. Goldie Newman, Milwaukee, Wisc., and Mrs. Mazna Colligan, Chicago. A brother, William was killed in World War 1.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 7 May 1945: 2.



T/SGT. HENRY HELM.

Winamac Mother Loses Sons in Two World Wars

T/Sgt. Henry Helm of Winamac was killed in action April 16, according to a telegram from the War Department which his wife, Mrs. Agnes Helm, received Saturday. T/Sgt. Helm would have been forty years old on May 15.

His mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Helm of Winamac, is the first Pulaski county woman to become a Gold Star Mother of both World Wars 1 and 2. Another son, Oscar Cloyd Helm, succumbed twenty-six years ago on April 27, in a Baltimore hospital as the result of wounds suffered in France. A third son, Hale, received an honorable discharge last January after three years' service in the southwest Pacific region.

A recent dispatch to The Democrat from headquarters of the 38th Division stated that T/Sgt. Helm was a platoon sergeant of a light mortar platoon in the 151st infantry, and was a veteran of the battle to liberate Bataan and mopping up operations on Corregidor. Overseas fifteen months, he held the American Defense, and Philippines Liberation ribbons, and the Asiatic-Pacific ribbon with two campaign ribbons. He fell on the fourth anniversary of his induction into service. T/Sgt. Helm was in the same company as PFC George Freeman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Freeman of Winamac, who died in action on April 12.

Surviving besides his wife, the former Miss Agnes Raderstorf, and mother, are five brothers and two sisters—George, Paul and Hale Helm of South Bend, Clarence of Remington, Estel of Baltimore, Mrs. Goldie Newman of Milwaukee and Mrs. Mazie Colligan of Chicago.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 10 May 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Rites Planned for Buddies Killed In Pacific Battles Four Days Apart



T/SGT. HENRY A. HELM



PFC GEORGE C. FREEMAN

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PFC George C. Freeman is to be buried in Southlawn addition to the Winamac cemetery on Sunday, following services at 2:00 p.m. in the Kennedy chapel, in charge of the V. F. W. post. The officiating minister is the Rev. Kenneth W. Ball.

Charles Heater and Marion Clark, two other Winamac young men now at home, were members of the same outfit. The four were together during all their Army service, and Heater and Clark helped bury the two companions who lost their lives. Efforts are being made this week to bring to Winamac four other Indiana men who were in the company and who, if they are able to come, will join Messrs. Heater and Clark as pall bearers at the two services.

Mother Gives Two Sons.

Sgt. Helm was a son of Mrs. Lizzie Helm of Winamac, and was the second son she gave in the service of the country. The first was Oscar Cloyd Helm, fatally wounded in France in 1919 during World War I. Henry was born in Winamac on May 15, 1905, and grew to manhood here. He was inducted into service in 1941, received training at several camps

and was shipped overseas in December of 1943. After extensive service in charge of a light mortar platoon, he fell in battle on the fourth anniversary of his induction, April 16, 1945, a month before his fortieth birthday. The remains were given burial in a cemetery near Manila, and reached here yesterday forenoon. They are to lie in state at the Kennedy funeral home until the hour of the service.

Besides his elderly mother, living in the north part of Winamac, he leaves his wife, Mrs. Agnes (Saderstorf) Helm, also of this city; brothers George and Paul of South Bend, Hale and Estel of Mishawaka, Clarence of Remington; sisters Mrs. Goldie Newman of Milwaukee and Mrs. Mazie Culligan of Chicago.

Member of Well Known Family.

PFC Freeman, thirty-five years of age at the time of his death, was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Freeman, and grew up in the family home southwest of Winamac. Born Feb. 2, 1910, he entered service on April 16, 1941. Like his buddy Helm, he took training at several camps in this country and off for the Pacific war theater in December of 1943. He too took part in various battles, and received his fatal wound on April 12, 1945, four days before death came to Sgt. Helm. The remains, taken from their temporary grave near Manila, reached here Tuesday and are also at the Kennedy chapel.

Five brothers and five sisters, in addition to the parents, comprise the list of survivors. Roger, Paul and Vernal live at home, Lloyd at Rockville and Marion at Flora; Mrs. Olive Braun, Mrs. Dorothy Seidel, Mrs. Marjorie Thomas and Mrs. Clara Ruth Rude are residents of the Winamac vicinity, and Mrs. Jane Stoderbeck of South Bend.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 10 Feb 1949: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

George Junior Kahler

George had just written a letter 8 days before his death.

Born: 6/13/1922

Entered: 11/28/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35568757,T5

Medals: Bronze Star, Purple Heart

Died: 4/18/1945

Spouse: Madeline Nellie Malia Kahler

Parents: Mace Franklin and Clara Conwell Kahler

On 18 April 1945, George Kahler, 21, died of wounds received in action from a sniper earlier that day near Thalheim, Germany. He served 31 months, including 15 months in the European war zone. He was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. He was formerly from Star City. He was buried at the Netherlands American Cemetery in the Netherlands. He was married with a child.



George Kahler (Collection of Taibi Kahler) - fieldsofhonor-database.com/index.php/en/american-war-cemetery-margraten-k/63509-kahler-george-j

Soldier Dies Of Wounds

**Kewanna Couple Notified of Death
of Son, George J. Kahler, in
Germany.**

KEWANNA, Ind., May 8—Mr. and Mrs. Mace Kahler of Kewanna have been notified that their son, T/5 George J. Kahler, 22, died of wounds in Germany on April 18. He was in the third armored division of the First army.

After entering service on Nov. 28, 1942, he received his training at Camp Chaffee, Ark., and went overseas in Feb. 2, 1944. He had served in England, France, Belgium, and Germany. His last letter was written April 10.

The youth was graduated from Pulaski high school in April, 1941. Surviving are the parents; his wife, Madeline, and son, Taibi, age 2, and three sisters, Essie, at home; Eva Ginn and Maudie Carlson, both of Kewanna.

V

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 8 May 1945: 15.

T-5 Geo. Kahler Dies of Wounds In Germany

T/5 George J. Kahler of Kewanna, formerly of Star City, died April 18 from wounds received that day in action in Germany. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mace Kahler of Kewanna, received a telegram the latter part of last week from the War Department stating that their son had been seriously wounded. Sunday a message came saying that the injuries had been fatal.

T/5 Kahler entered service on November 28, 1942, and received his training at Camp Chaffee, Ark. He went overseas a year ago last February, serving in England, France, Belgium and Germany. He was with an armored division of the First Army. The last letter received from him was written April 10.

Surviving are the parents, wife and two-year-old son, and three sisters, Mrs. Eva Ginn and Mrs. Maudie Carlson of Kewanna and Essie, at home.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 10 May 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

T-5 George J. Kahler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mace Kahler, former residents of Pulaski county now residing near Kewanna, was reported dead of wounds received in action on April 18, according to a War Department report.

T-5 Kahler was serving in a tank division with General Patton until the last few weeks when he was transferred to General Hodge's First Army as a member of the 3rd Armored Division. He had been overseas since November, 1942.

Young Kahler entered service in November, 1942, and trained at Camp Chaffee. He went overseas in February, 1944.

Survivors include the parents and widow, Mrs. Madeline Kahler, and son Tatie of Hammond; and three sisters, Mrs. Eva Ginn of Rochester, Mrs. Maudie Carlson of Kewanna and Miss Essie Kahler, at home.

Winamac (IN) Republican 17 May 1945: 1.



T-5 George Kahler

Parents Receive Details Of Son's Death and Burial

Word has been received by Mr. and Mrs. Mace Kahler of Kewanna, formerly of Star City, that their son, T/5 George J. Kahler, died April 18 from an abdominal wound received that day. It was caused by sniper fire while he was on a mission in the vicinity of Thalheim, Germany. He was buried in the military cemetery at Breuna, Germany, with military honors and a Protestant chaplain officiating.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 13 Sep 1945: 2.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Ivan Leonard "Butch" Schraeder

Butch was raising the spirits of his Pulaski County uncle and aunt after recent reports that their son, Richard, also a bombardier, was missing in action. Butch told them that he, too, had a plane shot out from under him, and he parachuted to safety. Sadly, Richard was not to be as fortunate. And Butch's luck ran out a year later.

Born: 10/10/1921

Entered: 1/5/1942

Branch, SN, Rank: USAAC, 16052287, SSGT

Medals: Air Medal, Purple Heart

Died: 4/20/1945

Parents: Frederick August and Eva Marie Roth Schraeder

On 20 April 1945, Butch Schraeder, 23, previously reported missing, was killed in action as a bombardier/ tail gunner on a B-17 Flying Fortress bomber over northern Italy. He served 39 months, including in the European war zone. He had relatives in Pulaski County. He was awarded the Air Medal and Purple Heart. He was buried in the Florence American Cemetery in Impruneta, Italy.



Butch Schraeder (Collection of Rodger Schlink) -
ancestry.com/mediaui-
viewer/collection/1030/tree/12891892/person/-
161657558/media/bd8143c8-7f46-44aa-b457-9a77463c2687

Airman Reported 'Missing' Visits Relatives Here

A tall gunner in an American airplane who was shot down in the European war theater last September and reported "missing in action" a few days later, but who wrote a letter to his family the first part of January to state that he was safe and sound, visited relatives here over Sunday.

He is Ivan Schraeder of Peoria, Ill., nephew of Mr. and Mrs. William Roth of Winamac. Numerous acquaintances hereabout, gained by Ivan while visiting on the Roth farm in Indian Creek township, know him as "Butch." He made the trip here with his cousin, Vincent Roth, now attending watchmakers' school at Peoria, who spent Sunday with the home folks.

Ivan reveals no military-secrets in connection with his experience. He and his companions bailed out of the plane from a height of 26,000 feet, he said, after it had been seriously damaged by enemy fire. He added that he "lit in a cabbage patch then ran like hell." The location of the cabbage patch, and how he got back to this country, are all parts of the untold story.

His safe return is of particular interest to the Roth family, since word reached here on February 15 that their son Richard, a bombardier, was missing in action. The home folks are cheered by the fact that his cousin, similarly reported, escaped without scratch and was able to write home four months later.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 16 Mar 1944: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Missing Second Time

Mr. and Mrs. William Roth of Winamac have received further word about their nephew, S/Sgt. Ivan Shrader of Peoria, Ill., who was reported missing April 20, while on a mission over enemy territory. He was based in Italy. The pilot of another plane in the formation reported that he saw two parachutes leave the stricken plane, which was shot down after accomplishing its objective. This is the second time S/Sgt. Shrader has been missing in action. He returned to combat after recovering from exposure and injuries suffered when he was shot down in Germany and escaped to Spain by way of the underground.



Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 24 May 1945: 1.

Mr. and Mrs. William Roth received word last week that their nephew, Lt. Ivan Schrader, a bombardier of Peoria, Ill., has been reported missing in Italy since April 20. Lt. Schrader was missing five months and 21 days while serving in Europe. After a rest period in England and the U. S. he returned to duty. He is well known in Winamac.

Winamac (IN) Republican 17 May 1945: 1.

Nephew Killed

S/Sgt. Ivan Schrader of Peoria, Ill., a nephew of William Roth of Winamac, was killed in action over northern Italy on April 20, relatives have been informed. A gunner on a B-17, he had previously been reported missing.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 5 Jul 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Edward Felix Good

Except for Ernie Pyle, Edward was burned at reporters who misrepresented morale.

Born: 9/16/1918

Entered: 6/30/1941

Branch, SN, Rank: USA, 35163064, PFC

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 4/25/1945

Parents: Grover Cleveland and Anna Effie Whipple Good

On 25 April 1945, Edward Good, 27, was killed in Germany by a sniper while driving his commanding officer to the front line. He served 46 months, including about 24 months in the European war zone. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He had relatives in Star City and Winamac. He was buried in the Lorraine American Cemetery in St Avold, France.

'Soldier Jumps Onto 'Writers From the Rear'

Not all of the news writers on the battle fronts are to be depended upon, according to PFC Edward F. Good, a nephew of Osa Whipple of Winamac. Following are excerpts from a letter which he wrote "somewhere in Europe" on January 17:

"I got your box of cigars a couple of weeks ago, and they are all gone by now. It's snowing again, and we already had about a foot of it. I'm sure lucky this winter because I don't have to be out in the weather much except when I am driving. We have a good dug-in hole here. Had one in the other position but we had to withdraw from there, so we burned it up."

"Some of those guys who claim they came over here and have been up front and then go home and write up in the papers what the boys over here think, sure give us a pain. We haven't ever seen any of them here in this sector. They must all stay back to the rear except Ernie Pyle. I read an article one of them wrote about none of the boys wanting to come home till this war was over. He said he couldn't find 60 men out of 100 who did. If he wants to come here, I can show him a whole battery who have been over here twenty months and who want to take a visit home. To hear him tell it, getting the Jerry's is just like shooting rabbits. If I didn't know better I might have believed it. When you have never seen about 300 crazy SS troops come at you when your company isn't even full strength, you know different and would like to get your hands on some of those writers who ride around the rear burning up gas."

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 15 Feb 1945: 8.

PFC Edw. Good, Artilleryman, Killed in Europe

PFC Edward F. Good, grandson of Mrs. Felix Whipple of the Winamac vicinity, was killed in action in Germany on April 25, it was revealed in message received Tuesday evening.

The telegram came to the soldier's mother, Mrs. Anna Good of Peru, who has been at Star City for several days helping care for her sister-in-law, Mrs. Dale Whipple, during the latter's illness. The message gave no details, but said a letter would follow.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 10 May 1945: 1.

Edward, son of Mr. and Mrs. Grover Good of Peru, worked here about for three years before entering the Army in June of 1942. He was employed by his uncles Ora and Ray Whipple in their gravel business, and by Osa Whipple on the farm.

The young man was in the artillery. A letter which he had written to the home folks was recently printed in The Democrat.

A brother of Edward, PFC William Good, is also with the Army in Germany. A sister, Miss Harriett Good, is in the WACs and is stationed at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga. A younger brother, Lewis, is at the parental home and attends school at Peru.

Relatives Learn Details Of Soldier's Death

The manner in which PFC Edward F. Good met his death in Germany on April 26 was learned by relatives here while his brother, PFC William Good, was here on a visit. Edward was driving a jeep in which his commanding officer was riding to the front line. A sniper's bullet struck Edward in the breast, killing him instantly. The jeep overturned on the roadside, but the officer escaped without injury, as he himself related in a letter to William. Accompanied by his mother, Mrs. Anna Good of Peru, William visited a few days ago in the home of Mrs. Good's mother, Mrs. Felix Whipple. Edward lived in that home for three years before entering the Army in 1942. As a member of a medical detachment, PFC William has been in numerous engagements, but his only injuries were wrist wounds treated at a first-aid station.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 23 Aug 1945: 2.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Lowell Martin Marks

Lowell's grandmother lived in Winamac.

Born: 9/18/1915

Entered: 1/16/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,20530992,SSGT

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 4/28/1945

Spouse: Lucille B. Harts Marks

Parents: Martin Zelotis (Aldeana L. "Daisy" Hunter [deceased]) Marks

On 28 April 1945, Lowell Marks, 29, was killed in the line of duty in an automobile accident on Iwo Jima Island. He served 51 months, including in the Pacific war zone. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He had relatives in Ripley. He was buried in the Estates of Serenity (I.O.O.F.) Cemetery in Marion. He was married with two children.

Auto Accident On Iwo Jima Fatal to Soldier

Mrs. Rosa Hunter of Ripley received a telegram from the War Department Tuesday notifying her of the death of her grandson, Lowell Marks, who was killed in an automobile accident on Iwo Jima while in the line of duty. The accident occurred April 28.

Mrs. Hunter is employed at the present time in Knox. The grandson formerly made his home with her, but was inducted from Peru.

His wife and two children, Joan, ten years old, and Jimmy, eight, live in Ohio. A brother Russell, who formerly lived here, is now stationed at Ft. McClelland, Ala. His mother, Mrs. Walter Decker of Peru, died July 15, 1939.

Lowell Marks of Ripley.
Mrs. Rosa Hunter, grandmother of Lowell Marks, received a telegram which reported that her grandson had been killed in an automobile accident on Iwo Jima.

Winamac (IN) Republican 10 May 1945: 1.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 10 May 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Harold Francis Lebo

Harold's bomber may have crashed into a gravel truck during takeoff for a bombing run on Palawan in the Philippines.

Born: 4/26/1922

Entered: 9/9/1942

Branch, SN, Rank: USACC, 15108588/O-707942, 2LT

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 5/6/1945

Parents: Samuel Harry "Sam" and Bessie Edith "Edith" Dean Lebo

On 6 May 1945, Harold Lebo, 23, was killed in action while a navigator/bombardier on a bomber during takeoff from Palawan Island, Philippines. He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart. He served about 27 months, including 5 months in the Pacific war zone. He was a lifelong resident of Winamac. He was buried at the Manila American Cemetery in Taguig City, Philippines, and memorialized at the Winamac Cemetery.



A/C Harold Lebo, training as a Navigator in the Air Corps, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Lebo of Winamac.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 18 Nov 1943: 1.

Local Airman Killed in Action On Philippines

Lt. Harold F. Lebo of Winamac, Navigator, Is War Casualty

Second Lt. Harold F. Lebo was killed in action on Palawan Island on May 6, according to a telegram from the War Department received Wednesday afternoon by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Lebo of Winamac. He was a navigator on a bombing plane. No further details were contained in the telegram.

The young officer entered the Air Corps a little more than two years ago, training in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico. He received his wings and commission in January, 1944. He left for the southwest Pacific about five months ago.

Palawan Victim



LT. HAROLD F. LEBO

Lt. Lebo was born April 26, 1922, and spent all his life in this community prior to his enlistment. He graduated from the Winamac high school in 1940. He has two brothers in service—T/4 Stuart, home on furlough from the Philippines, and Petty Officer Kenneth in the Navy, based in Florida but now on sea duty. Other survivors include the parents, brother Cecil of Winamac, sisters, Lenora of South Bend, Mrs. Ruth Knarr of Winamac and Bernice, at home.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 24 May 1945: 1.

Receive Condolences on Death of Pilot Son

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Lebo of Winamac have received further information on the death of their son, Lt. Harold Lebo, who lost his life May 6 on Palawan in the Philippines. A letter from Maj. Bryce A. Heddlund of the Air Corps stated that as the plane in which Lt. Lebo was navigator-bombardier took off, it swerved and crashed into a coral embankment. Full military funeral services were conducted May 7 and burial was in the military cemetery on Palawan Island.

The officer also wrote, "Harold was held in high regard by all members of this squadron. He always performed all duties assigned to him in a cheerful and efficient manner. He was a splendid soldier and of outstanding character. You have the deepest sympathy of all officers and men of this organization."

A letter was also received from Gen. Douglas MacArthur, expressing his sympathy. "His service under me in our fight for liberty in the Pacific was characterized by his unswerving devotion to our country. We have lost a gallant comrade-in-arms."

Secretary of War Stimson has also written informing Mr. and Mrs. Lebo that they will receive the Purple Heart.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 21 Jun 1945: 2.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Jack Harold Cavin

Alongside George Freeman and Henry Helm, Jack became the last fatality in the group of six Pulaski County men in the same infantry unit.

Born: 3/4/1911

Entered: 4/16/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35176468,SSGT

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 5/12/1945

Parents: Frances "Fannie" M Frushour (Maurice L.) Cavin (Harvey) Barnes

On 12 May 1945, Jack Cavin, 34, died of wounds incurred on Luzon Island in the Philippines. He served 49 months, including 18 months in the Pacific war zone. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He had lived in Winamac for many years. He was buried in Manila American Cemetery in Taguig City, Philippines.



Jack Cavin and 'Smiley' (collection of Cavin1945) - ancestry.com

Six Winamac men have recently been awarded the Philippine Liberation ribbon: S/Sgt. Charles E. Heater, S/Sgt. Marion V. Clark, Sgt. Henry A. Helm, **Sgt. Jack H. Cavin**, PFC George C. Freeman and PFC Hiram D. Bell. This decoration is given by the Commonwealth Government of the Philippines to all troops actively participating in the campaign to free the islands. All members of the same combat infantry unit, these men have been overseas for more than a year. Prior to their arrival in the Philippines they served in the Hawaiian Islands and New Guinea.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 1 Feb 1945: 1

Soldier Related Here Loses Life In Philippines

**S/Sgt. Jack H. Cavin,
Former Winamac Lad,
Dies of Battle Wounds**

A son of Mrs. Harvey Barnes and Morris Cavin, both of Logansport, the sergeant came to this community in 1924 and made his home with a grand aunt, the late Mrs. Tim O'Connor, at her home southwest of Winamac, and at the time of entering service was employed in Winamac. He was a distant cousin of William and Ed O'Connor.

Surviving, besides the parents, are two brothers—Robert, who was wounded in Germany and is now stationed in Colorado; Glenden, stationed at Fort Ord, Calif.

S/Sgt. Jack H. Cavin, who made his home in Winamac before entering the Army, died of wounds on May 12 on the island of Luzon, according to word received from the War Department by relatives hereabout. Thirty-four years of age, he had been in the Army for more than three years and overseas for eighteen months as an infantryman.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 7 Jun 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Willard Henry "Bill" Moose

While not in service at the time of this death, Bill died testing warplanes.

Born: 9/28/1912

Entered: 10/15/1942

Branch, SN, Rank: USA, 17039090, PVT

Died: 6/18/1945

Spouse: Marcella Mary Cunningham Moose

Parents: Fred Charles and Etta Lausinda Walker Moose

On 18 June 1945, Bill Moose, 32, died while testing a P-47 Thunderbolt at the Republic Aviation facility in Evansville. He joined the service in 1942, but there is no record of his discharge. His parents lived in Winamac. He is buried in Winamac. He was married with a child.

Willard Moose, Test Pilot, Killed in Crash of P-47

Thunderbolt Nose Dives To Earth on Farm Near New Harmony

Willard H. Moose, 32, of 2508 MacArthur Circle, civilian test pilot for Republic Aviation corporation, was instantly killed about 2:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon when the Thunderbolt plane he was flying crashed in a field about three and a half miles southwest of New Harmony.

He was on a routine flight at the time and cause of the crash had not been determined last night. Col. A. J. Beck, AAF representative at Republic, appointed an investigating board.

The plane, which fell on the Elmer Elliott farm near an oil well, was a complete wreck, Col. Beck stated.

He said oil field workers reported the plane circled the neighborhood several times at an altitude of between 400 and 500 feet, (Continued on Page 2, Column 5)



WILLARD H. MOOSE

ER-TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 1945

Willard Moose, Test Pilot, Killed in Crash of P-47

(Continued from Page One)

then nose-dived suddenly to the ground.

"The pilot apparently realized he was in trouble and was looking for a place to land when the ship crashed," Col. Beck said.

Moose was the first civilian test pilot employed by Republic to be killed since the local plant opened in that time more than 18,000 test flights have been flown, Republic representatives said.

Among witnesses to the crash were Chester Morris, a tenant on the Elliott farm, and Leonard Ricketts. They said the plane nosed deep into the ground, breaking an underground oil pipe and causing oil to flow over the field.

Gasoline also poured out of the plane but it did not catch fire.

Morris and Ricketts ran to the plane immediately after the crash. They said the pilot had been thrown from the plane by the impact and that his head was badly crushed.

Moose, a native of Winamac, had been an aviator for more than 12

years. He came to Evansville in March, 1943, as a test pilot for the Modification Center. When the center was closed he transferred to Republic and had been there since Oct. 1, 1944.

For nearly five years Moose was connected with the Murphy Flying Service in Findlay, O. Later he was employed by the Linco Gas company as a "skywriter."

He also gave air shows for the Missouri Institute of Aeronautics and was an instructor in aerial acrobatics.

Surviving are the wife, Marcile; a daughter, Marcia Louise, eight months old; a brother, Alvie, of South Bend; the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred C. Moose, Jr., of Winamac; and a grandmother, Mrs. Fred Moose, Sr., of Medaryville.

The body will be at the Lowe and Son funeral home until 4 o'clock this afternoon, when it will be taken to Winamac. Funeral services will be held Wednesday in Winamac.

Evansville (IN) Courier 19 Jun 1945: 1&2. Website (findagrave.com).

W. H. Moose Killed While Testing Plane

Former Pulaski County Resident
Dies In Crash South Of New
Harmony

WINAMAC, Ind. — Willard H. Moose, 33, formerly of Pulaski county, a test pilot for the Republic Aviation corporation, Evansville, was killed instantly Monday afternoon when his P-47 Thunderbolt crashed three miles south of New Harmony, Indiana.

The plane which Moose was testing circled derricks of an oil well several times before crashing. He had been a pilot for 12 years.

The son of Fred and Etta Moose, he was born Sept. 28, 1912, in Rich Grove township, where his parents still reside. A former stunt flier with Mike Murphy of Kokomo, he left Pulaski county approximately ten years ago.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 19 Jun 1945: 1.

He resided in Kokomo for a short time and then in Missouri, moving to Evansville two years ago.

Surviving besides the parents are the widow, the former Marcell Cunningham of Cutler; their seven-months-old daughter; a brother, Alva, P. Moose, South Bend; and the paternal grandmother, Mrs. Fred Moose, Sr., Medaryville.

Short funeral rites will be conducted Tuesday evening at Evansville after which the body will be brought here to the Fry and Lange funeral home. Funeral rites will be held here at a time to be announced later.

Funeral services will be held at Winamac Wednesday afternoon at two o'clock.

Rev. Charles Morse and wife of Wheatfield, Ind., will officiate in services at the Fry and Lange funeral home. Burial will be in the local cemetery.

Test Pilot Dies In Plane Crash

Funeral services were held in the Fry and Lange Mortuary at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon for Willard H. Moose, 32 years old, Winamac native who was killed Monday afternoon in a plane crash about 3 1-2 miles southwest of New Harmony.

The Rev. Charles Morse and wife of Wheatfield were in charge of the services and burial was in Winamac Crown Hill cemetery.

Mr. Moose, employed as a test pilot for the Republic Aviation Corporation at Evansville, was testing a P-47 Thunderbolt fighter plane when he crashed amid an oil field.

He had not been in radio communication with his field but witnesses said that he circled oil derricks seemingly trying to gain altitude. The plane came down and one wing struck an oil derrick.

Winamac (IN) Republican 21 Jun 1945: 1.

Wreckage of the ship was scattered over a wide area and Mr. Moose's body was thrown from the plane.

He was born in Rich Grove township September 28, 1912, the son of Fred and Etta Walker Moose. The young man had been flying for more than 10 years and formerly was a stunt pilot with Mike Murphy's flying circus.

He lived in Winamac until about 10 years ago.

Survivors include the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Moose of Rich Grove township; the widow, the former Marcell Cunningham of Cutler, a seven-months-old baby, and a brother, Alva P. Moose of South Bend.

Short funeral services were held in Evansville Tuesday night and the body was then brought to the Fry and Lange Mortuary in Winamac.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

John Charles Lucas

Charles and his wife lost a newborn in 1944, and a year later, he was lost too.

Born: 7/26/1922

Entered: 2/11/1941

Branch, SN, Rank: USAAC, 14043942, SSGT

Medals: Air Medal, Purple Heart

Died: 6/20/1945

Spouse: Margaret Hartung Lucas

Parents: Georgia Ann Linton (Ozro Abraham[deceased]) Lucas

On 22 June 1945, Charles Lucas, 22, was reported missing in action out of Celebes, Indonesia. He served 52 months, including in the Pacific war zone. He was posthumously awarded the Air Medal and Purple Heart. He had grandparents in Medaryville. He was memorialized on the Tablets of the Missing at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial in the Philippines. He was married with one child.



SGT. JOHN CHARLES LUCAS
Sgt. John Charles Lucas, who was recently declared by the War Department to have been killed in action on June 20, 1945, has been posthumously awarded the Purple Heart. The citation reads.

"In grateful memory of Sergeant John C. Lucas, who died in the service of his country in the Pacific Area on June 20, 1945. He stands in the unbroken line of patriots who have dared to die that Freedom might Live, and Grow, and Increase its Blessings. Freedom Lives, and Through It, He Lives—

In a Way That Humbles the Undertakings of Most Men.
(Signed)

Harry Truman

Sgt. Lucas was the husband of Mrs. Margaret Hartung Lucas of this city. He was reported as "missing" June 20, 1945, on a return trip over Celebes, having been on a "Photograph Mission" of air fields.

Sgt. Lucas and his wife were married July 19, 1943 at Daytona Beach while they both were in the service. He is survived by his wife, a three months old daughter, Mary Charles; his mother, Mrs. G. Lucas, who holds a position with the War Department in Washington; and a brother, Lt. Louis Lucas, a veteran of 30 months in India.

Cullman (AL) Democrat 21 Mar 1946. Website (dwtopping, ancestry.com).

GRANDSON MISSING

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Linton of Medaryville received word this week that their grandson, Charles Lucas, has been reported by the War Department as missing in action, following a bombing mission in the South Pacific in July. He is a son of Mrs. Georgia Lucas of Washington, D. C. According to the War Department report, nothing has been heard from any of the ten members of the crew.

Winamac (IN) Republican 30 Aug 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Harmon Calvin Wilcox

Harmon was among the most decorated in Pulaski County with the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, and Purple Heart.

Born: 1/12/1921

Entered: 11/21/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,35570357,TSGT

Medals: Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, Purple Heart

Died: 7/12/1945

Parents: Calvin Clyde and Myrtle Geneva Mattox Wilcox

On 11 July 1945, Harmon Wilcox, 24, radio operator, was reported missing in action after a bombing flight over the Ploesti oil fields in Romania. Eight months later, his mother is presented with the Air Medal. He served 33 months, including the European war zone. He was also awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Purple Heart. He had relatives in Winamac. He was memorialized in the Tablets of the Missing, Cambridge American Cemetery, Cambridge, England, and the Starke County War Casualty Memorial, Knox.



Harmon Wilcox (Collection of Robert Cherveny) -
ancestry.com/mediaui-
viewer/collection/1030/tree/37926811/person/19896245063/me
dia/d88ff9b4-7ff8-4a39-9fba-55ca23498889

Grandson Is Missing

Mrs. Myrtle Wilcox of Griffith received word Monday from the war department that her son, T/Sgt. Harmon Wilcox, was missing in action. T/Sgt. Wilcox is a grandson of Mrs. Frances Mattox of Winamac.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 27 Jul 1944: 1.

* **Receives Air Medal Awarded Missing Son**

Mrs. Myrtle G. Wilcox, who makes her home with her mother, Mrs. Frances Mattix of Winamac, has received an air medal and oak leaf cluster awarded to her son, T/Sgt. Harmon C. Wilcox, who was reported missing last July 11. The medal was presented to her last week by an officer from Bendifx Field, and the citation was for "meritorious achievement in accomplishing with distinction several aerial operational missions over enemy occupied Europe." He was a gunner and radio technician on a bomber, based in Italy, and was missing after a bombing flight over the Ploesti oil fields.



Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 22 Mar 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Robert Wendell Jenkins

Robert was on the next-to-last submarine to be lost in World War II.

Born: 7/7/1920

Entered: 6/4/1941

Branch, SN, Rank: USN, 6100079, EM1c

Medal: Purple Heart

Died: 7/15/1945

Parents: Cloyd N. and Sophina Pearl "Fannie" Teater Jenkins

On 15 July 1945, Robert Jenkins, about 25, was assumed lost when his submarine, USS Bonefish, failed to return. He was declared lost at sea on July 15, 1946. He was awarded the Purple Heart. His parents moved to Winamac about 1942. He was memorialized in the Courts of the Missing (Court 3) at the Honolulu Memorial, Honolulu, HI.



Robert Jenkins (Collection of honorstates.org) -

honorstates.org/profiles/39660

**Son Missing
On Last Sub
Listed as Lost**

Unaccounted For

**EM 1/c Robert Jenkins
Is Crew Member of Ship
Missing in Pacific**

Mr. and Mrs. Cloyd N. Jenkins of the Winamac vicinity received word from the Navy Department on August 20 that the submarine Bonefish was reported overdue from patrol operations and was presumed to be lost. The message also stated that no information had been received concerning the personnel aboard the submarine.

Robert W. Jenkins, electrician's mate first class, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins, was a member of the crew. The Bonefish, operating in the Pacific, was the fifty-first and last submarine to be reported lost. The parents were notified July 27 that their son's boat was reported missing, but were asked not to make the casualty public at that time.

EM 1/c ROBERT JENKINS

Born at Urbana, Ill., EM 1/c Jenkins was twenty-five years of age. He enlisted in the navy four years ago in Chicago, where he was employed at the time. He has a sister, Miss Barbara Jenkins of Chicago. The family has lived a mile east of Van Meter park for three years, coming here from Chicago. The son has visited here twice, the last time in December.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 30 Aug 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Lester Ludwig

Lester's body was the first returned to Winamac after the war for reinterment closer to family.

Born: 1/20/1920

Entered: 2/16/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,35258487,TSgt

Medals: US Army Air Corps Medal of Honor(?), Purple Heart(?)

Died: 7/27/1945

Parents: Henry Charles and Dora Isaey Gurney Fry Ludwig

On 27 July 1945, Lester Ludwig, 24, drowned while attempting to swim to shore after his plane crashed in the Irrawaddy River near Myitkyina, Burma. After the crash, he and another crew member were able to free the trapped co-pilot before exiting the sinking plane. He served 41 months, including 22 months in the Pacific war zone. He attended school in Monterey. He is buried at the Riverbank Cemetery near Winamac.



Pvt. Lester Ludwig, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ludwig of Tippecanoe township, in the Air Corps.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 22 Apr 1943: 1.

Serviceman Is Drowned In Burma

T/Sgt. Lester Ludwig Dies While Serving In Foreign Theater

T/Sgt. Lester Ludwig drowned in Burma on July 27, according to a telegram received Tuesday by the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ludwig of Tippecanoe township. The message stated that a letter of confirmation would follow.

A flight chief in the Air Corps, the twenty-four year old sergeant has served nearly two years in the India-Burma-China theater, and recently has been based at Assam, India. He entered service February 27, 1942, and went overseas in September, 1943.

Besides the parents, he is survived by four sisters, Mrs. Carrie Romig and Mrs. Helen Allen of

Soldier Is Victim



T/SGT. LESTER LUDWIG
Logansport, Mrs. Martha Burger of Knox and Mrs. Mina Dodd of Lakewood, Fla., now at home; and two brothers, Len of Winamac and Frank at home.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 9 Aug 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Learn Son Was Drowned Following Plane Crash

A letter from the War Department received Saturday by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ludwig of Tippecanoe township, confirmed a previous telegram telling of the death of their son, T/Sgt. Lester Ludwig, by drowning in Burma on July 27. The letter stated that the plane in which T/Sgt. Ludwig was a crew member crashed in the Irrawaddy river near the town of Myitkyna, Burma.

No other details of the mishap were given but the letter stated the parents would soon receive further information from their son's commanding officer and chaplain.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 16 Aug 1945: 1.

Parents Learn Details of Son's Death Overseas

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ludwig of Tippecanoe township have received a letter from Maj. Albert G. Karnell, chaplain of the Northern Air Service Area, Command in India, of which their son, T/Sgt. Lester C. Ludwig, was a member. It explains in detail how the sergeant lost his life.

"On July 27," the letter reads, "while engaged in his customary work as crew chief on a routine flight, Lester's plane crashed in the Irrawaddy river near Myitkyna, Burma. Lester was drowned while attempting to swim ashore from the sinking plane."

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 30 Aug 1945: 1.

"Indeed our hearts were heavy when we heard the news that he had passed away. We all loved Lester very much. We had trained together back in the States, travelled the high seas, and worked together here in India. Lester was always most cordial, well liked, and highly respected by all with whom he came in contact. We all knew him as one who possessed the unusual trait of winning his way into the hearts of all.

"Lester was laid to rest in Burma on August 1, the Protestant burial service being conducted by Chaplain John C. Searcy. Full military honors were accorded and many of Lester's friends made a special trip to Burma in order that they might attend."

Letter Tells Of Son's Heroic Act Before Death

A letter received by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ludwig of Tippecanoe township from the commanding officer of the flight detachment of which their son, T/Sgt. Lester Ludwig, was a member, gave them the first details of the mishap in which the young crew chief lost his life. It follows, in part:

"Lester died as the result of an airplane crash in Burma, when his ship landed on the Irrawaddy River. He had taken over the job of crew chief on the airplane, three days before, and was on a routine flight from here. The pilot was able to bring the ship down on the river without seriously injuring any of the people aboard. The copilot was, however, pinned behind the controls, and it took Lester and the pilot a few minutes to free him. As the ship was sinking all the time, this was a real act of heroism, and if it had not been for their efforts, the co-pilot would never have been able to free himself of the ship. Lester and the two pilots went out the escape hatch over the cock pit and slid into the water. He had not been hurt in the crash and was seen

to swim away from the ship by the pilot. The airplane sank out of sight right away, and all the men started to swim for the bank. When the rescue boats arrived to pick the men up, Lester and one other man were missing. A very extensive search was made all that day and the next, but no trace could be found.

"Myself and other men from the detachment went into Myitkyna the day of the crash and helped in the search, but as nothing could be found, we returned the next day. Tuesday, the 31st, we received a telephone call that his body had been found and that the funeral would be held the next day.

"Sixteen of his best friends and myself went in for the funeral. He was buried in the United States military cemetery at Myitkyna, Burma, with a full military burial. Chaplain John Searcy conducted the service.

"There is some small satisfaction in that Lester was doing the job he liked the best, and that he conducted himself in a manner which brings credit to himself and the United States Army Air Forces. The sympathies of us who knew Lester go out to you, and we know that the loss to you has been great.

Sincerely,
CHARLES L. WOODWARD,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Commanding.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 18 Oct 1945: 2.

First Body of War II Back Home

Accompanied by a uniformed escort of the Army Air Force, the casket remains of Technical Sergeant Lester C. Ludwig was returned to Winamac Wednesday. Sergeant Ludwig was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ludwig, of the Monterey vicinity. His body was the first one of World War II to be returned to Winamac.

Members of the local veterans organizations met the train Wednesday afternoon at 12:28 o'clock and escorted the body from the Winamac depot to the Kennedy funeral home.

Sgt. Ludwig entered service February 17, 1942, at Ft. Benjamin Harrison, received his basic training in Mississippi and was then transferred to California where he received his technical training, working himself up through the ranks (Continued on Page 8)

First Body

(Continued from Page 1)

and became flight chief with the 26th Depot Repair Squadron, the organization he was serving with when killed in action on his last flight mission before being given a rest furlough.

His death occurred in Myitkyna, Burma, July 27, 1945, and he was given temporary burial in the Kajikunda temporary cemetery in India.

Sgt. Ludwig was the recipient of many medals, among them being the Air Corps Medal of Honor, Presidential Citation and the purple heart, awarded posthumously.

Besides the parents the deceased World War II hero is survived by four sisters and two brothers, Mrs. Carrie Romig and Mrs. Helen Ennis of Logansport, Mrs. Martha Burger of Knox, Mrs. Mina Dodd of Lakewood, Fla., Len, of Winamac, and Frank at home.

Funeral services will be held at Riverbank church Sunday, June 6, Rev. Herman Saubert of Lafayette, District V. F. W. chaplain, officiating. Burial will be in the adjoining cemetery. Military services will be in charge of the Pulaski Post 71 American Legion and Pfeist-Jones post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The body will lie in state at the Kennedy Funeral Home from Wednesday noon until the hour of services.

Winamac (IN) Republican 3 Jun 1948: 1&8.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Daniel Lawrence "Dan" Karpal

On a secret mission, Dan died when the USS Indianapolis was torpedoed after it delivered the first atomic bomb to Tinian Naval Base in the Pacific. Of the 1,195 crewmen, 890 survived the sinking, only endure exposure, dehydration, saltwater poisoning, and shark attack in the open ocean. Four days after the sinking, they were discovered by a routine air patrol. Only 316 were rescued.

Born: 2/19/1919

Entered: <10/23/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USN,3003714,BM1

Medal: Purple Heart, Congressional Gold Medal

Died: 7/30/1945

Spouse: Marjorie Irene Ready Karpal

Parents: Daniel L. and Josephine Kickart Karpal

On or soon after 30 July 1945, Dan, 26, died after his ship, USS Indianapolis, was torpedoed. He had served for over 45 months. Previously, he had served in the Civilian Conservation Corps at Medaryville. He was memorialized at Manila American Cemetery and Memorial (Tablets of the Missing), Manila, Philippines. He was married.

Pulaski County, With Nearly 25 Men in Naval Service, Will Mark Monday as 'Navy Day'

Tribute will be paid on Navy Day next Monday to the fleet of the United States, to the sailors who have contributed to the country's naval history, and to their successors upon whom the nation depends today as its "first line of defense."

Through a Pulaski county committee headed by James A. Dilts as chairman and including representatives in each community, programs are being arranged for presentation in the schools and churches. Proper display of flags is to be made in the communities.

October 27 is annually selected as Navy Day because on that date in 1775 the Continental Congress received the first navy bill providing for the original U. S. fleet.

President to Speak.

High light of the Navy Day observance will be a radio address by President Roosevelt. The President has announced that he will speak on the country's national defense position. The broadcast will begin at 9:00 p.m.

Included in the State-wide Navy Day program will be the swearing in of some 325 men recruited during the past month by American Legion posts. The ceremony will be held at the Monument Circle, Indianapolis, on Monday afternoon.

Pulaski county has more than twenty-five men either now serving in the U. S. Navy or retired following completion of their service. From the records available, the following list of local men in the service was compiled:

Jack Barnett, Winamac; Hubert R. Bramble, Indian Creek; Robert Auna Clark, Winamac; Richard William Cramer, Medaryville; Henry Edward Dommer, Denham; Irvine Monroe Eldridge, Francesville; Frank Egleston, Bruce Lake; William Ernest Ellis, Medaryville; Raymond Campbell Engle, Francesville.

William Dale Fitz, Winamac; Alfred Lewis Howe, Medaryville; Charles Jackson, Winamac; Daniel Larence Karpal, Medaryville; Ray Vinal Kelley, Francesville; George Francis Kruzick, Winamac; Henry Albert Miller, Winamac; Fredrick Charles Paulsen, Winamac; John R. Phillips, Star City.

Jack Ray Richards, Francesville; Clyde R. Robertson, Winamac; Orvis Dewey Salrin Jr., Medaryville; Donald Jerry Thompson, Monterey; Wayne Charles Timmons, Medaryville; Leonard Ashford Ward, Winamac; Eugene Wayne, Medaryville; Harold Vanaman, Beardstown, and George Woodrow Zeider, Thornhope.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 23 Oct 1941: 1.



USS Indianapolis (CA-35) - US Navy (80-G-425615) 27 Sep 1939.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Thomas John "Tommy" Ziembra

Tommy's commanding officer sent a heartfelt letter describing his last days.

Born: 12/29/1924

Entered: 1/9/1945

Branch, SN, Rank: USA, 35967047, PFC

Died: 9/15/1945

Parents: John C. and Frances Lesniak Ziembra

On 15 September 1945, Tommy Ziembra, 20, died of pneumonia in the Philippines. He served for 8 months, including about 5 months in the Pacific war zone. He lived in Winamac most of his life. He was buried at the St. Jacob Cemetery in North Judson.

Illness Is Fatal



Memorial services for PFC Ziembra (above) were held Tuesday morning at St. Peter's church in Winamac, in charge of the Rev. J. J. Becker and the Rev. William Plotzki of Hammond. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Ziembra of the Lake Bruce vicinity, were notified last week of his death, which occurred from pneumonia September 15 in the Philippines. Twenty years old, he was a life resident of this county and entered service last January.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 11 Oct 1945: 1.

Soldier Dies Of Pneumonia In Philippines

PFC Thomas Ziembra,
Winamac Lad, Suffers
Attack in Service

Mr. and Mrs. John Ziembra of the Lake Bruce vicinity received word Monday that their son, PFC Thomas Ziembra, died September 15 in the Philippines as the result of pneumonia. "Tommy," as he was known by family and friends, contracted pneumonia on September 10, and death resulted a few days later.

PFC Ziembra entered service last January 9 while attending Kewanee high school, and after three months' basic training at Camp Wolters, Texas, was sent in May to the Pacific war theater, where he was stationed at Mindanao. Twenty years old last December 29, he spent nearly his entire life in the Lake Bruce vicinity, attending St. Peter's school and the Winamac high school. He was a member of the Holy Name Society.

Besides the parents, five sisters survive—Sister Monica Marie of St. Louis, Mo., Helen of Hammond, Berniece, Genevieve and Patsy at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Ziembra were informed that funeral services in charge of Catholic chaplain had been held and that burial was in the military cemetery on Mindanao. Memorial services are to be held later at St. Peter's church in Winamac.

Letter From Officer.

Mrs. Ziembra received a letter from her son's commanding officer, excerpts of which follow:

May I take this opportunity to express my most sincere and heartfelt sympathies. To lose a son in combat is a loss too great for words to define, and then to lose a son after all hostilities have ceased is so much worse . . . He joined my organization around the (CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT)

Soldier Dies From Pneumonia In Philippines

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

10th of July after we had come down from the hills. Since that time we have been training as a garrison unit and Thomas was one of the finest soldiers I have had the pleasure of leading. The men in the company, especially those of his platoon, thought the world of him and feel the loss of your son as they would their own brother.

On the 10th of September your son went to the Aid Station for treatment for a fever that he had. His temperature was 103 degrees so he was immediately sent to the hospital, where he could get more and better treatment. His fever turned to pneumonia and yesterday morning at 3 a.m., September 15, he passed away. I checked the reports on his condition upon hearing of his death, and found that he had a relapse Friday night.

In honor of Thomas all the officers and enlisted men of Co. G went to the cemetery and stood for a military funeral with his body. The squad of which he was a member fired three volleys after the Catholic priest performed the last rites, and then our bugler played taps for him. The flag that was used over his casket will be sent to you with all of his personal belongings as soon as we can pack them. We will also send to you the pictures of the ceremony.

Sincerely,
EDW. S. SYMANSKI, 1ST LT.,
34th Inf. Regt.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 4 Oct 1945: 1&8.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Philip Herman Ahler

Entering just after Pearl Harbor, Philip died just after being discharged from the Navy.

Born: 10/20/1892

Entered: 12/8/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USNR,1002668,Gunner's S1c

Discharged: 2/16/1945

Died: 9/28/1945

Parents: Herman and Elizabeth "Lizzie" Brettnacher Ahler[both deceased]

On 28 September, Philip, 52, died just after being discharged from the U.S. Navy. He was buried in Francesville.



(Collection of paulnelson60. Website(ancestry.com).

Philip Ahler, formerly of Francesville, is home here for a short
(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO)

**NEWS OF
MEN and WOMEN
IN UNIFORM**

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

stay with his sister, Mrs. Mayme Weaver and family, southwest of Francesville. He came in off the seas at San Francisco a few days ago. Since being called back to the navy three years ago, he has served on rescue ships cruising the seas in combat zones in many parts of the world, picking survivors who were adrift from submarine attacks. Lately he was reassigned to an invasion ship, and skirted the shores of Sicily while much of the campaign was at its peak. He visited relatives in Minaryville Tuesday.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 9 Sep 1943: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

Seaman Phillip Ahler visited his nephew, James Ahler at Medaryville Tuesday. Seaman Ahler was in the Navy in World War I and has been on active duty at Atu, Casablanca, Kiska and other places in the present war.

Winamac (IN) Republican 9 Sep 1943: 1.

CALLED BY DEATH

Guest at the James Ahler home were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ahler, of Fowler; Cpl. Herman Ahler, of Boca Raton army air base, Florida, and Miss Rosemary Ahler, of Lafayette. All attended the funeral of Philip Ahler, 54, who died at the U. S. navy hospital, San Diego, Calif. The body was shipped to Francesville for burial. Philip Ahler was a veteran of World wars 1 and 2.

(Lafayette IN) Journal and-Courier 11 Oct 1945: 19.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Cortlund Ralph Good

When their bodies were returned after the war, Cortlund and his brother, Richard, were buried side-by-side.

Born: 10/24/1914

Entered: 6/24/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35162462,SGT

Died: 10/12/1945

Parents: Forrest Everett and Alvina Melida Zank Good

On 12 October 1945, Cortlund Good, 28, died of meningitis while serving with the adjutant general's department in Algiers, North Africa. He served 28 months, including 5 months in the European war zone. He had relatives in Monterey. He was buried in the Southland Cemetery in South Bend.



SERGEANT
CORTLAND R. GOOD '32
Died in North African Area
Son of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Good

(Collection of sandsoftime). Website (findagrave.com).

Relative of Monterey Man Killed in Germany

Relatives at Monterey received word Sunday that 2nd Lt. Richard J. Good, son of F. E. Good of South Bend, was killed in action in Germany on November 25. He was first reported seriously wounded, but on Saturday word came to his wife at Champaign, Ill., that he had died. He is a cousin of Charles Good of Monterey and has visited there often. Lt. Good graduated from the University of Illinois, took his basic training at Ft. Knox, Ky., and was overseas two months with a mechanized armored division. An older brother, Courtland, died in Africa on October 12, 1943, and another brother, Capt. Wesley Good is in service in Florida.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 14 Dec 1944: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – The Dead

TWO BROTHERS WILL BE BURIED

Double Memorial Rites Scheduled For Wednesday.

Double memorial services will be conducted at 3 p. m. Wednesday in the Hay funeral home for two brothers, Sergt. Cortlund R.



RICHARD GOOD, CORTLUND GOOD.
Good and Lieut. Richard J. Good, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Forest Good, of 1511 High street, both of whom died in service overseas in world war II.

The bodies will arrive here Tuesday forenoon and will be taken to the Hay funeral home where friends may call after 7 p. m. Tuesday. Rev. R. H. Parker, pastor of Indiana Avenue Christian church, of which both young men were members, will read the rites. Burial will be in Southlawn cemetery where military honors will be accorded by members of South Bend post No. 6, Disabled American Veterans.

Served in Algiers.

Sergt. Cortlund Good was serving with the adjutant general's department with offices in Algiers, North Africa, where he died of meningitis on Oct. 12, 1945. His brother, Lieut. Richard Good was with Company A, 67th armored division, 14th armored division, in France, where he was wounded in action on Nov. 25, 1944 and died on Nov. 26.

Sergt. Good was born in South Bend Oct. 24, 1914, attended Studebaker school, and was graduated from Riley High school in June, 1932. He was graduated from Indiana University, Bloomington, in 1937, and attended Wittenburg college, Springfield, O., and the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Returning to South Bend he taught French, English and music in Riley High school from 1937 until he was inducted into military service June 23, 1941. He trained at Fort Sill, Okla., and went overseas in June, 1943.

Graduated From Riley.

Lieut. Good also was born in South Bend, on March 13, 1920, attended Studebaker school and was graduated from Riley in 1938. He attended the University of Illinois, at Champaign, where he was graduated in January, 1943. He played football both for Riley and the university.

He was inducted into the army on Feb. 12, 1943 and trained at Fort Knox, Ky., Camp Chaffee, Ark., and Camp Campbell, Ky. He was married at the Kentucky camp in 1944 to Jeanne Duncan, who now is Mrs. John Wrenn of East Moline, Ill. He went overseas on October, 1944.

The young men are survived by their parents and a brother, Dr. Wesley Good of South Bend. Lieut. Good also leaves a daughter, Richey J. Good, of East Moline.

South Bend (IN) Tribune 20 Mar 1949: 35.

Webpage (ancestry.com:CarolSmith12101114)

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Hugh James Buchanan

Hugh is one of two World War II fatalities from Pulaski County buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Born: 4/24/1922

Entered:

Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,O-2081884,2LT

Died: 10/20/1945

Parents: Harry James and Eunice Miller Buchanan

On 20 October 1945, Hugh Buchanan, 23, died as a navigator in an air crash in the Pacific. He had a grandmother in Winamac. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, VA.



Lt. Hugh J. Buchanan

Interment in Arlington

The body of Lt. Hugh J. Buchanan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry J. Buchanan of Kalamazoo, Mich., and a grandson of Mrs. E. Miller of Winamac, reached the Pacific coast from Yokahoma during the holidays and is to be given burial in Arlington National cemetery. A navigator in the Air Corps, the young man died in 1945, after hostilities ceased.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 6 Jan 1949: 1.

Hugh J. Buchanan (Collection of Lakegirl) - ancestry.com

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

It's a Small World (War II) for John and Charles to meet while both in Patton's Third Army.

Charles Richard "Charlie" Zellers Sr.

Born: 11/11/1921

Entered: 7/2/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35359144,PFC

Discharged:

Died: 4/13/1996

Parents: Charles Walter and Susan "Susie" Margaret Trapp Zellers



PFC Charles Richard Zellers, in the Infantry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Zellers of Winamac.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 29 Jul 1943: 1.

John William O'Connor

Born: 4/6/1921

Entered: 7/2/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35359161,TEC/3

Medal: Bronze Star

Discharged: 12/3/1945

Died: 9/22/1959

Parents: William Henry "Will" and Lucy Molloy O'Connor



Cpl. John O'Connor, in the medical corps, son of Mr. and Mrs. Will O'Connor of Winamac,

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 27 May 1943: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Mr. and Mrs. William O'Connor of Winamac received a letter the last of the week from their son, Sgt. John O'Connor, who is with General Patton's Third Army, in which he said he had received a bronze star for "heroic deed performed." He gave no details of the incident, except to say that he had not considered it so much at the time but of course was glad it had been recognized. Sgt. O'Connor told of a recent meeting he had with PFC Charles Zellers, also of Winamac and also in the Third Army.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 15 Feb 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Malcolm Ellars "Jack" Horner

Jack earned his Bronze Star and Purple Heart, even though wounded, by helping evacuate other wounded from his ship's interior and directing fire-fighters to reach another group of wounded after a kamikaze attack.

Born: 9/11/1913

Entered: 7/1/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USN,,LT

Awards: Purple Heart, Bronze Star

Discharged: 1/21/1946

Died: 1/3/1996

Spouse: Eleanor L. Horner

Parents: Owen Francis and Helen Minerva Humerickhouse Horner

Lt. Malcolm E. Horner, temporarily residing at South Bend at the home of his wife's parents, has been honored for meritorious achievement last April 2 in the Pacific waters off the Island of Kerama Retto. Lt. Horner, on terminal leave prior to naval discharge on Jan. 21, has been presented the Bronze Star medal by the commander of amphibious forces, Pacific theatre. Horner won the award while serving on the staff of the commander of transport division 50 and in the assault on Kerama Retto, which was developed as a supply base for the later assault on the Isle of Okinawa. Horner's vessel was struck by a suicide plane. In the action Horner was wounded, but he assisted in evacuation of other wounded from the vessel's smoke-filled interior. He also directed a fire-fighting party to reach a group of wounded men. The naval veteran, who also holds the Purple Heart, will leave Monday for Chicago where he plans to return to the employ of the National Safety Council. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Horner of Medaryville.

Winamac (IN) Republican 10 Jan 1946: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Ralph William Buck

The story of Ralph's escape from German captors was described in a WGN radio broadcast and a Tribune article in Chicago.

Born: 4/23/1919

Entered: 6/30/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35163061,1LT

Discharged:

Died: 5/29/1968

Parents: Maud Kauffman (Felix Grover "Grover") [deceased] Buck



1st Lt. Ralph Buck, in field artillery, son of Mrs. Maude Buck of Star City.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 22 Jul 1943: 1.

The thrilling story of the escape of Lieut. Ralph Buck, son of Mrs. Maud Buck of Star City, and two other soldiers from German captors was told last week in a broadcast over radio station WGN and recounted in detail in a story in The Chicago Tribune the next day. The Tribune's correspondent said he had met Lieut. Buck who had directed him into the town of Bastogna.

Another brother, Thomas Buck, also a lieutenant, is serving with the armed forces in France.

Winamac (IN) Republican 4 Jan 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Winfred Henry "Wint" "Doc" Hartman

Wint earned his Silver Star when he "crawled through devastating barrages and saved the lives of his comrades".

Born: 5/23/1924

Entered: 5/31/1943

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35145680,T/5

Medals: Silver Star, Purple Heart, Presidential Unit Citation

Discharged: 12/29/1945

Died: 1/17/2018

Spouse: Margaret Lou Strasser Hartman

Parents: Henry Albert "Bert" and Aurelia Agnes Fox Hartman

T/5 Winfred H. Hartman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hartman of Monterey, arrived in Monterey Tuesday evening, after two years' service overseas. While in action in Germany, he was badly wounded. At the risk of his own life he crawled through devastating barrages and saved the lives of his comrades, for which he was awarded the Silver Star. He also has the Purple Heart, Presidential Citation, meritorious service plaque with one star, combat badge and ETO ribbon with two campaign stars. The Hartmans had four sons in service, two of whom are still in service.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 17 Jan 1946: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Henry Clifford "Clifford" Rans

Clement earned his Bronze Star "perform[ing] his duties as a battalion sergeant major in a highly meritorious manner".

Born: 8/29/1914

Entered:

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,,PVT

Medal: Bronze Star

Discharged:

Died: 9/25/1999

Parents: Nellie Mae Smith (Emanual Edwin) Rans (Glen) Thompson and Emanuel Edwin Rans



Pvt. Henry C. Rans, in the infantry, son of E. E. Rans of Ollphant, Ark., resident of Winamac until five years ago.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 17 Jun 1943: 1.

PPC Henry C. Rans of Winamac has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal by the commanding general of the 6th Infantry Division for heroism in action against the Japanese near Montalban, Luzon, P. I., on February 24. Rans moved his heavy machine gun into position just in time to help repulse a Jap attack. In following attacks he moved from place to place, bringing his firepower to bear on the Japs where it was most needed. (Special to The Democrat from Public relations, 6th Infantry.)

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 23 Aug 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Edmund Joseph Russell

Edmond earned his Bronze Star when, along the Siegfried Line, he "courageously dismounted from his tank destroyer and went forward on foot, despite enemy machine gun and artillery fire. Locating two enemy tanks, he returned to his vehicle and destroyed both.".

Born: 9/25/1912

Entered: 6/15/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35357667,SGT

Medal: Bronze Star

Discharged: 11/1/1945?

Died: 1/18/1999

Parents: Julia A Yeager (Frank A.[deceased]) Russell



PFC Edmund Russell, son of
Mrs. Julia Russell of Pulaski,
with the tank destroyers.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 1 Jul 1943: 1.

Sgt. Edmund J. Russell, son of Mrs. Julia Russell of Pulaski, has received a bronze star for meritorious achievement while fighting on the Siegfried line. He is in an armored division of the Third Army, and was presented the star by its commanding general, Maj. Gen. Robert W. Grow. The exact location of the division was censored from the news report supplied The Democrat by headquarters.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 15 Feb 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II



Pulaski Man Receives Medal

Sgt. Edmund J. Russell, son of Mrs. Julia Russell of Pulaski, is shown above as he was receiving the Bronze Star for meritorious achievement from Maj. Gen. Robert W. Grow, commanding officer of an armored division of the Third Army. Mrs. Russell last

week received the official orders from headquarters, which stated that Sgt. Russell "courageously dismounted from his tank destroyer and went forward on foot, despite enemy machine gun and artillery fire. Locating two enemy tanks, he returned to his vehicle and destroyed both of them."

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 8 Mar 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Glenn Edward Purkey

Glenn earned his Air Medal during the invasion of Sicily as pilot of a paratroop and cargo plane.

Born: 4/20/1922

Entered: 6/26/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,15063060,1LT

Medal: Air Medal

Discharged:

Died: 1988?

Parents: Hugh May and Elizabeth M. Davis Purkey

First Lt. Glen E. Purkey, formerly of Star City, was recently awarded a third oak leaf cluster for his air medal. Pilot of a paratroop and cargo hauling plane, a C-47, Lt. Purkey earned the air medal for his part in the invasion of Sicily, and the oak leaf clusters for the invasions of Italy and Western Europe, and re-supplying armies in Holland. Lt. Purkey is a brother of Everett Purkey of Crown Point, former resident of Star City.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 22 Feb 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Philip Celestine Brucker

While recovering in a stateside veterans' hospital, Philip made Valentine's hearts for his mother and girlfriends!

Born: 3/11/1915

Entered: 5/13/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35159973,S/SGT

Discharged:

Died: 12/12/1990

Parents: Charles George and Susan Frances "Susie" Rohman Brucker



S/Sgt. Philip Brucker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brucker of Monterey, in an armored division.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 14 Oct 1943: 1.

Two Soldiers Are Wounded

Wounds of Pvt. Arnold Mull, Monticello and Phillip Brucker, Near Winamac, Reported Serious.

Two soldiers from this vicinity, one from Pulaski county and the other from White county, have been seriously wounded in France, according to information received by their families.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brucker, of east of Winamac, were notified that their son, Phillip, 30, was wounded on July 31 and that he has been removed to a hospital in England. He has been in the army since May, 1941, and overseas since December, 1942.

Mrs. Arnold Mull received a telegram stating that Pvt. Arnold Mull of Monticello was wounded on Aug. 5. No other details were learned.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 23 Aug 1944: 11.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brucker, who received word from the war department that their son was seriously wounded in action and was in a hospital in England, received a letter Wednesday from him dated August 13 that he was O. K.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 24 Aug 1944: 8.

County Men Are Members of Hard Fighting Division

Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Pugh received a letter this week from their son, T/Sgt. Arthur Pugh, in which he enclosed a copy of the war record of the Fourth Armored Division, including T/Sgt. Pugh, Lt. Albin S. Shank, S/Sgt. Ralph Miller, T/5 Ernest Clouser and S/Sgt. Philip Brucker. The last two named have suffered wounds and Sgt. Brucker is now in the hospital at Fort Benjamin Harrison.

The War Department disclosed that the Fourth Division spearheaded the 3rd Army advance across France. After landing in Normandy on D-Day, it went on to cut off Brittany peninsula and was identified with the hardest fighting in the liberation of France.

The division was credited with smashing 400 enemy tanks, 140 large artillery pieces, 1500 miscellaneous vehicles, and taking 15,000 prisoners, all at relatively low cost to itself. It destroyed the Nazi 77th, 91st, 243rd infantry divisions, the 6th paratroop division and the 281st cavalry battalion. The Germans regarded the men of the Fourth Armored as "Supermen."

The reaction of a German Colonel of shock troops is typical. The Nazi officer, captured by the Fourth, said, "Having been a commander of army units in Russia, I must admit that the American troops are not only equipped with the best material, but what strikes me especially is the excellance of organization under which these men now function. I would be pleased to know the commander of this division."

The Germans described the Fourth as the American Elite Fourth Armored Division and Fourth Panzer, and called the men "ruthless fighters. The unit, commanded by Maj. Gen. John S. Wood, served as part of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 23 Nov 1944: 1.

The Indianapolis Star (Indianapolis, Indiana) • 14 Feb 1945, Wed • Page 13
Newspapers.com



WOUNDED WAR VETERAN MAKES VALENTINES—S/Sgt. Phillip Brucker, a patient in Billings General Hospital at Fort Benjamin Harrison, has made Valentine hearts for his mother, Mrs. Charles Brucker of Monterey, Ind., and for girl friends. Brucker sewed the hearts from plastic, mounted red ones upon white ones and hung them on silver chains. The material for the necklaces was provided by the occupational therapy department. Brucker was injured during an air raid on the St. Lo area of France when he was buried under debris. He was rescued by Frenchmen who sent for help from his outfit.

Indianapolis (IN) Star 14 Feb 1945: 13. Website (newspapers.com)

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

William Edward Powell Jr.

William earned his Bronze Star laying defensive mines "despite concentrated enemy artillery and mortar fire."

Born: 7/17/1922

Entered: 9/10/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,15312609,PVT

Medal: Bronze Star

Discharged:

Died: 10/29/1967

Parents: William Edward "Ed" and Lorah Frances Stanfield Powell



Pvt. William Powell, in the engineers, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Powell of Winamac.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 29 Jun 1944: 1.

Awarded Bronze Star

PFC William E. Powell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Powell of Winamac, has been awarded the Bronze Star "for heroic achievement in action on February 25." He and three other men of his engineering company "courageously moved forward of the front lines to lay necessary defensive mines and succeeded, despite concentrated enemy artillery and mortar fire directed at them. Displaying outstanding devotion to duty under hazardous conditions, these men materially aided the securing of an important objective," according to the citation, an official copy of which comes to The Democrat.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 12 Apr 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Clarence Courtright Custer

Entering at 74, Clarence had served before in the Merchant Marine for 8 years.

Born: 9/2/1870

Entered:

Branch,SN,Rank: USMM,,1st Asst. Engr.

Discharged:

Died: 8/14/1953

Spouse: Cynthia Permilla Bailey Custer

Parents: Lebbeus Bigelaw and Sarah Ann Morehart Custer[both deceased]

**Former Resident, Now 74,
Re-Enters Merchant Marine**

Clarence C. Custer of Logansport, who was superintendent of the Winamac water and electric plant during the early 1900's, has decided that despite his seventy-four years he wasn't going to let two grandsons fight the war for him. So he started today for Philadelphia to report for sea duty aboard a merchant ship, having re-enlisted in the Merchant Marine as first assistant engineer. He served in a similar capacity for eight years, not a great while after leaving Winamac.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 1 Mar 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Stanley Keith Henry

After a field operation for appendicitis, Stanley was carried by stretcher 60 miles over five days by Chinese coolies, during an assignment behind Japanese lines.

Born: 5/5/1920

Entered: 11/16/1942

Branch, SN, Rank: USN, PhM3c

Discharged: 10/25/1945?

Died: 12/19/1971

Spouse: Lois Charlotte Zellers Henry

Parents: Herschel Emerson and Edith Margaret Bader Henry



Stanley K. Henry, ph. mate 3/c, in the Navy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herschel Henry of Winamac. His wife is the former Miss Lois Zellers.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 8 Jul 1943: 1.

Mrs. Stanley Henry, 454 North Market, has received a large box of gifts from her husband then in Calcutta, Indio. Ph. Mate Stanley Henry started the box the middle of January and reached Mrs. Henry on the 25th of April in splendid condition. Each article had to be listed and cost of each in rupees on box. Each rupee is equal to 48 cents in American money. These totaled 124 rupees. Some of the gifts listed are: An all leather suitcase made in England, rose bowl, vases, 3 pounds of tea, 40 year calendar, 4 ivory elephants and ivory statuettes. Most of the pieces are in highly polished brass and in gorgeous colors. Friends may call at Mrs. Henry's residence to see the collection.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 26 Apr 1944: 2.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Mr. and Mrs. Herschel Henry received a letter from their son, Wendle, somewhere in or near the Philippine Islands. In the letter he said, "I saw the Harry Kocher tragedy." Harry Kocher is a former Winamac boy who was reported killed in action sometime in October. No more details were given. The Henrys received a cablegram from another son Stanley, Ph. M. 1-c on Monday sending them Christmas greetings from China.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 19 Dec 1944: 5.

Democrat Travels Far; Chinese Share Winamac Sailor's Paper



Proof that The Democrat "gets around"—the world—is shown above in the picture of a Winamac sailor, stationed in China, and two native friends reading the Pulaski County Democrat. The sailor in the picture is Stanley Henry, Ph.M.2/c, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herschel Henry of Winamac. His wife and son also live here. The photo was mailed the middle of December and received by the Democrat office last week. The papers which the men are reading are the issues of June 8, telling of the European invasion, and of July 20.

Accompanying the picture was a letter from the photographer, another Navy man, who wrote: "Your newspaper must have a wide circulation. The enclosed picture impressed me so much that I thought you would be interested in knowing who reads your paper at the four corners of the earth.

"The American in the picture is one of your citizens, but for reasons of censorship and security I can only use his first name, which is Stanley. I met him in a far off part of China and can assure everyone in his town that he is in good health and seems to be enjoying his tour of duty over here, even

though I know from experience that he would like it much better at home.

"He informed me that he reads your paper regularly, even though it is sometimes six months en route. He told me when I met him in the first part of December that the Allies had finally invaded Europe. (See date of paper.) It was the only good news we had had in this theatre of war in a long time. It is no doubt hard for the people at home to realize that there are places in the world that even so fine a service as the U. S. Mail is often times six months between calls.

"As far as we are concerned, the Chinese people have set a new high in hospitality. If any of our Allies are having a bad time of it, they should look to the Chinese people for ability to get along under the most adverse of conditions. Whether they feel good or bad, when they greet you it's 'Ting Hao,' pronounced Ding How and means 'the very best of everything.'

"I have read the Democrat so much that I am beginning to feel like one of the local boys. Here's hoping that it keeps coming in the future as it has in the past and that the next big headline is WAR ENDS and we can all come home."

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 25 Jan 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Sailor Relates 5-Day Trip By Stretcher

Stanley Henry, Ph. M. 1/c, of Winamac, who underwent an operation for appendicitis in China in February, tells of subsequent events in a letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herschel Henry, written a month after the operation. He makes no mention in the letter of Jap attacks but previously had said that the enemy was getting closer, which undoubtedly accounted for the forced march. He wrote, under date of March 19, in part:

"Expect you think that I have forgotten how to write. Well, it's just that things happened here of late that made it impossible until now. I, along with several of my buddies, just finished a five-day hike of sixty miles. I, of course had to be carried on a bamboo stretcher by four coolies and let me tell you it wasn't any picnic.

"We crossed two large mountains, either of which I could have fallen several hundred feet. As luck would have it, when they did drop me I was pretty near level ground. So everything came O.K. Had a rough time of it due to coolies running away, and rain, sleet, snow and cold. But now that

it is over, and I look back to my experiences, I guess it wasn't so bad, but I will have a good story to relate when I get home.

"Mail came in on March 11 and 12. I had six letters, box of stationery, box of canned goods, new pipe and tobacco, newspapers and funnies. (His Christmas gifts) I had to leave some of it behind as there was not enough room to carry it all nor enough time to pass it around. Maybe if things don't get too bad I can get back in another month or so to round it up again.

"I have enough clothes and toilet articles to last awhile but likewise I left lots behind. The food stuff certainly came in handy on our trip. A few others had some food so after pooling it we had several roadside meals.

"Am able to walk a little now but still quite wobbly. The incision should be pretty well healed within a week or so and then I can get outside and walk around. It will be a month tomorrow since my operation and ordinarily it would have been healed long before, but my case was a little different and developed a little trouble.

"Just finished spraying and airing in my bedroll as along the way I picked up fleas and bedbugs. Our place here is very nice, chow is good and I have a heated room for the first time this winter. Spring should be just around the corner as many trees are in bloom and the crops are well up... Don't worry and I'll be seeing you all this summer."

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 26 Apr 1945: 1.

Sailor from Here Plays Part In Activities Against the Japs

It can now be revealed that Stanley K. Henry, pharmacist's mate first class, of Winamac, played a role in one of the most romantic and dangerous episodes of the war against Japan—as a member of a Naval group of guerrillas, intelligence agents and weather observers behind the Japanese lines in Asia.

The group, now known as SACO ← Sino-American Co-operative Organization — began shortly after Pearl Harbor as strictly a weather reporting unit.

The project grew until it was providing the U. S. Fleet, the Army's 14th Air Force and the Chinese and American Army headquarters with weather reports and with intelligence on movement of Jap ships, troops and supplies. Finally, it became a dangerous fighting outfit, killing Japs, blowing up trains, raiding Jap outposts. Its activities finally extended all the way from Indo-China to the Gobi Desert.

SACO intelligence allowed the 14th Air Force to mine coastal waters, forcing Jap shipping out to sea, where they were attacked by American submarines. An information from SACO. Weather information helped the Navy decide when to stage invasions on Jap Islands and raids on the Jap homeland.

Usually it was possible to enter or depart from Jap territory by air, but SACO Americans became



Ph. M. 1/c STANLEY K. HENRY

adept at Chinese disguises and, guided by SACO Chinese, slipped through enemy lines when they chose. Through months and years not one SACO member was detected.

The above report was sent to The Democrat from Washington. Petty Officer Henry is now at home on leave with his wife and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herschel Henry of Winamac. Mr. Henry states that he was sworn to secrecy about the operations during the time he was there and for six months after the war was over.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 27 Sep 1945: 1.

Ex-Serviceman Tells Club of Months in China

Stanley Henry of Winamac, recently discharged from the Navy, in which he served as a pharmacist's mate, held an attentive audience at the Kiwanis meeting Tuesday by relating some of his experiences. He was in a medical outfit of about thirty men that was flown into China, where a relief outpost was maintained.

The outfit was so far removed from other stations, he stated, that small groups of the men would travel on foot to a point sixty

miles distant to get their mail. They had no cars or trucks, and scarcely any gasoline to run the electric generator in their hospital. The mail which they finally did receive had been months on the way. He remarked that copies of The Democrat looked "as big as barn doors" to him, even though they were as much as nine months old when they reached him.

Stanley suffered an attack of appendicitis just as the outfit was ordered to move ahead of an approaching Jap army. Surgeons used flashlights in performing an operation, and he was carried on a hand stretcher for five days to the new destination. On top of that, he narrowly escaped two plane crashes on the outward trip.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 7 Mar 1946: 1.

Six Ex-Service Sons Home

With their six ex-service sons all home at the same time for the first in five years, Easter was the occasion of a family gathering at the Herschel Henry home. Guests for the day were Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Henry and sons Larry and Myron of Peru, Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Henry and son Marshall Lee of North Manchester, Mr. and Mrs. Byron Henry of Indianapolis, and Corwin and Lorwin Henry, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Henry and children and Miss Lois Abbott.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 10 Apr 1947: 1.

Delta Sigma Tau club is to meet Tuesday evening at 8:30 at the home of Mrs. M. T. Barco. Co-hostesses are Miss Lorene Mutti and Mrs. Stanley Henry. The guest speaker, Stanley Henry, will tell of his experiences in the China-Burma-India theater during World War 2, and roll call response is to be "Cute Sayings of Children."

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 16 Feb 1950: 3.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Russell Allen "Allen" "Russ" Dilts Jr.

Allen earned his Bronze Star by advancing his observation post unit across the heavily defended rover while under intense enemy fire to direct friendly artillery to silence enemy fire on moving troops.

Born: 4/8/1917

Entered: ≤1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,,CPT

Medal: Bronze Star

Discharged:

Died: 6/2/1970

Spouse: Mary Charlotte "Charlotte" Fritz Dilts

Parents: Russell "Russ" Allen and Lenora Mary Obright Dilts



CAPT. ALLEN DILTS

Capt. Allen Dilts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Dilts of Winamac, is special service officer at Fort Sill, Okla., in the Field Artillery. He has charge of athletic events, camp shows and special programs for the enlisted men. Capt. Dilts has been in the service since August, 1941.

Winamac (IN) Republican 29 Apr 1943: 1.

Sons Write from Two Sides of World

"We have no trouble finding shelter," writes Capt. Allen Dilts to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Dilts of Winamac, in speaking of advancements which the Third Army is making into German territory north of Metz. He explains that it is not unusual for the attacking American soldiers to find German residences entirely abandoned by their occupants, even to food in the pantry, thus making it easy for the invaders to find places to live.

A letter from another son, Lieut. John Dilts, reveals that he was a participant in the attack on Leyte, in the Philippines, and that the vessel on which he reached the island was hit by a Jap bomb. It struck in the midst of a shipment of oxygen gas tanks, which caused a hot fire, but damage to the ship was slight and the casualties few. He was stationed about eight miles inland on Leyte when he wrote.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 7 Dec 1944: 2.

High Praise for Capt. Dilts

Captain Allen Dilts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Dilts of Winamac, was recently awarded the Bronze Star medal, he informed his wife, also of Winamac, in a letter she received this week from France, where he is now serving. Holder of four, and perhaps five, battle stars, the following citation by command of General Patton, accompanied the presentation of the honor: "For heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in Germany. On March 10, 1945, near Alf, Germany, Capt. Dilts fearlessly led a forward observation party across the heavily defended Moselle river to establish an artillery observation post. With utter disregard for his own safety he exposed himself to intense enemy fire and adjusted friendly artillery fire with such accuracy that the enemy guns which had been harassing troop movements were silenced. Capt Dilts' heroic leadership and courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service."

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 6 Sep 1945: 1.

AWARDED BRONZE STARS

Capt. Allen A. Dilts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Dilts and husband of Mrs. Charlotte Dilts, all of Winamac, has been awarded the Bronze Star, according to word received this week by his wife.

The citation stated: "Capt. Allen A. Dilts, in the field artillery, has been awarded the Bronze Star for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in Germany. On March 10, 1945, near Alf, Germany, Capt. Dilts fearlessly led a forward observation party across the heavily defended Moselle River to establish an artillery observation post. With utter disregard for his own safety, he exposed himself to intense enemy fire and adjusted friendly artillery fire with such accuracy that the enemy guns, which had been harassing troop movements, were silenced. Capt. Dilts' heroic leadership and courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service."

Capt. Dilts has been overseas over a year, and served in the Third Army. He is expected to arrive in the States in November.

Winamac (IN) Republican 6 Sep 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Bernard Arden Scheffer

As one of the Army soldiers with wounds that limited their assignments, Bernard became a "sailjer" wearing a Navy uniform on duty while performing harbor craft operations, freeing able-bodied sailors for front-line duty.

Born: 6/29/1925

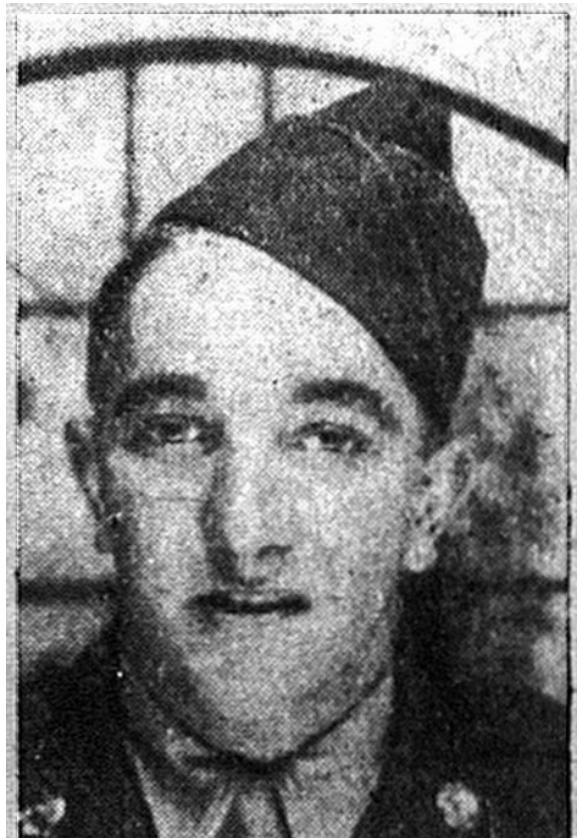
Entered: 10/1/1943

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35895891,PVT

Discharged: 1/26/1946

Died: 6/19/1999

Parents: Bernard "Ben" August and Flora Ann Ruch Scheffer



Pvt. Bernard O. Scheffer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Scheffer of the Pulaski vicinity, in the infantry overseas.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 22 Jun 1944: 1.

Wounded Pulaski County Lad Now a "Sailjer"

A news dispatch from the 342d Harbor Craft Company, "somewhere in England," lists Pvt. Bernard A. Scheffer of Star City, Ind., in a group of front-line combat veterans whose wounds have tabbed them "limited service" and who are becoming Army "sailjers"—wearing regular Navy garb on duty and ODs off duty. The nickname is a made word, using the "sail" out of sailor and the "jer" out of soldier.

An intensive training program teaches former doughboys the various phases of harbor-craft operations, supplemented by practical training aboard Liberty ships, motor tow launches and sea mines.

Upon completion of nautical training, the battle scarred GIs will replace harbor-craft soldiers who are slated for front-line duty. Besides lessons in knot-tying, the trainees are given lectures and demonstration in the seaman's art of whipping, splicing, serving, parcelling, worming, care of lines and ropes, first-aid at sea, small boat handling and abandon-ship procedure.

In a recent letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Scheffer of Indian Creek township, Pvt. Scheffer stated that he was feeling fine. He was in several different hospitals after being wounded.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 15 Mar 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Earl Joseph Teyner

Joe saves his LST (amphibious assault landing ship) by welding shut the shell/shrapnel holes while under enemy fire.

Born: 8/11/1916

Entered:

Branch,SN,Rank: USCG,,BM1

Discharged:

Died: 12/1/1971

Spouse: Doris Bernice Battenfield Teyner

Parents: Benjamin and Mary Katherine Novak Teyner



Earl Joseph Teyner Collection of Sherrie Teyner Williams



(Collection of Sherrie Teyner Williams[Facebook]). True Comics, New York City NY, The Parents' Institute 25 Mar 1945.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

It's a Small World (War II) for brothers-in-law, Jacob and Robert, in London.

Jacob William Wagner

Born: 7/23/1921
Entered: 7/2/1942
Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,35359151,S/SGT
Awards: Air Medal, Distinguished Flying Cross
Discharged: 9/25/1945
Died: 11/13/1975

Spouse: Jo Ann Decker Wagner
Parents: Jacob G. and Hattie Ione Clara Long Wagner



SGT. JACOB W. WAGNER

Sgt. Jacob W. Wagner, oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Wagner of Monterey, is in the machine gun section of Co. A, 422d Infantry, 106th Division, at Fort Jackson, S. C.

Winamac (IN) Republican 4 Mar 1943: 1.

Robert William Decker

Born: 12/10/1921
Entered: 8/20/1942?
Branch,SN,Rank: ,CPL
Discharged:
Died: 12/22/1980

Parents: William "Willie" Leo and Ernestine Rock Decker



Robert Decker and family (Collection of Trevor Grismore) -
ancestry.com/mediai-viewer/collection/1030/tree/55455107/person/292364463285/media/c9f41c7e-4d89-41da-b156-461679badbae

S-Sgt. Jacob W. Wagner and Cpl. Robert W. Decker, brothers-in-law, from Monterey, met in London over the weekend according to information received here this week. Sgt. Wagner is a gunner on a bombing plane and Cpl. Decker is an aircraft machinist. Each has a brother in the service.

Winamac (IN) Republican 1 Mar 1945: 1

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

It's All in the Family for the Depoy Brothers and Cousins

Three sons and three grandsons of Oscar & Della were in service.

Oscar Arl Depoy & Della Florence Rinebarger

1900 Raymond Elmer
1923 **Richard Burrel**
1904 Thomas Roscoe
1926 **Thomas Eugene**
1928 **Leon Ralph**
1917 **Delmar Arl**
1920 **Harry Jay**
1925 **George Hadden**

Depoy Delmar Arl "Del"

Enlisting with George and Harry, Delmar went into the field artillery

Born: 9/16/1917

Entered: 5/8/1944

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35838080,CPL

Discharged:

Died: 10/17/1968

Spouse: Dollie Violet "Vi" Davis Williams

Depoy

Parents: Della Florence Rinebarger (Oscar Arl[deceased]) Depoy

Harry Jay Depoy

Enlisting with Del and George, Harry went into heavy artillery in Europe.

Born: 4/1/1920

Entered: 5/8/1944

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35838085,CPL

Discharged: 3/4/1946

Died: 11/3/2004

Spouse: Berniece Katherine Paulsen Depoy

Parents: Della Florence Rinebarger (Oscar Arl[deceased]) Depoy

Richard Burrel "Dick" Depoy

Dick, with an engineering unit in England, took part in the D-Day invasion.

Medal: Purple Heart

Discharged:

Died: 6/10/2020

Parents: Raymond Elmer and Hazel Elizabeth Good Depoy

Born: 6/10/1923

Entered: 1/23/1943

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35543666,T/5

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

George Hadden Depoy

Along with two buddies also on leave, George visited Duggleby Motor Sales, where they once worked. Enlisting with Del and Harry, George went into the Army after a stint in the Merchant Marines.

Born: 9/18/1925

Entered: 5/8/1944

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35838088,T4

Discharged:

Died: 1/19/2014

Parents: Della Florence Rinebarger (Oscar Arl[deceased]) Depoy

Thomas Eugene Depoy, Jr.

Like his Uncle George, Thomas went into the Army after a stint in the Merchant Marines.

Born: 5/5/1926

Entered: 6/5/1946

Branch,SN,Rank: USMM,, St2c

Branch,SN,Rank: USA, 45057283,PFC

Discharged: 10/25/1947

Died: 11/28/1989

Parents: Thomas Roscoe and Mildred Elizabeth Sims Depoy

Leon Ralph Depoy

Leon was in the infantry.

Born: 1/18/1928

Entered: 3/24/1946

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,15209779,PFC

Discharged: 8/6/1947

Died: 1/4/1958

Parents: Thomas Roscoe and Mildred Elizabeth Sims Depoy

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories



Cpl. Delmar Depoy, in field artillery in Germany, son of Mrs. Oscar Depoy of Winamac. His wife and children also live in Winamac.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 12 Jul 1945: 1.



Cpl. Harry Depoy, son of Mrs. Oscar Depoy of Winamac, in heavy artillery in Europe. His wife and children also live in Winamac.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 12 Jul 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II



T/5 Richard Depoy, stationed in England with an engineering unit, son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Depoy, west of Winamac.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 6 Jan 1944: 1.



George Depoy, S 2/c, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Depoy, east of Winamac, on sea duty with the Merchant Marines.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 13 Apr 1944: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories



St. 2/c Thomas E. Depoy Jr., in the Merchant Marines, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Depoy of Star City.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 6 Dec 1945: 1.



Pvt. Leon Depoy, in the infantry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Depoy of Star City.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 5 Se[1946: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

The merits of the various military services were threshed out over the week end at the Duggleby Motor Sales when three former employees returned home on leave.

Sergeant Kenneth Heater, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Heater, stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; George Depoy, Seaman 2-C of the Merchant Marine, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Depoy, and Seaman William Larkin, stationed at Oxford, O., son of Mrs. Agnes Larkin of South Bend, formerly of Lucerne, all visited with their former employer, Charles Duggleby.

Winamac (IN) Republican 9 Mar 1944: 1.

Delmar Depoy, from a camp in Georgia, is spending a 15-day furlough with his family here.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 23 Sep 1944: 7.



Delmar, George, and Harry Depoy (Collection of psholmes166). Website: [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com).



George, Harry, and Delmar (Collection of psholmes166). Website: [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com).

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories



Harry, Delmar, and George Depoy (Collection of psholmes166). Website: [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com).



Dolly&Delmar Depoy (Collection of psholmes166). Website: [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com).



Harry and Delmar (Collection of psholmes166). Website: [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com).

Our Boys: A Community During World War II



Vi&Del Depoy (Collection of psholmes166). Website: ancestry.com.



Delmar wrote his wife's name, Violet, on his jeep (Collection of psholmes166). Website: ancestry.com.



PFC George Depoy, son of Mrs. Oscar Depoy of Winamac, serving with the field artillery in Germany.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 12 Jul 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories



George and his parents, Della&Oscar Depoy(Collection of psholmes166). Website: ancestry.com.



George and crashed ME109 in Europe (Collection of psholmes166). Website: ancestry.com.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II



Harry Depoy

(Collection of Veterans of Pulaski County)



**Pvt. Thomas E. Depoy, son of
and Mrs. Thomas R. Depoy of
Star City, in the Infantry.**

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 5 Sep 1946: 1.



Harry Depoy and guns (Collection of psholmes166). Website: ancestry.com.

Local Soldier Writes About Life in Japan

Thomas E. DePoy of Winamac, stationed in Kobe, Japan, has written an article to The Democrat about farming and fishing in Japan. Parts of the letter follow:

The isles of Japan are mostly mountainous and rocky, but yet there is a lot of land available for farming. The farm land is of poor class compared to ours and must be fertilized heavily to grow good crops. Japan has such a dense population that every portion of ground, regardless of how large or small, is used. Land in the mountains and around the doorstep is also used.

The main crop is rice. Before planting the rice, the ground is heaped up in a mound, in much the same manner that we plant sweet potatoes. Every farmer plants his seed before the tenth of June, as that is the day that the heavy rains come. The fields remain flooded until after the crop is harvested in October.

Other crops beside rice are peas, onions, Chinese lettuce, Irish potatoes, etc. These other crops are not grown in abundance by the individual farmer. He grows only enough for his family use.

Fishing is another main occupation of these people. Many are forced to turn to the sea as a means of livelihood. They rise early in the morning and go to their favorite grounds. Here they spend the day catching sake or salmon, Lai, Suba and Sawala.

Lai is the principal fish caught, which ranges all the way from six inches in length to two feet. Sake or salmon is the next best type of fish. Besides these and many other sea fish, there are also various kinds of fresh water fish.

Thomas Depoy



(Collection of Wendy Taylor) Website: ancestry.com

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

The Army could not get the boys home for their father's funeral, so this picture was sent to his three sons in France.



Oscar Ali Depoy (Collection of psholmes166): 1 Mar 1945. Website: ancestry.com.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

It's a Small World (War II) for Don, Charles, and Al meeting somewhere in India.

Donald Wilmot "Don" Cullen

Born: 9/15/1923
Entered: 2/18/1943?
Branch,SN,Rank:
USA,35092561,SGT
Discharged:
Died: 6/26/2020

Parents: Wilmot Knowlton and Lucinda "Lucy" Agnew Cullen



Sgt. Donald W. Cullen, with the Army in India, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilmot Cullen of Winamac.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 21 Sep 1944: 1.

Charles William Garling

Born: 6/10/1923
Entered: 2/12/1943
Branch,SN,Rank:
USA,35092563,CPL
Discharged: 10/25/1945?
Died: 6/17/2015

Parents: Harry Frederick and Pearl C. Linback Garling



PFC Charles W. Garling, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Garling of Winamac, stationed overseas with an airborne division.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 18 Nov 1943: 1.

Alfred Neil "Al" Taylor

Born: 10/27/1918
Entered: 2/16/1942
Branch,SN,Rank:
USAAC,35258478,CPL
Discharged: 1/2/1949
Died: 11/11/2009

Spouse: Edna Ruth "Ruth" Troutman Taylor
Parents: Ira Nelson and Marvel M. McFadden Taylor



Pvt. Alfred N. Taylor, in the Air Corps, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ira N. Taylor, southwest of Winamac.

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

Three soldiers from this county recently met somewhere in India. They are Donald Cullen, Charles Garling and Alfred Taylor.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 20 Mar 1945: 10.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

It's a Small World (War II) for Don, Jim, and Robert in New Guinea.

Donald D. "Don" Marquis

Born: 8/11/1923
Entered: 5/31/1943
Branch,SN,Rank:
USA,35145682,T/5
Discharged: 1/6/1946
Died: 2/27/1976

Spouse: Lois Eleanor
"Eleanor" Dawson Marquis
Parents: James Issac and
Opal Bernice Fry Marquis

Willard James "James" "Jim" Abbott

Born: 5/9/1923
Entered: 1/13/1943
Branch,SN,Rank:
USA,35580828,CPL
Discharged:
Died: 4/7/1974

Parents: Nathan Simmian
and Norma C. Fall Abbott

Robert Melvin Nelson

Born: 4/6/1922
Entered: 6/3/1943?
Branch,SN,Rank:
USN,3860670,GM1
Discharged:
Died: 8/30/1993

Parents: Lee and Lena
French Nelson



Three Pulaski county boys had their picture taken when they got together in New Guinea. They are Donald Marquis and James Abbott of Star City and Robert Nelson of Francesville. Nelson and Marquis have been together in the amphibious engineers since they went in the Army, and Abbott is in the medical corps.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 22 Mar 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Robert Eugene "Bob" Hair

Bob wrote to his folks, "There are millions of slave laborers being liberated at the moment, and they are streaming home along the highways to Holland, Belgium, and France." as well as an essay published in the 5 Apr 1947 issue of the Saturday Evening Post.

Born: 4/11/1921

Entered: 8/12/1942

Branch, SN, Rank: USA, 15107311, T/SGT

Discharged: 3/ /1946?

Died: 3/5/2016

Parents: Charles Franklin "Frank" and Lucy Agnes Zellers Hair



T/Sgt. Robert E. Hair, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hair of Winamac, in the signal corps.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 29 Apr 1943: 1.

Sergeant Tells of Slaves Liberated In Germany

T/Sgt. Robert E. Hair, now with the Army which occupies a portion of captured Germany, relates some of his observations in a recent letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hair of Winamac. Under date of April 5 he wrote:

"We are living in homes in a German city which wasn't too badly pasted by bombers and shelling. I had the task of moving twenty families out of their homes to make room for our troops. According to the Geneva Convention we can take any civilian property as long as it is used for a military purpose. This automatically places a heavy penalty on looting, which is a tremendously attractive activity to some GI's.

"I am writing this to you on a confiscated German typewriter. We have several German autos in our outfit which are being registered and in time will be used in line of duty. My German is proving very valuable knowledge.

"There are millions of slave laborers being liberated at the moment, and they are streaming home along the highways to Holland, Belgium and France. All are walking, because carts and bicycles would choke the military supply routes. Too bad I can't tell you everything I'd like to."

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 19 Apr 1945: 8.

"Post War Anecdote"

National Magazine Prints Story Written by Ex-G.I. from Winamac

Robert E. Hair, former Winamac boy now employed on a newspaper in Sturgis, Mich., is the author of a Post War Anecdote, a feature in last week's issue of the Saturday Evening Post. The story, related to the author by his uncle Arthur Zellers, who served in England with the Seabees, won for Bob a \$100 prize.

Entitled "Something Less Than Heroes," the story is herewith reprinted without permission of the Post:

The 111th Naval Construction Battalion were the first Seabees to arrive in Cornwall, England—though many "common" Navy men were already there—and they expected a hero's welcome. Instead, natives stared unsmiling, getting a pot of ale in the pubs was a struggle, and WRENS at the near-by Royal Navy base tossed them a "hands - across - the - sea - and - that's - all - brother smile" and danced off with the "common" fleet.

Bewildered but resourceful, the Seabees appointed a committee to

get the low-down, and one member finally hit upon a clue: wherever he went, the natives glanced at his sleeve. That night he, a chief and a machinist's mate, second class, cornered a lone "common" sailor in a pub, and, with a little warm beer and cider, solved the mystery.

"Y'see," the little sailor explained chummily, "before you guys got here, there was just enough bitters and WRENS to go around."

"Yeah?" The chief lit a cigarette for him.

"And we didn't want any Seabees cutting in," the sailor continued, "so's all we did was tell the natives the Hundred and Eleventh was a battalion of convicts paroled for front-line duty, and yer sleeves proved it."

"Whaddya mean 'sleeves'?" It was a chorus from the Seabees.

The sailor indicated the arm of the man nearest him.

"Those letters, 'CB,'" he said, grinning. "In limey army-and-navy lingo, that means 'confined to barracks.'"

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

It's a Small World (War II) for brothers, Tom and Jim, in Germany.

Thomas Robert "Tom" Powers

Born: 5/19/1925

Entered: 8/1/1944

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35905840,PFC

Medal: Purple Heart

Discharged: 6/24/1946

Died: 2/13/1995

Parents: Albert Edward and Hazel Gertrude

Zellers Powers

James William "Jim" Powers

Born: 1/23/1918

Entered: 5/18/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35354632,CPL

Discharged:

Died: 5/30/2002

Parents: Albert Edward and Hazel Gertrude

Zellers Powers



Tom & Jim Powers

Tom and Jim Powers - Veterans of Pulaski County

Brothers Meet

Two brothers met in Germany on Easter Sunday for the first time in three years, after several weeks of searching, as each knew the other was not far away. Sons of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Powers of Winamac, they are Cpl. James Powers of the Ninth Air Force and PFC Tom Powers of General Patton's Third Army, and the half day they had together made the holiday happy for both.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 26 Apr 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

It's a Small World (War II) for brothers George and Sonny in Belgium.

George Edward Logan

Born: 11/16/1923
Entered: 2/8/1943
Branch,SN,Rank: PFC
Discharged: 1/6/1946
Died: 11/30/1997

Parents: Thomas "Tom" Nathan and Maude Pearl Culp Logan

Oscar Orville "Orville" "Sonny" Logan

Born: 1/23/1919
Entered:
Branch,SN,Rank:
Discharged:
Died: 1/18/2012

Spouse: Mary E. Finch Logan
Parents: Thomas "Tom" Nathan and Maude Pearl Culp Logan

Brothers Meet Accidentally

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Logan of Minaryville received a letter from their son, PFC George Logan, in which he stated that he and his brother, Orville, met on a street corner in a town in Belgium on March 21. He has been overseas for fourteen months and Orville has been out of the States for two months.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 12 Apr 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Frank Hershel Dunn Jr.

... Frank said, "I carried heavy demolition charges, and when I got within throwing distance I let 'em [Japs] have it.", surviving only to be killed in the line of police duty in 1961.

Born: 10/8/1917

Entered: 1/1/1941?

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,,S/SGT

Discharged:

Died: 6/1/1961

Parents: Francis "Frank" Hershel and Eva Tressa Wesner Dunn

With the First Cavalry Division on Luzon: Destroying Jap pill boxes, knocking out machine gun nests is the combat specialty of S-Sgt. Frank Dunn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dunn of Hammond, formerly of Gillam township, west of Medaryville. S-Sgt. Dunn was a graduate of the Medaryville high school.

Dunn heads a demolition squad and whenever cavalrymen get pinned down by enemy machine gun fire he is called to try and get them out of there.

In the Antopol sector southeast of Manila, Dunn was called upon to get some Japs out of a strongly fortified cave. "First we opened up with heavy machine gun fire which gave me cover; I then pro-

ceeded to make my way up the steep hill. In my hand and about me I carried heavy demolition charges and when I got within throwing distance I let 'em have it." Dunn said.

Dunn also helped knock out several road blocks along the route leading to Manila. He also stated "there's no danger to handling demolition charges. All you have to do is remain calm and know your job well. A veteran of the Admiralty Islands and Leyte campaigns, Dunn entered the service in January, 1941, trained at Fort Bliss, Texas, and arrived overseas in June, 1943. Prior to entering the service he was employed by the Inland Steel Company in Hammond.

Winamac (IN) Republican 3 May 1945: 8.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

James Keith "Jimmy" "Jim" Muskelley

After the Battle of the Bulge, when Jim was liberated from his POW camp after six months, he and other prisoners walked to Paris; he went on to earn a Ph.D. in Spanish and directed International Studies at the University of Memphis.

Born: 10/21/1925

Entered: 11/5/1943

Branch,SN,Rank: ,PVT

Discharged:

Died: 8/6/2011

Parents: James Larkin and Metra I Presley Muskelley

Mrs. Frank Budd received word Tuesday that her nephew, Pvt. James Muskelley, had been missing in action in Germany since between December 19 and 25. A son of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Muskelley of Memphis, Tenn., he went overseas in October, and while in training at Camp Atterbury visited in the Budd home at various times. He just missed meeting his sister, Cpl. Eunice Muskelley of the WAC, who returned from two years' service in Africa and Italy a few days after he was sent to port of embarkation.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 18 Jan 1945: 1.

Pvt. James Muskelley, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Muskelley of Memphis, Tenn., and a nephew of Mrs. Frank Budd of Winamac, has been liberated from a German prison camp. Listed as missing last December, the parents later received letters from him stating he was a prisoner.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 31 May 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

It's a Small World (War II) for Harry, Sidney, and Edwin in London.

Edwin Conrad Gutwein

Born: 7/30/1920
Entered: 8/20/1942?
Branch,SN,Rank: ,,PFC
Discharged:
Died: 10/1/1994

Parents: Kathryn "Katie" Munz (Ludwig Frederick "Fred" "Lewis" [deceased]) Gutwein

Sidney Benjamin Leman

Born: 7/4/1922
Entered: 1/6/1944
Branch,SN,Rank:
USA.35094958,CPL
Discharged:
Died: 12/31/2017

Parents: Henry and Cordelia Eunice Gudeman Leman

Harry Joseph Yaggie

Born:
Entered: 1/6/1944
Branch,SN,Rank:
USA,35094966,SGT
Discharged:
Died: 11/9/2006

Parents: Joseph and Lena Tyle Yaggie

Relatives in Francesville have received word that Sgt. Harry Yaggie, Cpl. Sidney Leman and PFC Edwin Gutwein recently met in London and enjoyed a short visit together.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 10 May 1945: 2.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Alexander "Alex" Rearick

Alex, son of the late publisher of the Winamac Republican, wrote an eyewitness account of firebombing "Tokio" in May 1945, which earned him the Air Medal and Distinguished Flying Cross.

Born: 12/1/1925

Entered: 1/10/1944

Branch, SN, Rank: USAAC, 35900941, SGT

Awards: Air Medal, Distinguished Flying Cross

Discharged: 12/13/1945?

Died:

Parents: Linnette Ross (Arden[deceased]) Rearick



Pfc. Alexander Rearick

Pfc. Alexander Rearick, son of Mrs. Arden Rearick, is a recent graduate of the Army Air Forces Flexible Gunnery School, Laredo Army Air Field, Laredo, Tex., and is now qualified as a member of a bomber combat crew.

Winamac (IN) Republican 6 Jul 1944: 1.

Rides Over Tokio With Fire Bombs

Here is an eye-witness account of how the huge B-29 bombers of the U. S. Air Force soar 30,000 feet above Japan to drop bombs on Tokio. This was written by Sgt. Alex Rearick, a radar operator aboard one of the bombers. Sgt. Rearick is the son of Mrs. Linette Rearick of Winamac and arrived home Friday to spend a week. He holds the Air Medal and Oak Leaf Cluster for four trips over Tokio.

"Joe, the operations clerk came in right after dinner and informed us we were to go to tonight's mission. This 'bad news' was met with threats against his life. We hopped a truck and went to the line. (Hangars.) The belts of .50 calibre machine gun bullets were waiting and the rest of the afternoon was spent in cleaning guns ad loading ammunition.

"As soon as we were done, the engineer came down to run up the engines to see that they were okay. Then back we went to the area for supper and briefing. After briefing, we went back to the plane and were ready for the takeoff. One by one the B-29's taxied out for the takeoff and for the long flight to Japan.

"Hours later we approached the mainland of Japan in the darkness. Almost immediately Jap searchlights probed the skies looking for us. The long fingers of light (Continued on Page 8)

OVER TOKIO

(Continued from Page 1) swept by just missing us. Up ahead we could see the red glow in the sky which marked the burning city of Tokio set afire by the bombers which preceded us.

"More searchlights, red bursts of flak fill the sky. Then, suddenly, we were over the target. The air was bumpy and filled with smoke from the fires in the city. The flak was bursting. You could hear spent pieces rattle off the plane all around us. The searchlights got us in their beams. The bombay doors opened and 10 tons of fire bombs cascaded down into the city to add to the inferno. The city was a sea of flames. Our bombay doors closed and the flak got closer but the pilot went into evasive tactics to get out of the searchlights and bullets.

"We could see the red glow of the burning city 100 miles away as we headed back to our base.

"It was early morning when our home island showed up on the horizon. The green little island is the prettiest sight in the world after a long hard mission.

"We landed and taxied into our place. After crawling out to look over the plane, we found a big hole out on the wing tip—that one came too close."

Winamac (IN) Republican 24 May 1945: 1&8.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Sgt. Alex Rearick arrived home Friday after having received his discharge from the Air Corps. A son of Mrs. Arden Rearick of Winamac, he wears the Asiatic-Pacific ribbon with three battle stars and the Distinguished Flying Cross with oak leaf cluster. He was a member of a B-29 crew and flew twenty-six missions over Japan.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 12 Dec 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Dale Cottrell, Fritz

Dale entered Hitler's bunker and exited with Bormann's pants.

Born: 1/16/1916

Entered: 4/16/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35176475,T/5

Medal: Purple Heart

Discharged:

Died: 11/29/1985

Spouse: Marjorie Wolfe Fritz

Parents: Alfred Aaron "Al" and Ione Cottrell Fritz



PFC Dale C. Fritz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Al Fritz of Winamac, in field artillery.

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

Farming in Ireland is done somewhat differently than it is for transportation here. There are a few small cars like Austins. It seems odd for them to drive on the left side of the road. The roads are narrow and the paved ones are black top.

Dale writes that the fields there are miniature and average about two acres. Most of the fences are hedge. His letter follows:

"Well here I am somewhere in Ireland.

"The fields here are one and two acres on the average. From the train window the fields look as small as if you were up in an airplane looking down on Indiana farms. The soil looks very rich. Everything looks neat, not even a brush pile in any fence corner. They have mostly hedge fence around the small fields. The railroad freight-cars are no larger than our 1 1/2 ton truck bed.

Winamac (IN) Republican 4 May 1944: 3.

"Almost everyone has bicycles. There are a lot of thatched roofs on the houses. Most all the buildings are old fashioned. Some of the roofs had green grass growing on them.

"We passed by several apple orchards. One place there was cabbage ready to eat.

"We saw several peat bogs. They cut it out of the ground in pieces about the size of bricks. They dry it and burn it in their stoves."

County Soldier In Hitler Dugout

Here is an eye witness account of a visit to Adolph Hitler's Berchesgaden hideout in the Alps by Cpl. Dale Fritz, as told in a letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Fritz dated May 6.

"Well, I finally have something interesting to write about. Forty of us in our battery got to go see Hitler's home and hideout near Berchesgaden up in the Alps Mountains. It was a very interesting sight.

"The building on top of the ground were all destroyed but the tunnels down underground weren't hurt a bit. I went down six flights of stairs and there were still more. The tunnels and rooms were fixed up fancy with up-to-date plumbing and electricity and supplies; fancy chinaware and everything to live in luxury.

"I got you a set of book ends (they are just plain but I got them six flights underground) and Pop an ash tray. The French just took the fortress this morning.

"I can look out the window in the house we are staying in and see the snow on top of the mountains about six miles away by the way the crow flies.

"We went through Salzburg and just out of town is where the Alps start. We went about 15 miles back up in the mountains. It was a very good road leading up to the fortress. The mountains are about

(Continued on Page 5)

HITLER'S DUGOUT (Continued from Page 1)

8,000 feet high. There are hundreds of bomb craters around and in the buildings. They sure had his (Hitler's) place pin pointed and really wrecked the building.

Winamac (IN) Republican 31 May 1945: 1&5.

"The last place we were in Germany I saw Hitler's and Goering's private cars. One was a Harch and the other a Mercedes, both were big black super-charged sedans.

"On yesterday's trip and the trip I took today, I saw thousands of German soldiers coming in to surrender. They were walking, riding bicycles, riding horses, riding in wagons and in their own trucks.

"All had white flags. (The new German flag, Ha.)

"They threw away their guns and helmets then get on the road and head for the Prisoner of War camps. Most of them go unguarded along the road but there are always G. I.'s going up and down the roads. The Germans seem to be glad that it is about all over.

"On our trip today we passed a German airport with over 100 planes that were knocked out on the ground.

"The scenery is beautiful up in the Alps. The pine trees look black from a distance then the sun shines on the snow and makes it glisten.

"Some of the boys got some of Hitler's wine today and seem to be enjoying it.

"It was nice and warm out today with the sun shining most of the day.

"This house is the first one we have been in that had electricity still working and we didn't have to hook up our generator to have juice for our lights and radio.

"Before I went through Germany I thought they would have up-to-date farm machinery, tractors, etc., but they are way behind the times. That is the reason they had so many slave laborers. They use milk cows and a few horses to do the farm work. The army took most of their horses.

Hitler's Wrecked Mansion



T-5 Dale C. Fritz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Al Fritz of Winamac, quarters remained untouched deep at right, is shown here with a in the earth. T-5 Fritz is believed buddy, as they visited the remains to be enroute home after serving of Hitler's Berchesgaden hideout overseas more than a year. He 15 miles up in the Alps. Allied has enough points for a discharge. bombers had wrecked the buildings

Winamac (IN) Republican 20 Sep 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

General Bormann may have escaped Germany with Hitler and fled to Sweden as news reports speculated this week, but General Bormann's pants are in Winamac and he must be pretty cold if he is in Northern Sweden.

T-5 Dale C. Fritz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Al Fritz, who recently was discharged from the Army made a trip into Hitler's Berchesgaden hideout before he came home. Six stories underground he found a pair of General Bormann's riding pants which he brought home with him and also a most complete German atlas.

The atlas shows all railroads of the world and lists Francesville, Star City, Medaryville and other nearby towns.

The general's pants and the atlas are on display in The Republican office. Come in and have a look.

Winamac (IN) Republican 18 Oct 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Kenneth Marshall "Nig" Poor

In a letter to his folks, Nig describes the starved, beaten, and murdered bodies at the Ohrdruf concentration camp.

Born: 10/19/1922

Entered: 7/6/1944

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,,PFC

Discharged: 2/9/1946

Died: 2/27/1992

Parents: George Fredrick and Fannie Fay Deckman Poor



Kenneth Poor

Kenneth Poor. Veterans of Pulaski County: WWII, Korean Conflict, Cold War. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ypl0KOfQUeA>

County Soldier Tells of Nazi Horror Camps

The following letter was received by Mr. and Mrs. George F. Poor of the Winamac vicinity from their son, PFC Kenneth Poor.

April 14
Germany

Dear Dad and Mother:

I was surely surprised yesterday when I learned of President Roosevelt's death. It's really too bad he couldn't have lived to see the final outcome of this struggle for free civilization.

I am sending you an article I cut from the Stars & Stripes (about the Ohrdruf concentration camp). I want you to read it because I saw with my own eyes exactly what it tells. It was the most terrible sight I have ever witnessed. I will try and explain a little of what I saw.

This concentration camp has barracks similar to some we have in the States. For beds they had burlap cloth stretched over a thin layer of straw—one piled right up against the other for maximum capacity. The floors are bare ground and very damp. There were pots and pans scattered around.

In one street there were approximately fifteen or twenty bodies in a circle where they had fallen after being murdered. They all had bullet holes through their heads and almost all had more in their

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX)

Soldier Tells of Horror Camps

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE) includes stock, fixtures and building to them except skin and bones. They had been starved and beaten. Some had ragged clothes on and others were nude. They were all clean shaven, apparently from being lousy. I can't commence to explain just how they did look, exactly.

In another shed there were bodies (some thirty or forty) piled up just as we would think of stacking cordwood. They were all lime covered to devour the bodies. I would say they ranged in age from sixteen to old men.

Back in the States when I used to read about such things as this I chalked it up as war propaganda, but never again, after seeing that sight. I still can't imagine how one human being could be so cruel to another. I, now, more than ever, have no sympathy whatever for a German.

It's really too bad some of the people in the States who don't have the slightest idea there is a war on, or what war is like, couldn't have seen that. I'll bet there would be no more strikes or slackening of the war effort.

I won't write any more about this, although I could go on and on. It's one sight I shall never forget as long as I live.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 17 May 1945: 1&6

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

It's a Small World (War II) for Dick, Stuart, Jim, Richie, John, and Ray in the Philippines.

Richard Ritter "Dick" Dodd

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

Samuel Stewart "Sam" "Stuart" Lebo

Born: 5/20/1920
Entered: 2/19/1942
Branch,SN,Rank:
USA,35259750,SGT
Discharged: 10/11/1945?
Died: 7/24/1951

Parents: Samuel "Sam" Harry and Bessie Edith "Edith" Dean Lebo

James Newton "Jim" May

Born: 8/16/1920
Entered: 9/15/1942
Branch,SN,Rank:
USA,15330540,PFC
Medal: Bronze Star
Discharged: 1/10/1946
Died: 3/21/1989

Parents: Fleming "Flem" Lewis (Effie Maria Drake[deceased]) May

Richard Lewis "Richie" Dilts

Born: 4/8/1919
Entered:
Branch,SN,Rank: USA,,LT
Discharged:
Died: 2/18/1986

Spouse: Clara Jane "Jane" Ballard Dilts
Parents: Russell "Russ" Allen and Lenora Mary Obright Dilts

John Albertus Dilts

Born: 7/13/1915
Entered: 7/2/1942
Branch,SN,Rank:
USA,35359171,LT
Discharged: 5/23/1946?
Died: 7/3/1981

Spouse: Doris Alexander Dilts
Parents: Russell "Russ" Allen and Lenora Mary Obright Dilts

Raymond "Ray" Fagner(!)

Born: 1/25/1913
Entered: 4/2/1942
Branch,SN,Rank:
USA,15101544,SGT
Discharged:
Died: 5/20/2003

Parents: Thomas Lee and Emma Dahl Fagner

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories



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.



Cpl. James N. May, son of Flen May of Harrison township, in the signal corps.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 10 Jun
1943: 1.



L.T. JOHN DILTS

Lt. John Dilts, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Dilts, is in the gas generating unit of the Army Engineers. Sunday he was transferred to Fort Belvoir, Va., from Indianapolis, where he was receiving special training at the Prest-o-Lite plant. Wednesday he was transferred to Camp Claiborne, La., from Fort Belvoir. He entered the Army as a private in July, 1942.

Winamac (IN) Republican 29 Apr 1943:
1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II



Cpl. Stuart Lebo, with a signal corps in the South Pacific, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Lebo of Winamac.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 18 Nov 1943: 1.



LT. RICHARD DILTS

Lt. Richard Dilts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Dilts, is receiving additional schooling in the Field Artillery at Fort Sill, Okla. He entered the service in December, 1942, and received his commission as a second lieutenant April 8.

Winamac (IN) Republican 29 Apr 1943:
1.



Raymond Fagner

Ray Fagner, Veterans of Pulaski County.

[Note: It was likely Ray Fagner, not Degner]

Six Winamac Men Get Together In Philippines

A get-together of six Winamac men stationed in the Philippines is described by Dick Dodd, news editor of The Democrat before he entered service, in a letter to the office force dated April 7. He wrote:

"No doubt you have heard from Sam Lebo, Russ Dilts or some of the other relatives back there about a half dozen of us from Winamac being together a few weekends ago. In addition to Dick, John and I, who have been here some time now, Stewart Lebo is now stationed here. Ray Degner, who is also in a regiment of the 2ESB, was in and out, but happened to be in the same week end that Jim Mays came over from a nearby island where he is stationed. That seems quite unusual—a half-dozen of us from a small town in Indiana meeting way out here. Doubt if anybody from New York, with all its millions, has seen at one time that many fellows whom he knew back there. And I'll bet

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE)

Six Winamac Men Get Together In Philippines

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE) that those of us who live in a small place actually know more people and have more friends than the average resident of a city.

Infantry Cleans Up.

"I wish you could see the change that has taken place in this vicinity since we came in last October. In comparison, it is hardly recognizable. Even the roads are an example. The one by our camp then was hardly passable, and now it is a stoned, two-lane highway with the many one-way bridges along it replaced with two-way ones. Equal to the great work the infantry does in cleaning out a place, is that of other units in cleaning it up and building it up.

"The tune of the natives has changed, too. A common expression used to be 'Give me a blemket,' as they came through the camp areas seeking food and clothing. Now they are in the souvenir business in a big way and asking such prices as \$10 for a bolo knife or \$5 for a pair of wooden shoes like the clogs worn on the beaches at home. Conversely a GI with a supply of sewing machine needles can clean up at the rate of \$5 a package. Singer sewing machines are the one modern appliance to be found in many a humble, native shack.

G-I Civilization.

"Many families are 'modernizing' or rebuilding their homes from scrap lumber, metal sheeting and worn out canvas picked up from the beaches or abandoned camps. In place of the burlap-like clothes that were a common sight at first, the local inhabitants are wearing everything from regular GI to dresses made from vari-colored silk from discarded parachutes. The way some of the girls doll up is hardly comparable to the hovels most of them live in.

"Strangely enough, laundry prices have been held to the standard originally set by the government—30 centavos (15c) for a uniform. Even the most of us would pay three times as much not to have to do that chore. The way they do the job is something. The clothes are taken to a creek and hell beat out of 'em as they are laid on a board or rock and pounded with a paddle. They turn out a pretty good job though, and it is the exception when our clothes are not brought back clean and folded so neatly they don't even have wrinkles."

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 3 May 1945: 1&5.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Joseph "Joe" "Little Joe" or Josef Kirsch

With the war ending, Little Joe, who had emigrated with his brother in 1927, was able to visit his parents and two sisters in Essen, Germany, and found them in good health and their home unharmed by the war.

Born: 8/20/1908

Entered: 8/1/1940

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,16000584,SGT

Discharged: 10/14/1945

Died: 2/15/1965

Spouse: Bertha Schneider Kirsch

Parents: Reinhold and Clara Stimpel Kirsch



"Little Joe" Kirsch, formerly of Winamac, ought to feel all puffed up, because it isn't every soldier who gets his picture taken with a movie actress. When Patricia Morrison went to Fort Lewis, Wash., where Joe is stationed, to give an entertainment, Joe and probably a couple other thousand soldiers went to see her, of course. And Joe found himself up on the stage with Miss Morrison. Although at home he was a little shy around girls, he seems not a whit em-

barrassed with Miss Morrison's arm around him.

He enlisted in the army a year and a half ago and is now a corporal in the medical corps at Fort Lewis. He and his brother Karl, living southwest of Winamac, were born in Germany, and came to this community in 1929. When Joe left for the army he could not write English. But now he sends typewritten letters home, bragging a little about the above picture. He says he thinks he'll go into the movies.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 30 Apr 1942: 3.

Sergeant Finds Parents, Sisters In Germany Are Well

The dream that Sgt. Joe Kirsch had cherished since Germany declared war on the United States came true at last. It was that he might be with the American Army invading Germany so that he could visit his aging parents in their home at the outskirts of Essen.

In a letter received this week by Karl Kirsch of Winamac, Sgt. Kirsch told of a thrilling visit to their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Reinhold Kirsch, on April 25, and a letter was enclosed from the mother, the first direct word from them since war was declared. He said he found the parents and two sisters there in good health and that their home had not felt the effects of the war.

For a long time it seemed doubtful if the former German boy, who enlisted in the United States Army to fight the Nazis, would reach his homeland. In the early days of the French invasion he suffered a broken leg and was confined to a hospital in England, and at one time thought he was going to be returned to the States. But instead he rejoined his company, although not for combat duty, and finally reached his hoped-for destination.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 10 May 1945: 8.

Sees Parents

Imagine yourself as a sergeant in a victorious invading army and meeting your parents, who had lived under the domination of Hitler, to find them well and unharmed.

That is what happened to Sgt. Joe Kirsch, known in Winamac as "Little Joe," according to a letter received this week by Karl Kirsch, a brother who resides near here.

Sgt. Kirsch was with the invading army which went into Essen, Germany. United State soldiers are under strict orders not to fraternize with the enemy. The sergeant received special permission to visit his parents, accompanied by an officer.

He found his parents, who are about 75 years old, well and their house unscratched by the terrific bombardments from land and air directed at the city.

It was the first time either of the brothers had had direct word from their parents since the war started. They have had only one message through the Red Cross during that time.

Winamac (IN) Republican 10 May 1945: 1.

Carl Kirsch, west of here, received a letter from his brother, Pfc. Joseph Kirsch, who was fighting with the U. S. army in Germany, that he has visited their parents who live near Essen, Germany. Joseph was fighting near there. He stated he spent three hours with them and they were well and their home was not hurt. The brothers came from Germany to make their home here, Carl, 19 years ago, and Joe, 15 years ago. They have lived west of here most of the time. Both have families.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 10 May 1945: 8.

Sees Folks In Germany



Here is Sgt. Joe Kirsch, formerly of the U. S. Army, who held a happy reunion near Essen, Germany, last summer with his parents. Sgt. Joe is shown with his arms around his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Reinhold Kirsch, with other relatives surrounding them. Although the Kirsch farm is near Essen which was leveled by Allied attacks, the Kirsch home was untouched. Joe told how his father, when everyone else crouched in bomb shelters, walked up and down in front of his house and told friends that his place wouldn't be bombed because his son was in the American army. Another brother, Karl Kirsch, farmer and baker, lives near Winamac. Joe, after being released from the army is now working in New York.

Winamac (IN) Republican 22 Nov 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Ross E. Burget

Of Ross' original outfit in North Africa, only three or four escaped unhurt, and "it was sure tough when you see your buddies dropping all around you."

Born: 1/1/1916

Entered: 10/1/1940

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,16006968,PVT

Discharged: 6/28/1945?

Died: 2/18/1972

Parents: William "Willie" Garfield and Mabelle "Mabel" Grace Alkire Burget

Pfc. Ross E. Burget of Francesville, who has been in the armed forces since October 1, 1940, when he enlisted in the infantry, was given an honorable discharge last Friday at Camp Atterbury, Ind., and arrived in Francesville Saturday morning. Burget has been overseas since November, 1942, when his outfit landed in North Africa. Since then he has seen action in the Italian campaign, and the entire European campaign, having gone into Normandy two days after D-Day. He says that it sure seems good to be back in "civies" again after nearly five years in service. Of his original outfit that went into North Africa, only three or four escaped unhurt in all their campaigning. Although Burget escaped unscratched, he says it sure is tough when you see your buddies dropping all around you. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Burget, who still have two sons in service.

Pfc. Ross E. Burget, of Francesville, who has been in the armed forces since October, 1940, when he enlisted in the infantry, was given an honorable discharge last Friday at Camp Atterbury, Ind. He had been overseas since November, 1942, when his outfit landed in Africa. Since then he has seen action in Italy and the entire European campaign, going into Normandy two days after D-Day. Although Burget escaped unscratched, he says it sure is tough when you see your buddies dropping all around you. He is the son of W. G. Burget, who still has two other sons in the service.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 5 Jul 1945: 14.

Winamac (IN) Republican 28 Jun 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Lloyd Raymond Campbell

Previously twice wounded, Lloyd was awarded the Bronze Star when he "operated the guns of an immobilized tank with great success during a German attack.".

Born: 6/4/1916

Entered: 12/2/1943

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,,SGT

Medals: Purple Heart, Bronze Star

Discharged:

Died: 8/7/1967

Parents: Isaac Leslie and Mapel I. Haselby Campbell

Lloyd Campbell Of Star City Is Listed As Missing

PFC Lloyd Campbell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Campbell of Star City, has been reported missing in action in France as of September 29, according to word received from the War Department by the parents on Saturday. The young soldier is a nephew of Mrs. Nellie Reynolds of Winamac.

Twenty-five years of age, PFC Campbell entered service in December, 1943, and has been overseas since last July 1. He had spent most of his life in the Grass Creek and Star City vicinities, graduating from the Grass Creek high school, where he was also a member of the basketball team. He was employed in Logansport before entering service. The last letter the parents received from him was dated September 26.

Parents Get Word Son Reported as Missing Is Safe

Pfc. Lloyd Campbell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Campbell of R. R. 1 Star City who was reported missing in action in France September 29 is safe and has rejoined his outfit, his parents were notified today by the war delartment.

Private Campbell who is a member of the infantry is believed to have been fighting with the American armies on German soil now. He entered the service December 23, 1943 and has been overseas since last July.

V

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 4 Nov 1944: 15.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 26 Oct 1945: 1.

Pfc. Lloyd Campbell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Campbell of near Star City, who was reported missing in action in France on Sept. 29, is safe and has rejoined his unit, his parents were informed this week. Pvt. Campbell is believed to be fighting in Germany. He has been overseas since July.

Winamac (IN) Republican 9 Nov 1944: 1.

— V — **Bronze Star Awarded To Pfc. Campbell**

**Star City Man One Of Unit to Hon-
or President Benes at Pilsen
Victory Parade**

An award of the Bronze Star for helping beat back an enemy attack was made to Pfc. Lloyd R. Campbell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Campbell of Star City, somewhere in Germany recently.

The citation reads that Pfc. Campbell and a companion, a part of the 315th infantry of the Ninth army, operated the guns of an immobilized tank with great success during a German attack.

The veteran's unit was chosen to represent the American army at a parade in Pilsen on June 15 honoring President Benes of Czechoslovakia.

Campbell also has earned the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Purple Heart with one cluster, the ETO ribbon with two stars and the Presidential Unit Citation during ten months overseas. He will remain as part of the American occupation forces.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 3 Jul 1945: 3.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Sanford Warfield Keplar

Sanford earned his Bronze Star as a driver enduring long hours without sleep while being subjected to artillery and sniper fire.

Born: 4/21/1923

Entered: 2/11/1943

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35092569,PVT

Medal: Bronze Star

Discharged: 10/30/1945

Died: 6/15/1994

Parents: Herbert W. and Julia Olson Keplar

HE MAKES THE BOYS BEHAVE



PVT. SANFORD W. KEPLAR

Pvt. Sanford W. Keplar, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert W. Keplar of Beaver township, is a member of the headquarters military police platoon at Fort Lewis, Wash.

Winamac (IN) Republican 22 Jul 1943: 1.

In Service



Pfc. Sanford W. Keplar

Pfc. Sanford W. Keplar of Winamac, a combat military policeman serving with the 44th Infantry Division in Germany, is shown here as he practices firing a .45 calibre machine gun. Pfc. Keplar directs traffic at the battle front and helps guard prisoners of war in newly captured territory.

Winamac (IN) Republican 17 May 1945: 1.

PFC Sanford W. Keplar has been awarded the Bronze Star for "meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy from October 24, 1944, to May 10, 1945, in France, Germany and Austria. As a driver in the Military Police Platoon during this period, PFC Keplar's duty often necessitated going forward into the leading infantry areas over roads that were subjected to artillery and sniper fire. Although his work meant long hours without sleep, he performed this duty willingly, efficiently and with no thought of his own personal safety and comfort." He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Keplar of Beaver township.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 21 Jun 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Stanley Lowell Hinderlader

Stanley joined a few Logansport boys and 400 other boys from "back home" on Hoosier Day in the Mariana Islands.

Born: 11/24/1914

Entered: 4/6/1943

Branch, SN, Rank: USN,,

Discharged: 12/24/1943

Died: 6/12/1990

Spouse: Retha Irene Overmyer Hinderlader

Parents: John Martin and Myra Etta Singer Hinderliter

Winamac Boy In Marianas



A Winamac man was among a group of over 400 Hoosier soldiers and sailors who got together on "Indiana Day" Sunday, April 29, in the Marianas. Stanley Hinderlader, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Hinderlader of Winamac, is in the center of the back row. At left, back row, is Bill Arnold and at right is G. E. Hosier. Kneeling are, Fred J. Grusenmeyer, Mike Clark and G. W. Sullivan, all of Logansport. Stanley, who has been overseas two years, worked in the Winamac A & P store and later with the same firm at Logansport. (Photo courtesy Logansport Press.)

Winamac (IN) Republican 14 Jun 1945: 1

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

It's a Small World (War II) for the Dilts brothers meeting in Germany.

Richard Lewis "Richie" Dilts

Born: 4/8/1919

Entered:

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,,LT

Discharged:

Died: 2/18/1986

Spouse: Clara Jane "Jane" Ballard Dilts

Parents: Russell "Russ" Allen and Lenora
Mary Obright Dilts



LT. RICHARD DILTS

Lt. Richard Dilts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Dilts, is receiving additional schooling in the Field Artillery at Fort Sill, Okla. He entered the service in December, 1942, and received his commission as a second lieutenant April 8.

Winamac (IN) Republican 29 Apr 1943: 1.

Russell Allen "Allen" "Russ" Dilts Jr.

Born: 4/8/1917

Entered: 1941?

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,,CPT

Medal: Bronze Star

Discharged:

Died: 6/2/1970

Spouse: Mary Charlotte "Charlotte" Fritz Dilts

Parents: Russell "Russ" Allen and Lenora
Mary Obright Dilts



CAPT. ALLEN DILTS

Capt. Allen Dilts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Dilts of Winamac, is special service officer at Fort Sill, Okla., in the Field Artillery. He has charge of athletic events, camp shows and special programs for the enlisted men. Capt. Dilts has been in the service since August, 1941.

Winamac (IN) Republican 29 Apr 1943: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Lt. Richard Dilts and Capt. Allen Dilts, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Dilts of Winamac, recently met in Germany. Lt. Dilts, who was with the Fifth Army in Italy, had a six-day leave and set out in a jeep to look up his brother, who had been with the 80th division. Because of several recent moves made by Capt. Dilts, it took three days for Richard to locate him.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 28 Jun 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

It's a Small World (War II) for classmates Gilbert and James, who meet in Belgium.

Gilbert Jason Barker Jr.

Born: 10/18/1920
Entered: 10/13/1942
Branch,SN,Rank: USA,,CPT
Medal: Purple Heart
Discharged: 2/14/1946?
Died: 4/17/1978

Parents: Gilbert Jason and Blanche Lavon Petry Barker Sr.



Lt. Gilbert J. Barker Jr., in the Army, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert J. Barker of South Bend, formerly of Winamac.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 30 Dec 1943: 1.

James Albertus Dilts Jr.

Born: 12/18/1919
Entered: 7/22/1942
Branch,SN,Rank: USRC,15303687,PVT
Discharged: 5/7/1946
Died: 9/5/1998

Spouse: Mary Stuart Hayes Dilts
Parents: James Albertus and Mary Aurora "Ora" Huddleston Dilts Sr.



LT. JAMES A. DILTS JR.

James A. Dilts Jr. of Winamac was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army Saturday upon completion of officers' training school at Fort Benning, Ga. A son of Mr. and Mrs. James A. Dilts, he enlisted in the Army on July 23, 1942, and served with the ROTC and Enlisted Reserve Corps at Indiana university, where he was a senior officer. Lt. Dilts is a graduate of Winamac high school and received a degree in law from Indiana university last December. He came home Sunday for a few days' visit and was admitted to the Indiana Bar Association Tuesday at Indianapolis.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 15 Apr 1943: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Lt. James A. Dilts Jr. and Lt. Gilbert J. Barker Jr. of South Bend met each other accidentally in Belgium a few days ago. Among the things they talked about, it is assumed, were experiences of high school days, when both were members of the Winamac class of 1937.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 1 Nov 1945: 2.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Andrew George "Andy" Nufer Jr.

Andy earned his Distinguished Service Cross, our nation's second-highest military honor, after he "ran across open fire-swept terrain to friendly tanks", mounting first one, then knocked to the ground and mounting another before being wounded, he guided them to relieve his company pinned down by enemy fire. (It was fortunate that he reentered after being honorably discharged because of his age just before Pearl Harbor.)

Born: 1/30/1911

Entered: 4/16/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35176457,1LT

Awards: Distinguished Service Cross, Presidential Unit Citation, Purple Heart

Discharged: 12/30/1945:

Died: 1/7/1996

Spouse: Ruthann Kleckner Nufer Jr.

Parents: Andrew George and Josephine Horn Nufer Sr.



L.T. ANDREW G. NUFER JR.

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

Andrew G. Nufer Jr. of Winamac was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army last Thursday after completion of the officer candidate course at the infantry school at Ft. Benning, Ga. Lt. Nufer, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Nufer of Winamac, was inducted into the army in April of 1941, and served at Camp Shelby, Miss., before going to officers' training school three months ago. He is a graduate of the Winamac high school with the class of 1929 and was employed at Kelly's Hardware for a number of years. He has spent this week at home before reporting for duty, Sunday at Ft. Benjamin Harrison.

Four Pulaski county men who had been released from the service under the 28 year law, have been recalled as follows: Henry Helm left last Thursday for Fort Benjamin Harrison and from there was sent to Camp Shelby Miss.; Melvin Hill left Friday for Fort Benjamin Harrison and from there was sent to Camp Shelby, Miss.; Alfred G. Rater and **Andrew Nufer Jr.** left this morning for Fort Benjamin Harrison and from there, the former will report to Ft. Knox, Ky. The destination of the latter was not learned.

Winamac (IN) Republican. 22 Jan 1942:8.

Lt. Andrew Nufer Is Awarded DSC, Next to Highest Military Honor



LT. ANDREW NUFER JR.

First Lt. Andrew G. Nufer Jr. of Winamac has received the Army's second highest award, the Distinguished Service Cross. A son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew G. Nufer Sr. of Winamac, the officer won the medal in the action last January in which he was wounded. The presentation was made at ceremonies celebrating the first anniversary of the Normandy invasion.

An account of the presentation was published in "Timberwolf," the newspaper printed by Lt. Nufer's unit. It stated:

"On Wednesday, June 6, 1945—D-Day plus 365—one year after the first allied landings on the coast of Normandy, the German civilians of Hunfeld stood in the hot afternoon sun, shifting awkwardly, hat in hand, and watched the Stars and Stripes pass in review.

"The Germans know why we celebrate this day.

"Before the officers and men of the Second Battalion, First Lt. Andrew Nufer of Company F strode swiftly across the short-clipped grass field. Brig. Gen. Frank Camm, commandant of the 78th Division, pinned the nation's second highest military decoration—the Distinguished Service Cross—above the left pocket of the lieutenant's Eisenhower jacket.

"During the heated battle of Kesternich, Lt. Nufer showed the courageous action which brought him the DSC. When enemy fire pinned his company down, Lt. Nufer ran across open, fire-swept terrain to friendly tanks. Mounting the lead tank, he led them into action until his tank was struck by enemy fire and he was knocked to the ground. Mounting a second tank, he guided them until that tank was hit also and he was wounded by enemy artillery.

"Despite his wounds, he continued to lead the tanks in support of the infantry elements until his company objective was secured.

"The Second Battalion paraded, represented by crack marching units of Easy, Fox, George and Howe companies. They marched to the music of the 78th Division band—this time in rank and file, not open squad columns, for today there is peace in Europe. This day marked the invasion of the continent, the first step toward the destruction of the Reich.

"Yes, the Germans know why we celebrate this day."

Lt. Nufer was inducted into the Army in April, 1941. In December of 1942 he was accepted for officer's training, and received his commission at Ft. Benning, Ga., in February, 1943. He was sent overseas last fall and was wounded in action January 30. After being hospitalized in France and in England, Lt. Nufer had just returned to his outfit when the medal was awarded him.

Distinguished Service Cross



The Distinguished-Service Cross is awarded to persons who, while serving in any capacity with the Army of the United States, distinguished themselves by extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy. This decoration was instituted by executive order in January, 1918, and confirmed by Congress July 9, 1918.

It is a cross of bronze with an eagle in the center and a scroll below the eagle bearing the inscription "For Valor." On the reverse is space for the recipient's name!

Andy Nufer Is Awarded DSC Medal

The Distinguished Service Cross, highest award for heroism given by the United States with exception of the Congressional Medal, was presented to Lt. Andrew Nufer, Jr., in Germany recently, according to a letter received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Nufer of near Winamac.

The citation which accompanied the award said, in part, "For extraordinary heroism in action against the enemy in Germany. When enemy fire pinned his company down and inflicted heavy casualties, First Lieutenant Nufer ran 150 yards across an open fire-swept terrain to friendly tanks.

"Mounting the lead tank, he led the vehicles into action until the tank on which he was riding was struck by enemy fire and he was knocked to the ground.

"Mounting a second tank he continued to guide them until the second tank was also struck and he was wounded by enemy artillery fire. Despite his wounds he continued to lead the tanks in support of the infantry until his company's objective was secured."

Lt. Nufer, who is 34 years old, entered military service on April 16, 1941. He had attended Oxford Institute and the Dayton School of Aviation. Well known throughout the county, he had been employed at the Kelly Hardware and is a graduate of the Winamac high school in 1929.

He is now stationed with an infantry unit in the 9th Army in Germany and becomes the first Pulaski county man to receive so high a military honor.

Winamac (IN) Republican 5 Jul 1945: 1.

First Lt. Andrew Nufer Jr. arrived home Saturday to spend a terminal leave in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Nufer Sr. of Winamac. In service four and a half years, he was in France and Germany for a year. Lt. Nufer wears the EAME ribbon with three battle stars, the Presidential Unit Citation, the Distinguished Service Cross and Purple Heart. He expects his release the latter part of December.

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

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Lewis Claude Bair

Because of a transportation shortage, Lewis had to march groups of German prisoners he and his buddies were guarding 12 to 14 miles a day.

Born: 9/25/1907

Entered: 5/19/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35354650,CPL

Discharged:

Died: 1/5/1972

Parents: John Wesley and Alice Rebeccah Prechtel Bair

Cpl. Lewis C. Bair is on duty with a military police unit guarding German prisoners at Pisa, Italy. He reported that because of a shortage of transportation, he and his buddies had to march groups of prisoners for from 12 to 14 miles a day.

Winamac (IN) Republican 12 Jul 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Stanley Vaughn Lemmon

By July 1945 and already earning an Air Medal, Stanley had logged 316 hours over 31 missions in the South Pacific and Indian Ocean war zones.

Born: 5/12/1925

Entered: 1/6/1944

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,,S/SGT

Medal: Air Medal

Discharged:

Died: 7/19/1987

Parents: Mary Winifred Johns (Stanley Harrison[deceased]) Lemmon Sr.



PFC Stanley V. Lemmon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley H. Lemmon of the Kewanna vicinity, graduated last week from the Harlingen Army Air Field Gunnery school. He received his aerial gunner's wings and a promotion in grade at brief graduation exercises held there.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 13 Jul 1944: 1.

Awarded Air Medal

S/Sgt. Stanley Lemmon, tail gunner with the Fifth Air Force's famous liberator flying Jolly Rogers, has been decorated with an Air Medal and oak leaf cluster for 200 hours of aerial action in the southwest Pacific. A son of Mrs. Stanley Lemmon Sr. of the Kewanna vicinity, the young man has participated in twenty bombing missions ranging from the Dutch East Indies to the Jap island of Formosa, and was a member of the first B-24 outfit to bomb that stronghold. His group has destroyed more than 400 Jap planes in the air, nearly 800 on the ground and has sunk nearly half a million tons of enemy shipping. S/Sgt. Lemmon has been in the service a year and received his wings last July.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 8 Mar 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

S/Sgt. Stanley Lemmon, tail gunner with the Jolly Rogers, famous Liberator unit of the Fifth Air Force Bomber Command, has been decorated with a second oak leaf cluster to the Air Medal. A son of Mrs. Stanley Lemmon Sr. of the Kewanna vicinity, Sgt. Lemmon received the additional cluster for his third hundred hours of southwest Pacific combat. Since the award, his fighting hours have climbed to 316 in thirty-one missions. Now based in the Philippines, the Jolly Rogers are striking Formosa, China, French Indo-China and Borneo. (Special to The Democrat from public relations, Far East Air Forces.)

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 12 Jul 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

William Bruce "Billy" "Bill" Phillips Jr.

In 1943, Bill joined the Merchant Marines and was medically discharged after 30 months; he was then inducted into the Navy, where he served another 8 months.

Born: 9/25/1924

Entered: 5/14/1943 Merchant Marines; 10/4/1945 Navy

Branch,SN,Rank: USMM/USN,,WO/F2c

Discharged: 6/3/1945 Merchant Marines; 5/15/1946 Navy

Died: 11/1/1994

Parents: William Bruce and Ruth Dorcas "Dorcas" Shaw Phillips, Sr.



William Phillips Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. William Phillips Sr. of Star City, on active duty with the Merchant Marine.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 1 Jun 1944: 1.

William Phillips Jr. son of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Phillips of Star City, enlisted in the Marines at Chicago last week. He reported for duty at Indianapolis on Thursday and has been sent east for preliminary training.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 21 Jan 1943: 1.

William B. Phillips, who is in the maritime service, called his parents at Star City Saturday from Norfolk, Va., stating that he has returned from sea duty, and is in the U. S. Marine hospital.

Winamac (IN) Republican 15 Feb 1945: 5.

William B. Phillips, Jr., who has been in the merchant marines, has received a medical discharge and he and Mrs. Phillips are at the home of his parents.

Winamac (IN) Republican 12 Jul 1945: 4.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Additional Men Called In Draft

Although draft regulations are changing rapidly because of the end of the war, seven additional Pulaski county men have been ordered to report for induction soon into military service while another group of 20 registrants have been ordered for pre-induction physical examinations.

Ordered to report for induction are:

Wayne C. Perry	Winamac
Albert S. Bridegroom	Winamac
Walter J. Fox	Star City
Jack W. Runk	Medaryville
Earl C. Hansen	Denham
Byron C. Nice	Winamac
Junior E. Reutebuch	Winamac

Winamac (IN) Republican 23 Aug 1945: 1.

News Notes Of Pulaski County

WINAMAC, Oct. 10—The following men have been accepted for the navy: **William B. Phillips**, jr., **Star City**; **Carl R. Bleicher**, Winamac.

For the Army: **Bernard F. Bauer**, **Robert G. Peterson**, of Monterey; **Robert G. Davis**, **Maurice B. Martin**, Winamac.

The following young men were found physically fit for military service at Indianapolis: **Joseph Millo**, **Jou Minnix**, **Joseph Vedok**, **Arthur Boos**, **Leopold Skalon** and **Mindle Rowe**, of Winamac; **Richard D. Keller**, Monterey; **Wayne Keith Pilke**, **Charles E. Malia**, **Harold F. Gutwein**, Francesville; **Charles E. Culp**, **Richard E. Neu-maier**, **LeRoy E. Gudeman**, Medaryville.

(Lafayette IN) Journal and Courier 10 Oct 1945: 4.

Website (newspapers.com).

Preinduction physical examinations have been ordered for:

William B. Phillips	Star City
Robert G. Peterson	Winamac
Paul S. Messer	Francesville
Callie Joseph	Medaryville
Edwin R. DePoy	Winamac
Frank Robey	North Judson
Carl R. Bleicher	Winamac
Robert A. Ballard	Winamac
Frank D. Rowe	Medaryville
Ervin Bair	Winamac
Donald Stevens	Winamac
Robert G. Fritz	Winamac
Bernard F. Bauer	Monterey
Robert G. Davis	Winamac
Harold J. Mohler	Francesville
Donald G. Behny	Winamac
Jay C. Stiller	Monon
Mike Vedok	Winamac
Robert E. Waymire	Francesville
Lewis J. Grant	Star City

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Phillips Sr., left Friday for Newport News, Va., to visit W. B. Phillips Jr., F 2-c, and Mrs. Phillips. F 2-c Phillips received his discharge the 15th and he and Mrs. Phillips will return with his parents.

Winamac (IN) Republican 16 May 1946: 7.

RETURN FROM VIRGINIA.

Mr. and Mrs. William Phillips Sr., accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. William Phillips Jr., returned home Thursday after spending two weeks at Newport, News, Va. Mr. and Mrs. Phillips Jr. lived there during the time he was stationed there. He has received his discharge.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 30 May 1946: 3.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Frederick Donald "Donald" Haschel

Don was colorblind, so he was initially rejected by the U.S. Navy, but later he and his shipmates got to eat with President Truman during a trip just before V-J Day.

Born: 12/18/1918

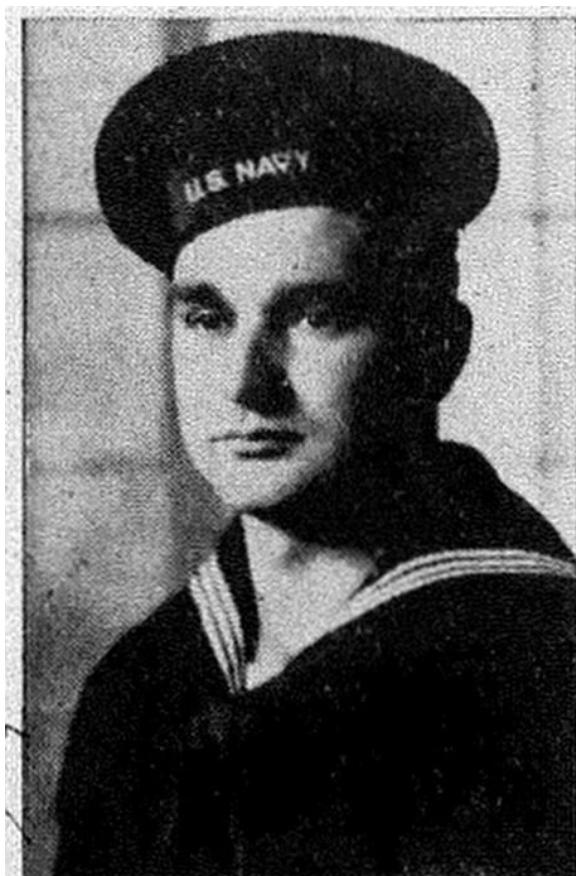
Entered: 10/27/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USNR,6260375,PO1c

Discharged:

Died: 8/17/2003

Parents: Nettie Dell Hiland (Frederick "Fred" Oscar[deceased]) Haschel Jr.



Seaman 2/c Donald Haschel, son of Mrs. Fred Haschel of Winamac.

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

County Boy On Ship With Chief

A Pulaski county sailor was aboard the U. S. S. Augusta which took President Harry S. Truman on the first leg of his journey to the Big Three Conference at Potsdam.

Petty Officer 1-c Donald Haschel, son of Mrs. Nettie Haschel is serving aboard the ship that took President Truman across the Atlantic.

Winamac (IN) Republican 19 Jul 1945: 1.

Winamac Sailor Serves on Ship President Took

Petty Officer 1/c Donald Haschel, postmaster on the U.S.S. Augusta, wrote his mother, Mrs. Nettie Haschel of Winamac, the following letter on July 13.

"If you have been reading the papers and listening to the radio, you know that the President is making his trip on the Augusta. He is quite a fellow, and he is always smiling and shaking hands. The Secretary of State is along, too.

"They eat dinner with the officers, then with the Chief and yesterday he had dinner with the crew. If you see any pictures of him eating with the crew, the door right behind him is the post-office. One of his body guards was down today and got stamps. The table where the President sat is where I eat most of the time."

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 2 Aug 1945: 2.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Lloyd Arthur Alt

Lloyd earned his Bronze Star, "with complete disregard for his own personal safety, administered first aid to a wounded comrade and an unknown infantryman, and returned them both to medics....".

Born: 4/6/1914

Entered: 5/13/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35159989,S/SGT

Medal: Bronze Star

Discharged:

Died: 2/14/1970

Parents: John and Lydia M. Aeschliman Alt



Sgt. Lloyd Alt, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Alt of the Medaryville vicinity, in the Army.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 25 Feb 1943: 1.

S/Sgt. Lloyd A. Alt of Medaryville has been awarded the Bronze Star "for heroic action in connection with military operations in the vicinity of Remagen, Germany, on March 10. Defying an extremely heavy artillery and small arms barrage, S/Sgt. Alt, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, administered first aid to a wounded comrade and an unknown infantryman, and returned them both to the medics, who had been unable to come forward due to the enemy barrage." He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. John Alt of Medaryville.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 19 Jul 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Twins Clyde and Clyle served in the Navy; Clyde's plane was shot down in the South Pacific, and he survived for a time in the jungle before being rescued, and Clyde earned a Bronze Star.

Clyde Edward Lindesmith

Born: 10/31/1913

Entered: 4/18/1943

Branch,SN,Rank: USN,,PO3c

Medal: Purple Heart

Discharged: 12/27/1945?

Died: 1/19/2011

Spouse: Eloise Reynolds Lindesmith

Parents: Verna May Terry (Marvin Edward "Ed" [deceased]) Lindesmith (Kirk) Pierce



Clyde Lindesmith, P.O. 3/c, aviation metalsmith in the Navy. His wife was formerly Miss Eloise Reynolds of Winamac.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 23 Dec 1943: 1.

Clyle Dennis Lindesmith

Born: 10/31/1913

Entered: 10/16/1940

Branch,SN,Rank: USN,,F1/c

Medal: Bronze Star

Discharged:

Died: 7/31/1990

Spouse: Emeline Marie Brunk Lindesmith

Parents: Verna May Terry (Marvin Edward "Ed" [deceased]) Lindesmith (Kirk) Pierce

Clyde Lindesmith, Petty Officer 3-c, returned Wednesday after a 5-day leave from the Bunker Hill Naval Base, in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Reynolds, east of Winamac.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 4 Feb 1944: 5.

Clyle D. Lindesmith, F 1/c, son of Mrs. Verna Pierce of Indianapolis, and a grandson of Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Lindesmith of Winamac, has been awarded the Bronze Star and the Philippines Liberation ribbon, during his ten months' service with the Navy in the Pacific. His twin brother, Clyde E. Lindesmith, A.M. 1/c, of Winamac, has been in the Pacific region for six months, and is stationed on the Admiralty Islands.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 19 Jul 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

It's a Small World (War II) for cousins James and Russ in France.

James Albertus Dilts Jr.

Born: 12/18/1919
Entered: 7/22/1942
Branch,SN,Rank: USRC,15303687,PVT
Discharged: 5/7/1946
Died: 9/5/1998

Spouse: Mary Stuart Hayes Dilts

Parents: James Albertus and Mary Aurora "Ora" Huddleston Dilts Sr.

Russell Allen "Allen" "Russ" Dilts Jr.

Born: 4/8/1917
Entered: 1941?
Branch,SN,Rank: USA,,CPT
Medal: Bronze Star
Discharged:
Died: 6/2/1970

Spouse: Mary Charlotte "Charlotte" Fritz Dilts

Parents: Russell "Russ" Allen and Lenora Mary Obright Dilts

Lt. James A. Dilts Jr. and Capt. Allen Dilts, cousins, recently met in Paris. Lt. Dilts, who is stationed at Rheims, France, was in Paris on business. He was in a restaurant when Capt. Dilts came in and sat down at the next table. They plan to spend some time together if it can be arranged. Lt. Dilts is a son of Mr. and Mrs. James A. Dilts Sr. and Capt. Dilts is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Dilts, all of Winamac.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 9 Aug 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

It's a Small World (War II) for brothers Richard and Elmer in France.

Richard Henry Knarr

Born: 10/29/1914
Entered: 2/3/1943
Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35090723,CPL
Discharged:
Died: 4/6/2010

Spouse: Irene Evelyn Kintner Knarr
Parents: Harley Ellis and Hulda Elizabeth
Herrick Knarr



PFC Richard Knarr, in the infantry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harley Knarr of the Winamac vicinity.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 6 Jan 1944: 1.

Elmer Wilson Knarr

Born: 11/23/1912
Entered: 3/8/1942
Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,15100206,SSGT
Discharged: 12/11/1945
Died: 4/8/1987

Parents: Harley Ellis and Hulda Elizabeth
Herrick Knarr



Pvt. Elmer Knarr, mechanic in the Air Corps, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harley Knarr of the Winamac vicinity.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 7 Jan 1943: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Two Winamac brothers, Cpl. Richard Knarr and Sgt. Elmer Knarr, met in France recently for the first visit together in two-and-a-half years. They have since had two other meetings, as their stations are about thirty miles apart. Cpl. Richard is now at Soissons, France, but informed his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harley Knarr, that he expected to be in the States soon before being sent to a new front.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 5 Jul 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Francis James Roe

After a tour of the Panama Canal, Francis led a small detail that guarded around \$1,000,000 in paintings of the medical corps in action in European and Pacific war zones.

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



Francis Roe (Collection of DebraRoeRodriguez) -
ancestry.com/mediaui-
viewer/collection/1030/tree/33868069/person/18546603274/me
dia/ddf093d0-891a-4338-9fcc-5f0cf689dbe0

Had You Heard That-

QIn a letter received recently by Mr. and Mrs. James Roe from their son Francis, he stated that upon his arrival in Panama he was met at the dock by the **Kruzick brothers, George and Clem**, the latter a recent arrival in the Canal Zone. One other Winamac boy, Claude Kopkey, is known to be in Panama. John R. Huff of Star City recently has been transferred to duty at Fort Richardson, Alaska, from Anchorage, Alaska, where he has been stationed for several months.

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

Winamac MP Has Job of Guarding Valuable Paintings

Since they read that the Army soaked a soldier nearly \$250 for losing his jeep, two Second Service Command MP's are sweating out an assignment which charged them with responsibility for the safety of oil paintings valued by experts from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000.

"I'll be glad when somebody takes these paintings out of here so I can get some sleep nights," declared Cpl. Francis J. Roe of Winamac, who is in charge of the two-man detail guarding the paintings. His sidekick, Pvt. Harold E. Haas, just added a "Me too."

The paintings, which belong to the Army Medical Department, are being exhibited at Rockefeller Center's International Building. They

were painted in European and Pacific combat areas by leading artists who were sent overseas as accredited correspondents by the War Department. They show Army doctors, nurses and enlisted corpsmen in action caring for the wounded on the battlefields and right behind the front lines.

Cpl. Roe, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Roe of Winamac, saw duty down in the Canal Zone, where MP work gets pretty rugged on Saturday nights. But he says that job was soft compared to this assignment. It didn't help him any when he learned that a leading art expert had valued the paintings as "somewhere around \$1,000,000."

"They tell me that picture over there is worth twenty-five thousand bucks and that it took the artist nine months to paint it," Cpl. Roe said. "Now wouldn't I be in a fine fix if that one ever got away from me and the Army nickel me for twenty-five grand!"

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 16 Aug 1945: 2.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Harold Robert Staffeldt

On a furlough back home, Harold was called back to his base because his wife was ill, but sadly, she died soon after.

After Harold's discharge, he rose to be Pulaski County prosecutor, then Circuit Court judge. He presided over the Ford Pinto trial. Three girls had died when their Ford Pinto exploded after being hit from the rear. It was the first time that an automaker faced criminal rather than civil charges in deaths resulting from a car crash. (Ford was acquitted of reckless homicide.)

Born: 3/6/1919

Entered: 6/29/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35163178,PVT

Discharged: 11/17/1945

Died: 8/30/1981

Spouse: Ola Mae Williams Staffeldt[deceased]

Parents: William Carl Friedrich and Ida Christina Tack Staffeldt



Harold Staffeldt (Collection of Daniel BON [patootie]) -
findagrave.com/memorial/35325200/harold-r-staffeldt#view-photo=209869694

S-Sgt. Harold Staffeldt left Monday for his base in Pampa, Texas, after spending a short furlough at his home in Star City. Sgt. Staffeldt was called back because of the illness of his wife. Mr. and Mrs. William Staffeldt and daughter Annabelle accompanied him to Indianapolis.

Winamac (IN) Republican 23 Aug 1945: 1.

Wife Of Star City Sgt. Dies

Mr. and Mrs. William Staffeldt of the Star City vicinity received word Wednesday night that their daughter-in-law, Mrs. Harold Staffeldt, passed away at a hospital in Pampa, Texas, where S-Sgt. Staffeldt is stationed.

Thirty-five years of age, death followed a major operation, which she underwent a week ago.

Formerly Miss Ola Mae Williams of Baton Rouge, La., she was married to S-Sgt. Staffeldt on November 26, 1942, at San Antonio, Texas. She had been employed as a beauty shop operator in Pampa.

Survivors, besides the husband, include her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Williams, sister Mrs. Mildred Watson, all of Baton Rouge; two brothers.

Funeral services will be held Saturday afternoon at the Pampa Presbyterian church, with the Rev. D. E. Nelson officiating. Mr. and Mrs. Staffeldt left this morning for Pampa.

Winamac (IN) Republican 30 Aug 1945: 1.

Staffeldt Says He Probably Would Have Acquitted Ford

DETROIT (UPI) — The judge who presided over the Ford Pinto trial says he probably would have acquitted Ford Motor Co. of reckless homicide charges had the jury been unable to reach a verdict in the case.

Judge Harold R. **Staffeldt** told the Detroit Free Press he had the power to enter an acquittal since he deferred a decision on a **Ford** motion for acquittal before the case went to the Pulaski County jury Monday.

Staffeldt said Friday he could have ordered the No. 2 automaker acquitted even if the jury had returned a guilty verdict.

The jury deliberated for four days before finding **Ford** not guilty Thursday in the deaths of three young women killed in the fiery crash of their 1973 **Pinto** on an Indiana highway in 1978.

Deliberations in the case dragged on into the early hours Thursday, however, with jurors at one point saying they were hopelessly deadlocked. Attorneys in the case

began to wonder whether a verdict would be forthcoming.

Four jurors favored conviction when the panel took its first vote Monday, the newspaper said.

"I thought the verdict the jury brought in was fair," **Staffeldt** said. "I don't quarrel with their decision."

The judge, however, said he believed prosecutors presented enough evidence so the jury could have decided the case either way.

Prosecutors argued **Ford** knew its 1973 Pintos were prone to explode in rear-end collisions but produced the subcompacts anyway, neither repairing the cars or warning the public.

The No. 2 automaker denied the allegations, saying the **Pinto** met all federal safety standards in effect at the time.

A background summary and a week-by-week highlight of the historic trial can be found on PAGE 5.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 16 Mar 1980: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Sunday, March 16, 1980

The Pharos-Tribune, Logansport, Ind.—8

Highlights Of Trial

10 Weeks Of Courtroom Drama Results In Acquittal Of Ford

BY DAN LARSON
Staff Writer

WINAMAC — Ten weeks after the trial began, a Pulaski County jury acquitted the **Ford** Motor Company of recklessness Thursday for the design of the **Pinto** subcompact.

Marked by stormy courtroom sessions and Perry Mason-like sidebar witnesses, the unprecedented criminal trial of a corporation focused national attention on this small farming community.

The following is a synopsis of the background and a week-by-week summary of the historic **Pinto** trial:

The Background

A state law goes into effect July 1, 1978, which allows prosecutors to apply criminal statutes to corporations and individuals alike. When, Aug. 16, 1978, three teenage girls are killed near Goshen when their **Pinto** is rammed from behind by a van and explodes in flames from a ruptured fuel tank, the game is afoot. Lyn Ulrich, 16, of Coopersburg, sister, Judy, 18, the driver, and their cousin, Donna, 18, of Rosamond, Ill. Within two months, an Elkhart County grand jury indicted **Ford** under the provisions of the new statute for reckless homicide in three counts, one for each of the girls. Another Elkhart grand jury, however, declined to indict Robert Dugger, Goshen police chief, on the two counts.

"Attorneys for **Ford** seek a change of venue from Elkhart County due to extensive publicity surrounding the deaths of the three girls. In January, 1979, Pulaski County is chosen as the site of the trial.

Initial criminal hearings are held before Pulaski Circuit Judge Harold **Staffeld** and the subsequent tone of courtroom proceedings begins to take shape. **Ford** is represented by James Neal, a former Watergate prosecutor from Nashville, Tenn.; his attorneys, Audrey Harrell, Matilda Wheeler of the private New York firm of Hugh, Howard and Reed; and Winamac's Lester Wilson as local counsel.

Assisting Elkhart County Prosecutor Michael Cosentino are Terrance Kiely, a DePaul University law professor; Bruce Berner, a Vassaropolis University law professor; and Dennis Newell, a local attorney from Winamac.

At a late summer hearing, Judge **Staffeld** denies a motion to dismiss the charges and, in October, he clamps a protective order on the case file, sealing it from the view of the press and public following publication of excerpts of the file in articles that are highly damaging to **Ford** in the Chicago newspapers. The file closure decision is later upheld by the Indiana Supreme Court.

The Trial Begins

*First Week — After dismissing nearly all the jurors called for in the trial, the attorneys agree on a panel of 12 women and three alternates. The jurors are: Roger R. Tanne, Edgar Adams, Mark A. Fecce, Barbara Asel, Raymond R. Schramm, Janet M. Berger, Carol A. Redlin, Mary L. Sasa, Janet L. Olsen, Jay Chinnness, James A. Yurgillas and Arthur Seltzer. The alternates are: Chris Dust, Herman and Michael Farnsworth.

Jury selection lasts the entire four days of the first week. Judge **Staffeld** orders the trial recessed for the weekend every Thursday to allow routine court cases to be heard Friday.

With the start of the trial, members of the media descend on Winamac. Many residents are upset by their portrayal in Newsweek magazine as naive, country-folks, seeking to capitalize on the out-of-towners needing food and shelter.

*Second Week — Opening arguments by Cosentino and Neal. The state claims **Ford** is "callously willing to sacrifice human life for profit." While the defense claims the automaker is being falsely blamed for a tragic accident over which it had no control.

The first of the prosecutorial witnesses testifies. Trooper Nell B. Graves, who investigated the **Pinto** fuel tank explosion, testifies that the **Pinto**'s fuel tank exploded in the passenger compartment where it ignited. Next to testify is Mrs. Matilde Ulrich, mother of Lyn and Judy. She said she did not receive a recall letter concerning her daughter's **Pinto** until February, 1979, in a formal legal memo. **Ford** agreed that the girls had driven harshly, but the company had, thereby blocking emotional testimony describing the condition of the girls when found. Eyewitnesses to the crash testify the **Pinto** was moving when hit by the van, supporting a key prosecution position.

*Third Week — Authentication of **Ford** documents becomes key issue. The prosecution attempts to introduce into trial evidence letters from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) but the court rules letters, or any other documents, cannot ever be presented under subpoena, "could have been signed by a janitor." Judge **Staffeld** rules any document offered as evidence must be authenticated by whomever offers it. "This court must be careful lest it open the door to sets of frauds," he says.

The press says **Ford** is a "biggest malingering" since the state's evidence to documents concerning only the 1973 model **Pinto**.

Late in the week, two pathologists testified the three Ulrich girls would not have died from the crash impact itself but would have died from the fire.

*Fourth Week — Testimony of independent auto safety consultant Byron Bloch stretches through the week. Using diagrams and charts, Bloch tells the jury the basic design of the **Pinto** is hazardous but under cross-examination, admits placing the blame for the fatal crash on **Ford** was not uncommon for 1973 model **Pinto**. Neal accuses Bloch of having "an axe to grind" toward the automaker.

*Fifth Week — Former **Ford** engineering executive Harry Clegg testifies all four days of this week. He claims the **Pinto** was not safe when it came off the assembly line. When **Ford** management rejected a plan to install an additional \$6.60 in each **Pinto** during manufacture which would have improved the fuel tank's resistance to rupture on rear-end impact.

Judge **Staffeld** says a surprised courtroom may have committed a reversal error when he admitted several prosecution documents into evidence.

*Sixth Week — The state rests its case, a **Ford** motion for directed verdict is denied and the defense's case starts off "with a bang." Clegg testifies he was asked to "fix" the **Pinto** to prevent recalls. Judge **Staffeld** rules a prima facie case has been made against **Ford** in denying the motion for acquittal on the evidence.

An Elkhart General Hospital orderly is the first defense witness to testify. He claims to have talked to Judy Ulrich before she died the night of the fatal crash. Judy told him she stopped the **Pinto** on the highway to pick up a gas cap which had fallen from it, supporting **Ford**'s contention the **Pinto** was stopped when struck at more than 50 mph. No automobile made in the 1970s could withstand such a collision and no leak from the defense side.

*Seventh Week — The father of the **Pinto**'s testifies and the jury is allowed to see documents relating to a prior conviction of the automaker. Harold MacDonald, a corporate vice-president, was convicted in 1970 of 10 counts of tampering with air pollution controls in the 1970s. The convictions related to the corporations credibility in the past, **Staffeld** said.

*Eighth Week — Crash test films made by **Ford** are shown to the jury. John T. Hossler, an uninvited reconstruction specialist who directed the films, testifies he determined the closing speed of the crash to have been 50 mph from the amount of damage done to the **Pinto**.

*Ninth Week — The defense closes its case with the testimony of a second person who claimed to have talked to Judy before she died.

A nursing supervisor at Elkhart General said Judy told her she had stopped the **Pinto** when it was struck by the van.

*Tenth Week — Closing arguments, final instructions, deliberations and a 10-hour verdict. **Ford** sides presented arguments for their side and the jury then instructed the jurors that to convict, they must find **Ford** had failed to warn of danger in the **Pinto**'s fuel system.

After 2½ hours of deliberation Monday, the jurors are sent home for the night. They reconvene Tuesday morning and after 1½ hours of deliberation reach a decision. By Wednesday night, the jury tells Judge **Staffeld** they are deadlocked but he urges them to continue deliberations. At 11 a.m. Thursday, they have reached an unanimous decision — not guilty — thereby ending the nation's first trial of a corporation for criminal recklessness in the design of a product.



Lyn Ulrich



Judy Ulrich



Donna Ulrich

Pinto Verdict Reaction Mixed

WINAMAC — Reaction to the **Pinto** trial verdict was widespread Thursday.

While **Ford** Motor Co. officials cheered a company victory in Detroit, in Washington D.C., consumer advocate Ralph Nader claimed the publicity generated by the 10-week trial will benefit the consumer.

Nader said the case will have far-reaching effects. One effect is that consumers not only about the dangers of the **Pinto** but about the need to prosecute corporations for criminal behavior.

Despite losing the long court battle, Elkhart County Prosecutor Michael Cosentino said the result could be safer

fuel systems and fewer automobile fire deaths in the coming years.

Cosentino said he accepted the auto had been "unfairly maligned."

However, he noted the trial and the attention it focused on the corporate decision making process means there must be responsibility on the part of corporations that make the country may some day be benefited by the verdict.

But during a meeting of **Ford** corporate officials to review the case, **Ford** directors cheered when they learned of the verdict.

John G. Caldwell, who was appointed to succeed **Ford** as chairman of the nation's second largest automaker, said

the verdict was a vindication of the company and of the subcompact **Pinto**. He added the auto had been "unfairly maligned."

However, he noted the trial and the attention it focused on the corporate decision making process means there must be responsibility on the part of corporations that make the country may some day be benefited by the verdict.

"They were not so happy with the jury's decision."

"I'm very pleased with the verdict," said Earl Ulrich of Osseda, the father of Judy and Lyn. He was upset that the prosecution was barred from presenting all of the evidence it wanted to present.

"They couldn't get their story told. They couldn't get their evidence in."

Byron Bloch, an auto safety consultant who testified during the trial, said the state was barred from presenting all of the evidence it wanted to present.

"They couldn't get their story told. They couldn't get their evidence in."

Life In Winamac Will Change Again; Hordes Of Reporters, Lawyers Depart

WINAMAC, Ind. (UPI) — The **Pinto** trial is a dead issue in the town it dominated for 10 weeks. The new issue is that old Hoosier perennial, basketball.

"No one's talking about the trial today. Everyone's talking about how basketball is going to do in the Hoosier Horseshoe," says Mike Miller, editor of the weekly Pulaski County Journal.

Ford exploded in a rear-end collision.

Scores of lawyers and reporters promptly hurried

down streets and sidewalks and raced for the nearest airport.

A handful of reporters stayed long enough to have

breakfast Friday at Matilda's Cafe across the street

from the Pulaski County Courthouse. Then they, too,

departed, leaving bailiff Mike Gorigan "sort of lonely."

Judge Harold **Staffeld** was back in Pulaski Circuit

Court, hearing a local inheritance lawsuit. Where once

there were hundreds of people jammed into the room, Friday the only occupants were the judge, the court reporter, and two lawyers.

"It seems as if the jurors didn't think **Ford** proved their case, but the prosecution didn't sufficiently prove their case either," said Dan Taskersley, a local attorney who served as a deputy prosecutor.

Taskersley said the Indiana Legislature needs to come up with guidelines for trying corporations in criminal cases. The first was the nation's first trial of an automaker on criminal rather than civil charges in a car-related death.

"It's going to be very different around here. We'll have a lot of empty space upstairs," Miller said. The old newspaper building is the latest of old wood buildings to big city reporters.

"It's like having company. It makes you sad when they go," said Sue Glasson, a Sterling Drug employee who typified the friendliness Winamac folks showed to their visitors.

A woman reporter dashed in during jury deliberations, begging for a needle and thread to repair a split seam in her trouser leg. "I'll do that, honey," Mrs. Glasson said, and promptly repaired the small tear.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 16 Mar 1980: 5.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Judge Reflects On Pinto Trial

BY DAN LARSON
Staff Writer

WYANDOTTE — The courtroom was empty this week.

The historic trial of the Ford Motor Company on criminal recklessness charges for the design of the Pinto has ended and things had turned quiet last week.

The emptiness of the courtroom made it appear almost empty during the first week of testimony during the Ford Pinto trial when it was crammed to nearly overflowing with attorneys, legal assistants, reporters, sketch artists, spectators and exhibits, which included a full-size mock-up, poster-size charts, photographs and movie equipment.

On March 10, the day when final arguments were made to the jury, the courtroom, which has a seating capacity of 187, with 200 available seats, was packed with an estimated 100 persons. But now everything is quiet and the sealing gallery is empty.

And what was true for the courtroom holds for the courthouse itself.

Out in the lobby the team of television cameramen and audio technicians that would block the main courthouse lobby for hours waiting for the attorneys in the case to make a brief statement.

Also gone are the temporary telephone facilities on the courthouse lawn used in filing news reports in faraway cities and the full-size mock-ups of the four other 1972 subcompact autos Ford had moved into the basement as a companion to the Pinto.

Does Pulaski Circuit Judge Harold Staffeldt, who presided over the 10-week legal battle, miss all the attention and the publicity and even the notoriety the trial generated?

"Not at all. I don't crave that type of thing," he said. "I can do without it."

Got Off To Bad Start

Staffeldt said he may have gotten off to a bad start in the Pinto trial because he was both sick and stressed.

Judge Staffeldt, who drew criticism for some of his rulings and for his courtroom manner during the trial, said his dentist told him near the end of January the tooth, a lower left molar, was badly abscessed and would require immediate extraction.

But for the first three weeks of the trial, Staffeldt could feel the infected tooth "spreading the poison throughout my system," he said.

With the pain from the infected tooth bothering him, he may have allowed some of his rulings to sound as if he was being infective when he was actually only distracted by the tooth.

Toothache or not, Staffeldt said he is not the type of judge to run his court with an iron hand. He added that he "may not have been as firm as I should have," with the attorneys in the case but "I just can't stand seeing."

Overall, Judge Staffeldt said he has no regrets about the decisions he made during the historic trial, in which a seven-man, five-woman jury acquitted Ford Motors of recklessly designing the 1972 Pinto.

The case from the 1972 accident, Aug. 10, 1972 in which three teen girls died when their Pinto was struck from behind and exploded in flames.

However, while there was evidence presented by the state which could have justified a conviction, Staffeldt said he agreed with the defense's guilty verdict, reached March 13 after 25 hours of deliberation.

Continued On

Page 5



Judge Staffeldt Leaving Pulaski
Courthouse During Pinto Trial

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 30 Mar 1980: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Sunday, March 30, 1980

Judge Reflects On Pinto Case...

Continued From Page 1

Calls Coverage Fair

Despite many unfavorable accounts of him and his trial rulings that appeared in newspapers and on television across the country, **Staffeld** said he is not critical of the press.

He said the coverage of the trial was for the most part fair and the only thing that upset him was when he was misquoted in news stories.

Staffeld noted he received what he referred to as "hate-mail" from several trial-watchers, all of which was mailed from out-of-the-area locations, following an article in a northern Indiana paper.

The newspaper article misquoted a courtroom remark to defense attorney James Neal, **Staffeld** said, and as a result he received several of the critical letters, he added.

When asked about the issues raised in the Pinto case, **Staffeld** said the timing of the trial itself may have been premature because Indiana law is not clear on the nature of criminal prosecution of a corporation.

Speaking for himself, **Staffeld** said cases such as the Pinto trial should be kept "on the civil side of the docket," rather than heard as criminal trials.

Indiana law allows a jury to award punitive damages to an injured party for defective products in a civil product liability case, "but if we want to prosecute them (manufacturers) criminally, we're going to have to redefine our terms," he said.

Although remaining cautious when answering questions about the trial itself due to the possibility of a prosecution appeal on points of law, **Staffeld** did comment on some aspects as he saw them.

Limited By Indictment

The indictment handed down by the Elkhart County grand jury in late 1978 was badly written from the state's side, **Staffeld** said, because it was generally unclear and it specified one particular car of the several million Pintos made.

Because of the limited nature of the indictment, **Staffeld** said he was forced to limit evidence introduced by the Prosecutor Michael Cosentino to the 1973 Pinto model. If the charges had stated the Ulrich Pinto was only one of the several million Pintos made between 1971-76, it would have allowed him to expand the scope of the trial, the judge said.

He added he was forced to block the prosecution from showing crash test films it had acquired for two main reasons. First, the state did not produce a witness to the crash tests who could have testified as to how the films were made and second, the state did not show the tests were conducted with the specific intention of studying fuel system integrity.



Pharos-Tribune



Pharos-Tribune

Pulaski Courthouse Activity Slows Down

Ford's accident reconstruction specialist, John Haberstad, testified to both of those points. **Staffeld** noted, and because the films showed a scientific study of one of the major issues of the trial, namely the damage done to the fuel tanks of several model of autos, the **Ford**-produced crash test films were shown to the jury.

State Lacked Expert

The judge said he was concerned at the time the state rested its case that it had not produced its own accident reconstruction specialist. A statistical expert would have been allowed to testify in rebuttal, the judge said, but Cosentino chose not to have the man take the stand.

Cosentino said he did not want to confuse the jury with statistical arguments at the end of the trial but **Staffeld** speculated the expert's testimony might have been unfavorable to the state's case.

"What it got down to was the cause of the accident," the judge said. "The testimony of (Nancy) Fogo (Levi) Woodard and Haberstad showed the cause of the accident was the crush of the van and not the design of the Pinto."

Fogo and Woodard both testified they had talked with the driver of the Pinto following the accident and were told it had been stopped when it was struck from behind by the van. Haberstad said that according to the amount of damage done to the Pinto, the closing speed of the two vehicles was greater than 50 mph.

Ford had maintained throughout the trial no auto made in this country, including full-size vehicles, could have withstood such an impact and not leaked fuel.

When asked about two occasions when he ruled against **Ford**, including the admission of the initial government notification of **Ford** of a possible defect in 1971-76 Pintos and the conviction papers concerning **Ford's** violation of the federal Clean Air act, **Staffeld** said since **Ford** was acquitted; those points most likely would not be appealed.

During the trial, **Staffeld** commented he may have been setting legal precedent by allowing as evidence in a criminal trial records relating to a defendants prior convictions.

Admitting the conviction papers into evidence went to the issue of **Ford's** credibility in the past, **Staffeld** said, but the jury evidently did not put much weight behind the document.

The judge also criticized Cosentino's failure to follow up the more than 30 subpoenas he was seeking to serve on high-ranking **Ford** officials in Michigan.

"It may have been a mistake for him (Cosentino) not to go up there in person," **Staffeld** said of the Wayne County, Mich., subpoena hearing. Also when he was turned down the first time, Cosentino could have attempted to have the subpoenas re-issued, possibly with more success, **Staffeld** said.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 30 Mar 1980: 5.

Pulaski Judge Staffeldt Dies

WINAMAC - Former Pulaski Circuit Court Judge Harold Robert Staffeldt, 62, died Sunday at 7:30 p.m. in Pulaski Memorial Hospital.

The former judge, who gained nationwide attention during the "Pinto Trial," resided at 620 S. Riverside Dr. He had been in failing health four months.

Judge Staffeldt was born in Star City on March 6, 1919, to William and Ida Tack Staffeldt. On June 17, 1948, he was married to Helen Ross, who survives.

When Staffeldt sat the bench during the Pinto Trial in February, 1980, it was the first time in America a corporation had been charged with reckless homicide.

A lifetime resident of Pulaski County, he was a member of the St. Luke Lutheran Church, the Kiwanis Club and the American Legion.

A graduate of Indiana University and Tulane University, he started his career in law with the firm Staffeldt and Wilson in 1947. A World War II veteran, he was a member of the Indiana Judges Association and the Indiana State Bar Association.

tion. He was on the Board of Directors at the First National Bank of Monterey.

Pulaski County Prosecutor from 1950 to 1962, he was appointed to the Circuit Court bench in 1979, and in 1970 was elected to the same position. He served in that capacity until earlier this year when he stepped down for health reasons. He was a member of the Indiana Criminal Justice Planning Agency from 1969 to 1980 and he served on the Indiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges from 1977 to 1980.

Surviving with the wife are two sons, Ross, Penn State University, Pa.; and Eric, Denver, Colo.; a sister, Annabelle Wiseley, Logansport; and a brother, Charles, Downers Grove, Ill.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. in St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 712 S. Market St., with Pastor John S. Ricker officiating. Burial will be in the Winamac Cemetery.

Friends may call at the Frain Mortuary after 2 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday from 10 to 11 a.m. at the church.



Harold Staffeldt

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 31 Aug 1981: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

It's a Small World (War II) for cousins Wendell and John meeting in a Philippine harbor.

Wendell Marshall Henry

Born: 4/8/1922
Entered: 9/3/1942
Branch,SN,Rank: USN,,CS3c
Discharged:
Died: 4/11/2006

Spouse: Lela Mae Good Henry
Parents: Herschel Emerson and Edith
Margaret Bader Henry



Wendell Henry, S 1/c, in the Navy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herschel Henry of Winamac.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 8 Jul 1943: 1.

John Harley Bader

Born: 5/30/1911
Entered: 1/19/1943
Branch,SN,Rank: USA,,T/SGT
Discharged:
Died: 12/14/1983

Parents: Chauncey and Gertrude Hoffman
Bader



PFC John H. Bader, with the tank destroyers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chauncey Bader of Grand Rapids, Mich., former residents of Winamac.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 29 Jul 1943: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Two cousins, Wendell Henry, C S 3/c, and T/Sgt. John Bader, recently enjoyed an unexpected visit when their ships were in the same harbor somewhere in the vicinity of the Philippine Islands. John knew the name of the boat on which Wendell was stationed so when his boat drew up next to it he soon had permission to go aboard. They spent an hour or so visiting, but a storm prevented their meeting next day. Wendell told of the meeting in a letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herschel Henry of Winamac. John, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Chauncey Bader of Grand Rapids, Mich., is in a headquarters service company.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 2 Aug 1945: 2.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

It's a Small World (War II) at a Bob Hope show for the troops in Rome, when Doc Halleck found he was sitting next to Joe, also from Winamac.

Harold Jerome Halleck

Born: 1/14/1903
Entered: 6/1/1942?
Branch,SN,Rank: USA,,LTC
Discharged:
Died: 2/12/1986

Spouse: Bernice L. Carson Halleck
Parents: Abraham and Lura Irene Luce
Halleck

Joseph Jenkins "Joe" Huddleston

Born: 7/21/1912
Entered: 6/30/1941
Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,,COL
Medal: Bronze Star
Discharged: 7/31/1967
Died: 6/18/1994

Spouse: Dorothy Lois Hoesel Huddleston
Parents: William Shipman and Nona Mae
Jenkins Huddleston

Two lieutenant colonels from Winamac recently met in Germany, when Lt. Col. H. J. Halleck went to a near-by Eighth Air Force post to see the Bob Hope show. There he discovered he had sat down next to Lt. Col. Joseph J. Huddleston.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 9 Aug 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Charles William Garling

Charles was on a 50-caliber "ack ack" crew defending the airstrip at Sinth, Burma, and getting his first taste of combat in a night attack, thereby winning faint praise from Tokyo Rose.

Born: 6/10/1923

Entered: 2/12/1943

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35092563,CPL

Discharged: 11/29/1945?

Died: 6/17/2015

Parents: Harry Frederick and Pearl C. Linback Garling



Pfc. Charles Garling, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Garling of Winamac, is shown with a 50 cal. anti-aircraft gun guarding the Sinthe airstrip. Pvt. Gilbert H. Miller of Hagerstown, is with Garling. These men had their first taste of combat recently when a Jap plane made a night attack on the strip.

Winamac.(IN).Republican 3 May 1945: 1.

Winamac Soldier Travels from India to Burma

Moving with the first American troops into Rangoon, Cpl. Charles Garling, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Garling of Winamac, is a member of a 10th Air Force anti-aircraft gun crew. This unit recently completed a 750-mile, 186-day trek from Assam, India, to the tip of Burma. The gun crew protected vital air supply routes used by the advancing British 14th Army.

The men of the anti-aircraft battery began their long journey to Rangoon by being towed in fourteen glider sorties from a base at Assam to Yazagya, Burma. It was the first glider movement of an anti-aircraft battery in the India-Burma theater and it was successful despite the fact that Jap bombers were blasting an airstrip within sight of the rice paddy where the gliders landed.

As the Allies advanced, the unit moved up, and at Sinthe, Burma, took up double duties—performing an antiaircraft role by day and turning infantrymen by night to fight off Jap attacks. It was at Meiktila, an important supply and communications center, that the battery saw the most action.

Under fire for eleven straight days, the detachment earned the reluctant praise of Tokyo Rose, who broadcast: "Nipponese troops were unable to retake Meiktila because of strong American forces approximating a division." The only "American forces" there, it can now be revealed, was the tiny detachment of anti-aircraft gunners, numbering less than a hundred men.

While protecting an airstrip in central Burma, they encountered sixty American prisoners of war who had walked sixty-seven miles from their stockade in Rangoon. They were fed, housed and clothed by the first Americans they had seen in more than two years.

As a climax, the battle-weary unit was among the first troops to enter historic Rangoon. (Special to The Democrat from Headquarters, 10th Air Force.)

Pulaski.County.(IN).Democrat 26 Jul 1945: 2.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Winamac Man In Liberated Rangoon



These six Hoosiers in liberated Rangoon are members of a 10th air force anti-aircraft battery which participated in the central Burma campaign. They are: Left to right: Pvt. A. L. Sacimore, Mishawaka; Pfc. Donald G. Mallon and Pfc. Delbert Shipley of Michigan City; Pfc. Claude Stephens of Knox; Cpl. Charles W. Garling of Winamac and Pfc. John L. Montagano of Elkhart. (Courtesy of South Bend Tribune)

Headquarters 10th Air Force in India-Burma—A Winamac soldier was among the first American troops moving into Rangoon following a 780-mile, 186-day trek from Assam, India, to the tip of Burma. The men are members of a 10th Air Force anti-aircraft gun crew which protected vital supply routes used by the advancing British 14th Army.

The men are: Cpl. Charles W. Garling, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Garling of Winamac; Pfc. Donald G. Mallon, of Michigan City; Pfc. Claude Stephens of Michigan City; Pfc. John L. Montagano, Pfc. Delbert Shipley of Elkhart; Pvt. R. L. Szimore of Mishawaka.

The men of the anti-aircraft drove back fanatical banzai battery began their long journey charges. Under fire for 11 to Rangoon when they were towed straight days, the gunners earned in 14 glider sorties from a base the reluctant praise of Tokyo Rose (Continued on Page 6)

MAN IN RANGOON

(Continued from Page 1)

in Assam, India, to Yazagyo, Burma. It was the first glider movement of an anti-aircraft battery in the India-Burma theater and it was successful despite the fact that Jap bombers were blasting an airstrip within sight of the rice paddy where the gliders landed.

By special permission of the 14th army headquarters, the American unit flew the first Stars and Stripes in Central Burma.

At Sinthe, Burma, the unit took up double duties, performing an anti-aircraft role by day and turning infantrymen by night to fight off Jap attacks. But it was Meiktila, an important communications and supply center, that units of the battery saw the most action.

Dug in on the airstrip with rifles, machine guns and bazookas every gunner, clerk and cook in the small detachment withstood artillery, mortar and rifle fire, and

who broadcast "Nippinese troops were unable to retake Meiktila because of strong American forces approximating a division." The only "American forces" there, it can now be revealed, was the tiny detachment of 10th air force anti-aircraft gunners, numbering less than 100 men.

After Meiktila was finally secured by the allies, the battery moved deeper into central Burma, providing mobile anti-aircraft defense for vulnerable British truck convoys. While protecting an airstrip at Payagi, they encountered 60 American prisoners of war who had walked 67 miles from their stockade in Rangoon. They were fed, clothed and housed by the first Americans they had seen in more than two years.

As a climax to an already climatic career, the battle-wearied unit was among the first troops to enter historic Rangoon.

Winamac (IN) Republican 9 Aug 1945: 1&6.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Albin Francis Shank

It's a Small World (War II) when cousins Ralph met Alvin at the USO canteen doorway in California.

Albin earned his Bronze Star and a field commission after he used his assault gun to drive the enemy from a bridge they were preparing for demolition. On a later occasion, he and another officer captured 123 with only one shot fired.

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.

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.

Fourteen Cousins in Nation's Armed Forces

Sons and daughters of the late Frank Gilsinger of Pulaski, along with their families, comprise a group having intense interest in the war. No less than fourteen cousins are to be counted as members of the armed forces. In the list are Max, Basil and Paul Gilsinger, sons of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Gilsinger; John, Carl and Albin Shank, sons of Barney Shank (one of whom, John, has been reported missing in action); Byron, Richard and Ray Winter, sons of Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Winter; Vincent and Robert Shank, sons of Mr. and Mrs. John Shank; Ralph and Harry Miller, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Miller, all of Pulaski or Winamac; William Falvey, son of Mr. and Mrs. James P. Falvey of Knox.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 25 Mar 1943: 1.

Pulaski Sergeant Is Awarded Bronze Star for Meritorious Service

S/Sgt. Albin F. Shank of Pulaski, has been cited for meritorious service in combat in France and awarded the Bronze Star. As reported to The Democrat by Fourth Armored Division Headquarters, the citation reads in part: "On the morning of August 31, 1944, at Ligne, France, S/Sgt. Shank was responsible for placing fire on the enemy with such accuracy with his assault gun that he drove the enemy from the bridge which they were preparing for demolition, thus saving the following elements time and casualties."

The young man is platoon sergeant in a mechanized cavalry reconnaissance squadron. A graduate of Pulaski high school, he entered the Army in May of 1941.

Cpl. Carl Shank, another son of Barney Shank, is now home on three weeks' furlough. He recently returned to the states after two years in the Mediterranean theater.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 2 Nov 1944: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Two Receive Commissions In the Field

Robert Strasser and Albin Shank Become Second Lieutenants

Two men from Pulaski county, now in the European theater, have been commissioned second lieutenants in the field. They are Robert Strasser, formerly a master sergeant, and Albin F. Shank, formerly a staff sergeant. The word reached their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Strasser of Winamac and Barney Shank of Pulaski, the latter part of last week.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 9 Nov 1944: 1.

County Men Are Members of Hard Fighting Division

Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Pugh received a letter this week from their son, T/Sgt. Arthur Pugh, in which he enclosed a copy of the war record of the Fourth Armored Division, including T/Sgt. Pugh, Lt. Albin F. Shank, S/Sgt. Ralph Miller, T/5 Ernest Clouser and S/Sgt. Philip Brucker. The last two named have suffered wounds and Sgt. Brucker is now in the hospital at Fort Benjamin Harrison.

The War Department disclosed that the Fourth Division spearheaded the 3rd Army advance across France. After landing in Normandy on D-Day, it went on to cut off Brittany peninsula and was identified with the hardest fighting in the liberation of France.

Lt. Strasser entered service in February of 1941 and was placed in the signal corps. He was with some of the first U. S. troops to go overseas, serving in the African and Italian campaigns. He has two brothers in service, Richard in the Navy and Wayne in the Army.

Lt. Shank also entered the Army before the U. S. was in the war, in May 1941, and was sent overseas nearly a year ago. A graduate of the Pulaski high school, he is with a mechanized cavalry squadron and recently received the Bronze Star. A brother, Carl, is now home on furlough after nearly two years in foreign service, and another brother, John, was reported missing after the fall of the Philippines.

The division was credited with smashing 400 enemy tanks, 140 large artillery pieces, 1500 miscellaneous vehicles, and taking 15,000 prisoners, all at relatively low cost to itself. It destroyed the Nazi 77th, 91st, 243rd infantry divisions, the 6th paratroop division and the 281st cavalry battalion. The Germans regarded the men of the Fourth Armored as "Supermen."

The reaction of a German Colonel of shock troops is typical. The Nazi officer, captured by the Fourth, said, "Having been a commander of army units in Russia, I must admit that the American troops are not only equipped with the best material, but what strikes me especially is the excellance of organization under which these men now function. I would be pleased to know the commander of this division."

The Germans described the Fourth as the American Elite Fourth Armored Division and Fourth Panzer, and called the men "ruthless fighters. The unit, commanded by Maj. Gen. John S. Wood, served as part of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 23 Nov 1944: 1.

Officer Tells Of Capturing 123 Germans

Barney Shank of Pulaski received an interesting letter Monday from his son, Lt. Albin Shank, parts of which follow. Lt. Shank is with Gen. Patton's Third Army tanks.

Mar. 23, 1945
Germany

Dear Dad:

Would liked to have written sooner, but I was just too busy. Suppose you have noticed what we have been doing lately. Well, Dad, I have got my share of those guys. A captain and myself went into a town one day and walked right down the main street like we owned the joint. On the way out, we had 123 prisoners and only one shot fired. I had to fire that one to convince six Krauts to get out of a house. It's a good thing they moved then or they wouldn't have been able to walk. That isn't a bad haul for two men.

One place it was kind of funny. I walked into this house and there sat six Krauts at a table, just getting ready to eat dinner. When I poked my gun in their faces, one jumped up and hollered "Kamerad." The others just sat there with their mouths open. I motioned for them to get out of the house. They wanted to stay and eat. I stomped and yelled and motioned for them to get out. Then the pay off came. One guy had the guts enough to ask me to sit down and eat with them. Boy, there is where I got mad. I fired a shot right under the table and through the floor and boy, those Krauts really got out of there, where they joined the captain. I searched the room for guns and

found six pistols and one rifle. They didn't have a chance to use them, though.

Well, Dad, I don't think this war will last long now. It really looks good to me. I could tell you some news, but censorship forbids. Anyhow, you will get it over the radio before this letter gets to you. Whatever you have read about my division and heard over the radio is true, because I've been right there. It was pretty rough at times, but that's war.

Hope this finds you all well and happy.

ALBIN.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 10 May 1945: 2.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Alvin Benavill "Snooky" Zellers

"Snooky" earned his Soldier's Medal when he and his three-person unit "... with complete disregard for their personal safety, they heroically save[d] from loss valuable and irreplaceable equipment which was in danger of being destroyed as result of a gasoline fire."

Born: 7/31/1918

Entered: 3/23/1943

Branch, SN, Rank: USA, 35138517, PVT

Medal: Soldier's Medal

Discharged: 2/4/1946

Died: 3/2/1970

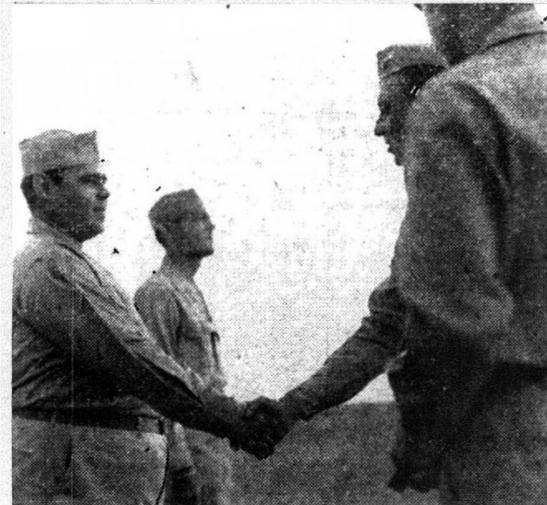
Parents: Harvey "Harve" and Hazel Minerva Quilhot Zellers



Pvt. Alvin Zellers in the quartermaster corps, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harve Zellers of Winamac, in the medical corps.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 30 Sep 1943: 1.

Winamac Soldier Receives Award For Bravery at Station in India



PFC Alvin B. Zellers, son of Harve Zellers of Winamac, who is serving in the Army Air Forces in India, has been awarded the Soldier's Medal for heroism. He is shown above on the left receiving the congratulations of his commanding officer, Maj. John M. Hubers.

—Similar medals were presented to three others in PFC Zellers' unit, the 24th Combat Mapping Squadron, the citation stating that "with complete disregard for their personal safety, they heroically saved from loss valuable and irreplaceable equipment which was in danger of being destroyed as result of a gasoline fire."

PFC Zellers, who has been overseas since May, 1944, also has received two battle participation stars. He is a driver in the transportation section of his squadron, which has been commended by Lt. Gen. George E. Stratemeyer for "outstanding performance of duty under more than hazardous conditions of battle." PFC Zellers entered military service March 24, 1943. (Special to The Democrat from public relations, CBI theater.)

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 6 Sep 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Barney Alden Tucker

Barney earned his Bronze Star by standing when under fire and exhorting his troops to rally them to greater effort in the attack on Hill 500.

Born: 10/15/1915

Entered: 7/15/1941

Branch, SN, Rank: USA, 35127275, MJR

Medal: Bronze Star

Discharged:

Died: 3/22/1979

Spouse: Shirley June Keplar Tucker

Parents: Gilbert Bruce and Mattie Belle Ottinger Tucker

Maj. Barney A. Tucker, husband of Mrs. Shirley J. Tucker of Winamac, was awarded the Bronze Star medal and two combat stars for action against the enemy at Bougainville, British Solomons Islands, and on New Guinea, according to a report this week. Maj. (Continued on page 8)

(Continued from Page 1)

Bougainville, British Solomon Islands, and on New Guinea, according to a report this week. Maj.



Maj. Barney Tucker

Tucker is in the infantry. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Tucker of Greenville, Tenn.

Winamac (IN) Republican 6 Sep 1945: 1&8.

Maj. Barney A. Tucker, battalion executive officer of the 593rd Field Artillery, is the possessor of the Bronze Star Medal, an official commendation and two combat stars, for action against the enemy at Bougainville, British Solomons Island and on New Guinea. His wife, the former Miss Shirley Keplar, lives in the Winamac vicinity.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 30 Aug 1945: 2.

Battalion Executive Officer of the 593d Field Artillery Battalion, Maj. Barney A. Tucker, is the possessor of the Bronze Star Medal, an official commendation, and two combat stars, for action against the enemy at Bougainville, British Solomons Islands, and on New Guinea. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Tucker of Greenville, Tenn., and his wife is the former Miss Keplar of Winamac.

Maj. Tucker received the Bronze Star Medal for outstanding action with the infantry during the Bougainville campaign, more than a year ago. The citation reads in part, "Maj. Tucker, (then captain) acting as an artillery observer and liaison officer for an artillery battalion, displayed unusual leadership and courage when, during an attack on Hill 500, troops in the vicinity of the observation post were pinned down by enemy machine gun and rifle fire. Maj. Tucker stood up amidst the firing, exposing himself to enemy fire, rallied the troops by exhorting them to greater effort resulting in the resumption of the attack and taking of the objective. His historic and courageous action assisted materially in the success-

ful assault and occupation of the objective. As the attack proceeded, Maj. Tucker resumed his duty as artillery observer, planned and plotted artillery concentrations at strategic points of enemy approach for the protection of our troops, and newly won positions."

Wife Lives in Winamac.

Maj. Tucker was inducted as a private in July, 1941, at Fort Thomas, Ky., and received his basic training at Fort Bragg, N. C. Soon after completion of basic training, he was selected to attend the field artillery officers' candidate school at Fort Sill, Okla., where he was commissioned as second lieutenant in April, 1942. Immediately after graduation he joined the newly organized 93d Infantry Division at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

Maj. Tucker is a graduate of the University of Tennessee, where he was prominent in school activities. At the time of his induction into the Army, he was on the staff of the Knoxville Fertilizer Co. He has one child, Alice Ann Tucker, two years old. She and Mrs. Tucker now live at Winamac. (Special to The Democrat from 93d Division on Morotai).

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 6 Sep 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Donald Fay Wilson

Donald earned his Bronze Star when he "... personally formed and trained a regimental casualty reporting section....".

Born: 1/16/1913

Entered: 1/17/1941

Branch,SN,Rank: ,USA,20529909 or W904035,CWO

Medal: Bronze Star

Discharged: 3/31/1947

Died: 8/23/1959

Spouse: Billie Odeene James Wilson

Parents: Alfred Tip and Anna Lola Cupp Wilson



Chief Warrant Officer Donald F. Wilson, stationed in the Pacific. His wife was formerly Miss Billie O. James of Denham.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 4 May 1944: 1.

Chief Warrant Officer Donald F. Wilson of Denham has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations on Luzon and Legto for the first six months of this year. The citation reads: "During the preparatory phases of a combat operation upon which his regiment was about to enter, Warrant Officer Wilson personally formed and trained a regimental casualty reporting section and also trained battalion and company personnel in this important phase of administration." It stated also that he served as officer in charge of the regimental postal unit and was instrumental in speeding the delivery of mail. Overseas twenty months, Mr. Wilson wears the Asiatic-Pacific ribbon with three combat stars, Combat Infantry Badge, American Defense, Philippine Liberation ribbon with one star. Mrs. Wilson is the former Miss Billie James, and lives in Denham.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 20 Sep 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

William Henry "Bill" Dodt

Bill earned his Bronze Star when "in disregard of his own life, [he] rushed into an ammunition dump which had been set afire by the Japs, and backed out his truck, saving vital equipment".

Born: 4/16/1925

Entered:

Branch,SN,Rank: USMC,,CPL

Medal: Bronze Star

Discharged:

Died: 3/12/2013

Parents: Helen Artalene Brew (Cecil L.) Dodt (Frank Albert[deceased]) Yount



PFC William Dodt, son of Mrs. F. A. Yount of Indianapolis, formerly of Pulaski, overseas with the Marine Corps.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 14 Oct 1943: 1.

Marine Cpl. William H. Dodt, son of Mrs. Frank Yount of Greenville, Ohio, and a graduate of the Pulaski high school, has been awarded a Bronze Star medal, the citation stating "that in disregard of his own life he rushed into an ammunition dump which had been set afire by the Japs, and backed out his truck, saving vital equipment which later helped to do great damage to the enemy." Cpl. Dodt, wounded by a sniper's bullet on Iwo Jima, is now stationed at Camp Peary, Va.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 13 Sep 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Franklin John "Frank" Paulsen

Just after V-J Day, Frank steered the USS North Carolina battleship into Tokyo Bay.

Born: 12/15/1924

Entered: 3/1/1942?

Branch,SN,Rank: USN,,S1c

Discharged:

Died: 6/6/2011

Parents: Amelia Elizabeth Kalina (Frederick Christian[deceased]) Paulsen

Winamac Lad Steers U.S. Battleship Into Tokyo Bay

When the U.S.S. North Carolina steamed into Tokyo bay with the American fleet, Franklin Paulsen, Q.M. 2/c, of Winamac was at the helm, he informed his mother, Mrs. Amelia Paulsen of Winamac, in a letter she received Tuesday.

In relating the experience, which occurred September 5, he said: "I certainly am tired tonight but quite happy for the fact that we are riding at anchor once more. For sixty-nine days we rampaged up and down the coast of Japan through storms and what not, and now we've finally dropped the hook—in Tokyo bay. One thing I can say, I was the first man on this ship to steer it into Tokyo bay.

"It took about three and a half hours to come up the channel and with tricky current I had to put up with I was pretty well worn out by the time we anchored. We don't intend to stay long though, as I think we're leaving tomorrow for Okinawa and from there to Pearl Harbor and the States."

The young Naval man, who will not reach his majority until next December 15, was an honor student in the 1942 graduating class of the Winamac high school and was prominent in high school athletics, starring on the basketball team. He was inducted into the Navy in March, 1942, and entered service at the close of school.



FRANKLIN PAULSEN Q.M. 2/C

18, 1941, and has served three years and seven months overseas—at Ascension Island, Belgian Congo, French West Africa, England and France. He went into Normandy three days after the invasion. A member of a medical detachment of the combat engineers, he wears the ETO ribbon with two campaign stars, an invasion assault arrowhead and pre-Pearl Harbor ribbon.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 20 Sep 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Robert Dale Kinney

Because of International Dateline crossings, Robert, on a ship in the Pacific, missed V-E Day, V-J Day, as well as the Fourth of July, although he enjoyed two Easters.

Born: 6/25/1917

Entered: 5/1/1942

Branch, SN, Rank: USN, 20270337, LTjg

Discharged: 1945

Died: 3/21/2005

Spouse: Virgie Marie Grile Kinney

Parents: Lyman Abel and Mathilda Willhelmina "Tilly" Traster Kinney

Winamac Navy Man
Still At War;
International Dateline
Beats Him Out of
V-E, V-J Days.

Lt. Robert D. Kinney, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Kinney of Winamac, serving on the USS Pickaway, an attack transport, is still technically at war with Germany and Japan. He had no V-E day and no V-J day.

Last May when Germany surrendered, the Pickaway was west-bound in mid-Pacific. On May 8 she was crossing the international dateline, and V-E day was skipped. That seemed noteworthy to the men on the transport. But on the day the Japs signed in Tokyo Bay, the Pickaway again was crossing the international dateline and V-J day was missed.

This story of scrambled holidays is an old one for these men. In the course of 50,000 miles of Pacific travel this year, they missed not only V-E and V-J day, but the Fourth of July as well, and enjoyed two Easters. They are dubiously looking toward Thanksgiving and Christmas. (Special to The Democrat from Fleet Home Town News Center.)

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 11 Oct 1945: 1.

Lt. Robert D. Kinney of Winamac is serving aboard the USS Pickaway, an attack transport which because it was crossing the international dateline, skipped V-E day and again crossed the line on V-J day so the boat is still technically at war with Germany and Japan, according to a navy dispatch.

Winamac (IN) Republican 11 Oct 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Clement George Shorter

Clement earned his Bronze Star "perform[ing] his duties as battalion sergeant major in a highly meritorious manner".

Born: 10/9/1918

Entered: 2/19/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35259752,M/SGT

Medal: Bronze Star

Discharged: 12/20/1945?

Died: 2/25/2002

Parents: Lucy Bowers (George[deceased]) Shorter



Cpl. Clement Shorter, son of Mrs. Lucy Shorter of Winamac, personnel clerk in the signal corps.

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

M/Sgt. Clement G. Shorter, son of Mrs. Lucy Shorter of Winamac, has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal. It is given, according to the citation, "for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy during the period December 9, 1944, to May 8, 1945. During this period M/Sgt. Shorter performed his duties as battalion sergeant major in a highly meritorious manner. By his diligent efforts and faithful devotion to duty he contributed materially to the administration of the battalion during its combat operations." Sgt. Shorter is now in France.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 25 Oct 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Wilbert Henry "Wilbur" Rausch

One morning, Mother Rausch called out to her son, Ed, if he'd be home for dinner, but another voice answered, "I'll be home for dinner."; it was her son, Wilbert, who arrived very early that morning and went to sleep in the spare room without waking his folks or three brothers.

Born: 11/19/1919

Entered: 2/16/1942

Branch, SN, Rank: USAAC, 35258479, T/SGT

Medal: Air Medal

Discharged:

Died: 6/28/1970

Parents: Mary Frances Anna Becker (John "Casper" [deceased]) Rausch



Sgt. Wilbert H. Rausch, son of Mrs. John Rausch of Franklin township, instructor in aerial gunnery

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 27 Jan 1944: 1.

Mother Surprised to Find Soldier Son At Home--In Bed

While preparing breakfast last Thursday morning, Mrs. John Rausch of Franklin township called to her son Ed to ask if he wanted a lunch to take with him to another farm which he works, or whether he would be home for dinner.

"I'll be home for dinner," replied a voice from the next room. The voice was not Ed's. The mother opened the door to see who had answered.

There, comfortably in bed, lay her son, S/Sgt. Wilbert Rausch, unexpectedly at home on furlough after having completed over fifty missions as a gunner on a bomber in the European theater. He had not told the folks he was coming. Instead he hitched-hiked a night ride up state road 35 and walked two miles to the family home. There, without disturbing mother or brothers Ed, Dan or George, he quietly went to bed in the spare room.

S/Sgt. Rausch admits several narrow escapes in some of his missions, even to bailing out of damaged planes, but has received no injuries.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 31 May 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Ray Edward Haschel

Ray earned his Presidential Unit Citation when "[o]ut of his company of 250 men, which went into the Hill 510 6-day battle at Bastogne, only 18 returned."

Born: 6/28/1924

Entered: 7/6/1944

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,,

Medal: Presidential Unit Citation

Discharged: 4/14/1946

Died: 10/28/1998

Parents: William Henry and Ida Priscella Reinholt Haschel

Mr. and Mrs. William Haschel of near Winamac received word this week that their son, Pfc. Ray E. Haschel, was recently awarded the presidential citation for heroism in action at Bastogne. Pfc. Haschel is now stationed at Camp Swift, Texas. He was overseas 8 months and has been in service 15 months. Out of his company of 250 men which went into the Hill 510 battle at Bastogne only 18 returned.

Winamac (IN) Republican 11 Nov 1945: 1.

PFC Ray E. Haschel, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Haschel of the Winamac vicinity, has been awarded the Presidential Citation. In telling his parents of the honor PFC Haschel wrote:

"I got a pleasant surprise this morning when the company commander called my name and said, Front and Center. I went forward wondering what I had done now and he said:

"I now present you with the Presidential Citation which was awarded for heroism in action between the dates of January 5 and 11 in the bloody battle of Bastogne on famous Hill 510.' So I will now wear the blue medal with a gold frame on my right side."

PFC Haschel has three battle stars which he won in action against the Germans and was with the troops which liberated Americans and Allied troops from a concentration camp. He has now been transferred to Camp Swift, Texas.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 11 Oct 1945: 2.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

It's All in the Family for the John and Joseph Layman.

With nearly 30 years of service in World War I already under his belt, including a Silver Star, John reenters at 63. His baby brother, Joseph, retired from the Marines in 1939 after 30 years of service.

John Rufus Layman

Born: 10/19/1882
Entered: 10/16/1945
Branch,SN,Rank: USA,2387209,MSGT
Medal: Silver Star (WWI)
Discharged: 4/30/1946
Died: 5/15/1961

Parents: James McBeth and Emeline "Emily" Stanfield[both deceased] Layman



John Layman (Collection of BConrad748) - ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/3595249/person/-1712720963/media/6f49b9e8-5185-40fc-9eb8-a31486fdd72e

Joseph McBeth Layman

Born: 1/9/1885
Entered: 1909?
Branch,SN,Rank: USMC,,1stSGT
Discharged: 1939
Died: 5/6/1945

Parents: James McBeth and Emeline "Emily" Stanfield[both deceased] Layman



Joseph Layman (Collection of BConrad748) - ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/3595249/person/-1712720961/media/a31fa02e-bd2b-42fe-917b-fd1c187880d3

Sergeant in Army 26 Years Re-Enlists at 63

M/Sgt. John R. Layman, while visiting a few days ago in the home of his sister, Mrs. Aletha Bramble of Beaver township, announced that he planned to re-enlist in the Army, in which he has served for twenty-six years and from which he recently received a discharge.

Although sixty-three years of age, he stated that he is still eligible for re-enlistment and believes he can retain his master sergeant's rank. By completing thirty years' service he will be entitled to retirement on a pension of \$155 per month.

Mr. Layman grew to manhood near the south line of Pulaski county, in the family home north of Buffalo. After spending a few years in the railway mail service he took up Army life, serving overseas in both World wars. He was in Hawaii when the Japs attacked Pearl Harbor. During his long service he has received numerous awards, including the Silver star, which he won for gallantry in 1918.

A younger brother, Joseph, is in the Marines.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 25 Oct 1945: 1.

Vet, 63, Eyes Pension And Tries Again

Master Sgt. John R. Layman put Winamac on newspaper pages throughout the country last week when he re-enlisted in the army on his 63rd birthday.

Reporting his residence in Winamac (he has several relatives in the county) Sgt. Layman said he had his eye on a \$155 a month pension and retirement to "a couple of acres down in Indiana."

His latest enlistment is for three years but he said he hoped to stay in the service four years and thus complete a 30-year record which would qualify him for the pension of \$155 a month.

His long service record entitled him to re-enlistment despite his age and he will retain his master sergeant's rank.

"I'm in tip-top physical shape, I have \$10,000 worth of bonds and I have my eye on a couple of acres down in Indiana," Layman said. "With my pension I'll be doing all right."

He received an honorable discharge last July and recently visited his sister, Mrs. Aletha Bramble, in Winamac. He served overseas in both World Wars and was in Hawaii when the Japs attacked Pearl Harbor. He wears campaign ribbons of many hues and the silver star for gallantry in 1918.

Layman said he had never married—"at least not yet." He recently published a volume of poetry dealing with his memories of the service.

Winamac (IN) Republican 25 Oct 1945: 1.

Funeral Rites Held For Joseph Layman

Joseph McBeth Laymen, 62 years old, native of near Buffalo, died Tuesday night at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., where he was visiting. He had been living in Monticello, Mo., since retiring in 1939 after 30 years' service in the U. S. Marine Corps.

He was born January 9, 1885, near Buffalo, Indiana, a son of James and Emeline Layman.

Funeral services were held at 2 o'clock Saturday in the Tippecanoe church near Winamac.

Survivors include two brothers, John Layman of Chicago, and Ross Layman of Monticello, Mo., and a sister, Mrs. Alethea Bramble of Beaver township.

Monticello (IN) Herald-Journal 17 May 1947:1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

It's a Small World (War II) for Fred, who got a pass to meet with his brother, Grant, in the South Pacific.

Darwin Grant "Grant" "Mills" Hartle

Born: 5/15/1923
Entered: 2/11/1943
Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,35092567,PFC
Discharged:
Died: 10/5/1967

Parents: Marie "Mattie" Loraine Hartle (Don Nation "Daniel") Mills (Albert Dominic) Richsteen



PFC Fred Hartle Jr., in the Air Corps, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hartle Sr. and son of Mrs. Albert Richstein, all of the Winamac vicinity,

Pulaski.County.(IN).Democrat 5 Jul 1945: 1.

Fredrick Eugene Mills "Fred" Hartle

Born: 2/4/1922
Entered: 9/17/1942?
Branch,SN,Rank: USAAC,,T/SGT
Discharged: 12/20/1946
Died: 4/27/2009

Spouse: Agnes Imogene "Imogene" Foerg Hartle

Parents: Marie "Mattie" Loraine Hartle (Don Nation "Daniel") Mills (Albert Dominic) Richsteen



PFC Darwin Grant Hartle, in the Pacific with the Air Corps, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hartle Sr., son of Mrs. Albert Richstein, Winamac,

Pulaski.County.(IN).Democrat 5 Jul 1945: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Two Winamac brothers serving in the Pacific, PFC Fred Hartle and PFC Grant Hartle, recently enjoyed a visit together when Fred secured a pass for that purpose. Grant is stationed on Guam and Fred on Tinian.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 18 Oct 1945: 2.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

It's a Small World (War II) where Bob and Jim got together with their folks after three years.

Robert Charles "Bob" Korner

Born: 12/31/1921
Entered: 2/23/1944
Branch,SN,Rank: USN,,MoMM3c
Discharged:
Died: 5/21/2011

Spouse: Mary Margaret McClure
Parents: Harry Leo and Johanna O. "Josie" Mulvaney Korner

James Richard "Jim" Korner

Born: 12/10/1923
Entered: 11/5/1942
Branch,SN,Rank: USN,,
Discharged:
Died: 3/30/2008

Parents: Harry Leo and Johanna O. "Josie" Mulvaney Korner

Robert Korner, MoMM 3-c, who has been on submarine duty, came Wednesday to spend his 15-day furlough with his parents, Postmaster and Mr. Harry Korner. Their other son, Jim, who is on furlough from the navy, has been here and this is the first reunion of the brothers in three years.

Logansport.(IN)Pharos_Tribune 3 Nov 1945: 2.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

James Newton "Jim" May

James sent pictures of Ernie Pyle's grave.

Born: 8/16/1920

Entered: 9/15/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,15330540,PFC

Medal: Bronze Star

Discharged: 1/10/1946

Died: 3/21/1989

Parents: Fleming "Flem" Lewis (Effie Maria Drake[deceased]) May



Cpl. James N. May, son of Flem May of Harrison township, in the signal corps.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 10 Jun 1943: 1.

Pfc. James May, who is in the Signal Corps somewhere in the Philippines, has been awarded the the Bronze Star according to word received by his father, Flem May.

Winamac (IN) Republican 15 Feb 1945: 5.

County Soldiers Take Pictures of Ernie Pyle Markers

Photographs showing memorials to Ernie Pyle, on the Pacific island of Ie Shima, have been received here by friends and relatives of the Pulaski county soldiers who made the snapshots.

Cpl. James May has sent to Miss Myrtle Mitchell two pictures of the modest monument that stands where the popular Indiana newspaper correspondent fell. It is somewhat in the form of a pyramid, apparently eight or ten feet high, with this inscription:

On this spot the
77th Infantry Division
Lost a buddy
Ernie Pyle
18 April 1945

The site is landscaped with native plants. One picture had a view of the island in the background.

Other pictures taken on Ie Shima have been received by Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Farney from their son, M/Sgt. Robert Farney. One is a photograph of Ernie Pyle's grave, in a cemetery along with scores of other Americans who lost their lives there.

M/Sgt. Farney also snapped pictures of Japanese officials as they changed planes on Ie Shima while on their way to Manila to receive surrender terms.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 8 Nov 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Georgeann and Joseph were one of the few married couples both in service.

Joseph Fritz

Born: 11/14/1919

Entered: 6/16/1942

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,35357671,PVT

Discharged: 9/28/1945

Died: 6/1/1987

Spouse: Georgeann Lenora Kroft Fritz

Parents: Tina Riggs (Godfrey

Charles[deceased]) Fritz



Pvt. Joseph Fritz, son of Mrs. Tina Fritz of Jefferson township, with a tank destroyer unit in Europe.

Pulaski County, (IN). Democrat 14 Jun 1945: 1.

Georgeann Lenora Kroft Fritz

Born: 3/4/1925

Entered: 3/14/1945

Branch,SN,Rank: WAC (Medical Corps),

Discharged: 1/10/1946?

Died: 12/14/1964

Spouse: Joseph Fritz

Parents: George John and Grace Augusta

Tetzloff Fritz



Mrs. Georgann Fritz

Mrs. Georgann Kroft Fritz and Sgt. Ray Kroft, children of Mr. and Mrs. George Kroft of Medaryville, are shown above. Mrs. Fritz, a November bride, was discharged this week from the WAC while her brother is in Japan.

Winamac, (IN). Republican 10 Jan 1946: 1.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Miss Georgean Kroft, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Kroft, will enter the Medical corps of the WAC for basic training at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., within the next few days. She has been accepted and has passed her physical examination.

Logansport.(IN)Pharos_Tribune 17 Mar 1945: 7.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

Ivan Dee "Ike" Haselby

In a *Life Magazine* photograph, Ike is kneeling respectfully by the body of Prince Konoye as he prepares to remove it.

Born: 10/27/1922

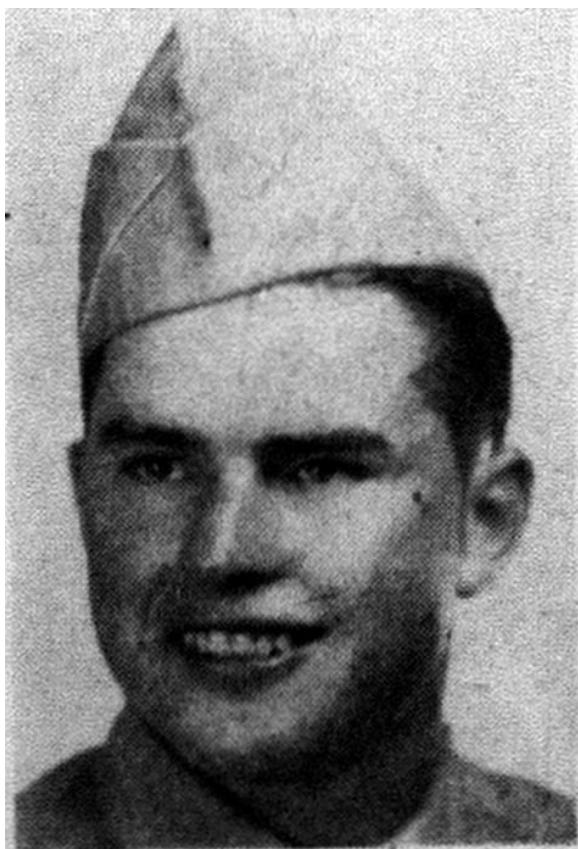
Entered: 7/6/1944

Branch,SN,Rank: USA,,1LT

Discharged:

Died: 2/21/2012

Parents: Firman Griffith and Hazel Blanche Hiatt Haselby



O/C Ivan Haselby, attending officers' candidate school, son of Mr. and Mrs. Firman Haselby of Star City. His wife lives in Logansport.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 12 Apr 1945: 1.



Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 12 Sep 1945: 1.

JAPAN OUSTS WAR CRIMINAL

Ogata Removed From Cabinet

Propaganda Minister Named By General MacArthur for War Guilt Punishment Loses His Post; Japanese Imperial General Headquarters Dissolved; Tojo Appears on Road to Recovery From Self-Inflicted Bullet Wound.

TOKYO, Sept. 13—(UP)—Japan ousted Taketora Ogata, first and so far the only member of the present cabinet to be named a war criminal, as propaganda minister today and formally dissolved imperial general headquarters.

The action came less than 24 hours after Gen. Douglas MacArthur listed Ogata as one of seven leaders of the notorious, militaristic Black Dragon society wanted for trial. Japanese sources said two other leaders listed were dead.

The Japanese announcement indicated that Ogata was retaining for the present his concurrent post as chief secretary of the cabinet. Japanese sources earlier denied that Ogata ever had been connected with the Black Dragon society.

Named to succeed him as propaganda minister — also known as president of the information board — was Tatsuo Kawai, a career diplomat who was minister to Australia at the outbreak of the war. The Japanese obviously hoped he would be more acceptable to the Allies than Ogata.

Kawai was sworn into office at the imperial palace at 4 p. m. (2 a. m. CWT).

Other developments included:

Other developments included:

Japs Call on MacArthur

1.—Japanese Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu called on MacArthur at 3 p. m., perhaps to notify him of Kawai's appointment. Prince Fumimaro Konoye, former premier, also called on MacArthur this afternoon. The subject of the conference was not revealed. Konoye was the first member of the royal family to see MacArthur since Japan's surrender.

2.—Former Premier Gen. Hideki Tojo, Japan's No. 1 war criminal, appeared well on the road to recovery from his botched suicide attempt Tuesday. He no longer pleaded with doctors to let him die and his condition was described as "very satisfactory."

3.—American military police halted their roundup of war criminals named by MacArthur and granted a Japanese request for permission to deliver men in "good health."

4.—Shigenori Togo, Tojo's foreign minister at the time of Pearl Harbor and No. 2 on the list of 47 war criminals, was revealed to have gone to the northern Honshu resort of Kulzara because of "poor health."

5.—Lt. Gen. Shigemori Kuroda, Japanese commander in the Philippines in 1942-44 and No. 13 on the list, told a United Press correspondent he did not know why he was accused of war crimes, but was ready to surrender.

6.—Radio Tokyo said MacArthur gave permission for Japanese airways to resume service on four lines Friday to expedite the Allied occupation of Japan.

Dismiss Military Students

7.—The Japanese government notified MacArthur that all 17,000 students at naval colleges and attendance schools, now on summer vacation, had been dismissed.

The official Japanese Domei agency said imperial general headquarter—the brain trust in Japan's prosecution of the Pacific war — was abolished formally as of noon today (10 p. m. Tuesday, CWT) in accordance with MacArthur's orders.

At 2 p. m., Domei said, Gen. Yoshijiro Umezu, chief of the army general staff; Admiral Soemu Toyoda, chief of the navy general staff; Gen. Sadamu Shimomura, war minister, and Admiral Mitsumasa Yonai, navy minister, proceeded to the imperial palace and reported to Hirohito on the abolition of imperial headquarters.

Japs Round up Accused

Umezu an hour later, Domei said, announced demobilization of staff members and simultaneously sent instructions to this effect to various units throughout Japan as well as in overseas areas.

The decision to permit Japanese police to round up the remainder of the wanted Japanese war criminals was announced by the Eighth army. The Japanese will be given a few days to complete the arrests before American officers take further action.

Filipinos on the war criminal list, however, probably will be taken into custody by the Americans at Naha within a day or two. The Filipinos include Jose P. Laurel, who headed the Japanese puppet government at Manila.

The only two Japanese so far in custody were Tojo and Admiral Shigetaro Shimada, navy minister.

(Continued On Page Two)

Ogata—

at the time of Pearl Harbor. Shimada was under guard in a room at Yokohama's new Grand hotel, which also serves as MacArthur's headquarters.

Konoye Says Japan Must Admit Error

Declares First Objective of Government Is to Convince Countrymen They Made a Mistake

TOKYO, Sept. 13—(UP)—Prince Fumimaro Konoye said today that the government's first responsibility is to convince every Japanese of their country's error in warmaking and that the way back will be long and hard.

Konoye, three times premier and now minister without portfolio—the equivalent of vice premier, admitted in an interview that many Japanese were not convinced of Japan's guilt in taking the road to war.

Now the defeated country faces a long era of poverty in which it must prove by deeds that it has reformed and is fit to be a member of the world family of nations, Konoye said.

He emphasized that the people of Japan must accept the blame, and foresaw hard times in the future.

He said the rice supply was short by almost 50,000,000 bushels, or about one-eighth, of the amount considered necessary to feed the country.

Political and governmental reorganization will be along the Democratic lines" required by the Potsdam declaration, Konoye said, adding:

"We are determined to establish democracy."

He said it would be somewhat on the British pattern, with the royal family and premier, "but it will be based on the principles of democracy."

He pointed out that the elimination of the duality in the government, enabling the military to take independent action, will ease the problem of governmental reorganization.

Konoye estimated that in the forthcoming elections about one-half of the members of the present diet—in office four years and acting as a rubber stamp in approving the wartime government's demands—will be returned to office.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 13 Sep 1945: 1.

U. S. ORDERS ARREST OF PRINCE KONOYE

TOKYO, Dec. 6—(UP)—Gen. Douglas MacArthur's headquarters today ordered the arrest of Prince Fumimaro Konoye, Marquis Koi-

chi Kido and seven other high-ranking Japanese in the second sweeping round-up of government officials, diplomats, militarist and industrialists in the past four days.

Konoye, known as one of the youngest of Japan's "elder statesmen," was three times premier and a well-known figure in the international scene.

Konoye

Publication of the latest arrest order brought to 236 the number of war criminal suspects specifically charged with crimes connected with the war.

Others whose apprehension by the Japanese government was ordered included:

Lt. Gen. Hiroshi Oshima, former ambassador to Germany.

Vice Adm. Takuji Godo, former commerce and industry minister.

Takechiro Sama, former minister to Spain and former consul general at Shanghai.

Shigeo Odate, former chief of military administration at Singapore.

Viscount Masatoshi Okochi, former president of the chemical industry combine.

Count Tadomasa Sakai, a leading member of the house of peers.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 6 Dec 1945: 1.

Konoye's Death Changes Arrest System In Japan

Americans May Take Suspects At Once Without Warning Due To Suicide's Escape Of Trial.

TOKYO—(UP)—General Douglas MacArthur may change the whole system of rounding up Japanese war crimes defendants as the result of Prince Fumimaro Konoye's suicide a few hours before he was due to surrender, it was understood Sunday.

Upset because another suspect—the most prominent in the country in point of rank—had slipped thru the net by taking his own life, army authorities are considering whether to arrest defendants at once instead of giving them a period of grace in which to arrange their affairs.

Named Dec. 6

Konoye was named as a war criminal Dec. 6, and was to have reported at Sugamo prison Sunday to await trial.

It was learned that Konoye, before he poisoned himself in the early hours of Sunday morning, dictated a farewell statement to his second son, Michitake, saying that he had made many mistakes as premier and felt a great responsibility to the nation. But he insisted that he worked for Japanese-American friendship and asserted:

"The though I must be treated as a war criminal is unbearable."

It was most regrettable, Konoye said, that the United States had named him as a war criminal.

Quoted Wilde

"The time undoubtedly will come," he continued, "when all wild rumors and public opinion based on the excitement of war, violent passions, excess self-conceit, servility between victor and vanquished and international slander will calm down...when that time comes, and only then, will a just decision be handed down by Providence."

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 17 Dec 1945: 1.

Army investigators learned that in the days before his suicide, Konoye had read Oscar Wilde's tragic *De Profundis* and had underlined in red pencil such quotations as:

"Society as we have constituted it will have no place for me...I must say I ruined myself and no person great or small can be ruined except by his own hand...I ended in horrible disgrace. There is only one thing for me—absolute humility...terrible as was what the world did to me what I did to myself was far more terrible still."

Approaches Russians

Usually well informed sources said that short before the Potsdam conference Konoye as an adviser of the emperor tried to patch up friendship with Russia, and is part of that to induce Premier Josef Stalin to get the allies to tone down their unconditional surrender terms. Numerous overtures were made, it was said, but Russia delayed answering and at Potsdam the final phase of the war was agreed on.

In addition to dictating his statement, Konoye had a long talk with his son in which he told of his work as premier to prevent war.

Our Boys: A Community During World War II

Konoye Based His Hopes On Russian Pact

Royal Suicide's Papers Are Seized By American Authorities, Reveal Ex-Premier's Policies.

TOKYO — (UP) — Tomohiko Ushiba, secretary of former Premier Prince Fumimaro Konoye, asserted Monday that Konoye's private papers showed that the Prince, at the time Japan signed the tripartite pact with Germany and Italy, believed the Soviet Union would align herself with the Axis powers later.

American counter-intelligence officers seized the papers shortly after Konoye was found dead by his own hand Sunday and turned them over to Joseph B. Kennan, chief allied prosecutor in the forthcoming war crimes trials. Ushiba described their principal points to the United Press.

According to his version, the documents asserted that Japan's foremost objective in joining the Axis in September 27, 1940, was to settle the war with China. Konoye, premier at the time was represented as feeling that Japan could settle the China affair in any way she wanted if she were allied with Germany, Italy and Russia against an "Anglo-American" combination.

Konoye's papers also represented him as thinking that aligning Japan with the Axis would forestall a spread of the war, because the power of the Axis forces would help the United States from entering the conflict.

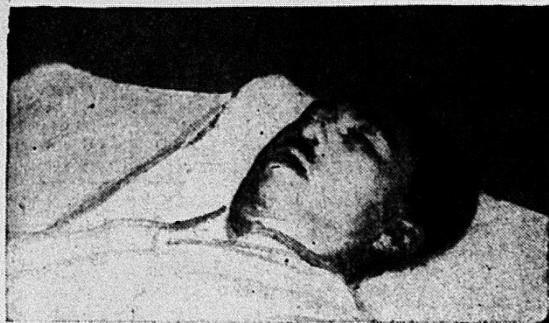
Later, his mind began to change, and Ushiba said that the papers showed Konoye felt that Foreign Minister Joachim Von Ribbentrop of Nazi Germany had "lured" Japan into joining up.

Konoye's papers, Ushiba said, alleged that he felt the Axis had lost its meaning for Japan and that Tokyo had a right to abrogate it if the government saw fit, although Japan refrained from doing so. According to Konoye's version, Japan would have felt herself guilty of a breach of "international faith" had she broken the treaty.

The documents represent Konoye as then turning to the idea of a Japanese "understanding" with the United States. He believed this would make the tripartite alliance invalid so far as its effects on Japan were concerned.

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 18 Dec 1945: 1.

CHOSE SUICIDE OVER SURRENDER



THE BODY OF PRINCE FUMIMARO KONOYE, thrice premier in the decade of Japan's belligerency leading up to the Pearl Harbor attack, is shown as it awaited inspection by Allied authorities in Tokyo. The prince took his life with poison at his lavish home rather than surrender as a suspected war criminal. U. S. Army Signal Corps (UPI photo) (International Soundphoto)

Logansport (IN) Pharos-Tribune 24 Dec 1945: 1.

1945: Mopping Up – War Stories

PICTURE OF THE WEEK ➔

Prince Fumimaro Konoye, Japan's ex-premier, gave a party the night before he was to surrender as a war criminal. He chatted pleasantly with his guests and then, after they were gone, poisoned himself. Before the Americans entered his neat and modern home to take away his body, they took off his shoes. Just before he died Konoye had written his manifesto in which he absolved himself of war guilt and placed the blame on the militarists. He claimed that if an interview with President Roosevelt could have been arranged the war would have been averted.



Life Magazine 7 Jan 1946: 26-27. Website (<https://books.google.com/books?id=BEkEAAAAMBAJ>).

County Soldier Is Pictured in Life Magazine

Lt. Ivan Haselby, son of Mr. and Mrs. Firman Haselby of the Star City vicinity, was shown in the page-size "Picture of the Week" in the January 7 issue of Life magazine beside the lifeless body of Prince Konoye, former premier of Japan.

The photograph was captioned, "In stocking feet a U. S. lieutenant kneels by deathbed of suicide Prince Konoye, three times premier of Japan." Lt. Haselby, a member of a cavalry unit in Japan, was one of a group of American soldiers who entered the Konoye home to take away his body.

Similar pictures, showing Lt. Haselby with another officer at the Konoye bedside, appeared in Time magazine and daily papers.

The young officer went overseas in October, a member of the First Cavalry Division. His wife, Mrs. Pauline Haselby, resides at Logansport.

Pulaski County (IN) Democrat 10 Jan 1946: 1.