

Valley Men in Well-Known Tank Battalion

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, Italy—(Special)—Sgt. James L. Cully, son of Mrs. Laura Cully of route 1, Scotts Mills, Ore., a tank commander, and Sgt. Gordon E. Wheeler, son of Mrs. Katherine Wheeler of route 2, Independence, Ore., a tank driver, are members of the 752nd tank battalion credited with killing 1400 Germans, capturing 484 others, knocking out 11 tanks and disabling three others and destroying 21 pillboxes, 41 vehicles and 64 guns.

The outfit, now in the Apennine mountains before the Po valley, has been in the line with the Fifth army about 300 days since it was indoctrinated in battle near Fondi, Italy, last spring. It has expended 55,000 rounds of ammunition in combat, including 105-millimeter, 76-millimeter and 75-millimeter shells.

In one of its first actions, the 752nd helped seal off a German pocket in which 600 Germans were taken prisoners.

Soon afterward, the tankers entered Rome with some of the first Allied troops to reach the capital.

The tankers' fighting between Rome and the Arno river was characterized by vicious skirmishes at close quarters, between 30 and 100 yards, with enemy infantrymen.

The 752nd was activated at Fort Knox, Ky., and trained at Fort Lewis, Wash., and Camp Young, Calif.

Mehama Family Represented in Three Branches

A Mehama woman marine, Pvt. Marjory M. Teeters will soon be a full-fledged marine, which will give the Teeters family representation in three branches of the service. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John M. Teeters of Mehama.

At the present time the woman marine is nearing completion of the six-week "boot" training course in the recruit depot of the women's reserve schools at Camp Lejeune, N. C.

Private Teeter's sister, Dorothy J. Teeters, AMMS/c, is a member of the WAVE detachment at Pensacola, Fla. Her brother, Pvt. Donald L. Teeters, is attached to the army air corps at Merced, Calif.

Wayne E. Kimple Awarded Medal For Battle Action

T/5 Wayne E. Kimple of an anti-tank company has been awarded the bronze star medal "for heroic achievement" near Chianni, Italy, last July 9 when he made an "unhesitant advance" against superior forces and compelled the enemy to withdraw, despite being under fire of enemy patrols.

The word of the honor was received by a brother, Donald Kimple of Salem.

Another brother, Robert Kimple, WT/2c, who served five years on a heavy cruiser, has returned from overseas duty and is stationed at Shoemaker, Calif.

The parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Kimple, and a brother, Jay Kimple, all formerly of Salem, now reside in Pasadena, Calif.

DALLAS — Burton McKibben, who has served many months with the Seabees in the Pacific, has been returned to active duty, after spending some time at the Astoria naval hospital, recuperating from a tropical disease.

Cpl. Robert G. Davis, of 1080 Main st., Salem, Ore., is now stationed at Fort Sumner army air field, Fort Sumner, New Mexico.

Corporal Davis, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Davis, entered the army in Sept. 1942.

WASHINGTON, April 9—(Special)—The department today announced that Second Lt. Tyrus Stearns Brown of Dallas, Ore., had been ordered to active duty.

IN THE... Nation's Service



Sgt. Hunsacker Wins Honors

WASHINGTON, April 9—(Special)—The 3rd army has announced the awarding of the bronze star medal to Staff Sergeant Howard N. Hunsacker, sergeant major, 66th medical group, "for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France from 20 July 1944 to 1 February 1945."

Sergeant Hunsacker is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Hunsacker who reside at 2470 Trade st., Salem, Ore. Prior to entering military service Sergeant Hunsacker was engaged in district sales promotion manager for Curtiss and McFadden Publishing company, and one time was owner of a general merchandise store on the coast. He entered military service from Portland, Ore., August 25, 1942 and has had over a year of overseas duty in England, France, and Luxembourg.

GERVAIS—Sgt. Fred Swingler, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Horning of the St. Louis district, is reported to be improving slowly in McCaw hospital at Walla Walla where he was taken after being under treatment in Barnes hospital at Vancouver for several weeks. He has been in the army four and one-half years and was wounded in France after 52 days on the battlefield fighting under General Patton. He came home on a 60-day furlough at Christmas time, but his illness has been such that he was unable to return to his company.



Sgt. Merlyn Evans Missing in Action

LEBANON — Sgt. Merlyn Evans, gunner in the 9th air force has been missing in action since March 13, his mother, Mrs. Edwin Johnson, has been notified by the war department.

He had received the air medal for meritorious service in aerial combat against Germany. His wife and 14 month old son live in Fargo, N. D. Two brothers are in the army.

DALLAS—Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Richardson have received word from their son, Pfc. Jimmy Richardson that he has been promoted to sergeant at his station in Laredo, Tex., where he is training in combat instruction.

ADDITIONAL SERVICEMEN ON PAGE 9

Guy H. Gibbons, aviation machinist mate 2/c, who participated as an aircrewman in the Lingayen Gulf invasion of Luzon, flying from the deck of his tiny carrier on numerous sweeps deep into enemy-held territory to destroy enemy areas. Gibbons is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Croxford, 1936 Ferry st., Salem.



Wayne L. Baker, gunners mate 2/c, who lost his life in the sinking of an aircraft carrier off Iwo Jima Feb. 21.

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, Italy—Corporal Richard H. Davis, son of Mrs. Ruth Davis, who lives in Jefferson, Oregon, has been promoted to sergeant on the Fifth army front in Italy. He is a bulldozer operator with an engineer unit.

Burl A. Dutton, seaman 1/c, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Dutton of 115 Fisher road, has been graduated from storekeeper school at Sampson, N.Y., and has been sent to Jacksonville, Fla., for advanced schooling. His wife and two children, Sharla and Tallman, have gone south to be with him.

Robert Niemeyer Has Purple Heart For Isle Combat

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC — Robert H. Niemeyer, 19, torpedoman third class, USNR, son of R. H. Niemeyer, 194 S. Cottage st., Salem, Ore., serving aboard a seventh fleet PT tender, has been awarded the purple heart medal for injuries received in action against the enemy off Leyte Island in the Philippines.

The award was made by Vice Admiral Thomas C. Kinkaid, USN, commander seventh fleet.

Capt. Selman S. Bowling, USN, commander motor torpedo boat squadrons, seventh fleet, presented the medal to Niemeyer aboard the PT flagship in the Philippines on March 2.

The young bluejacket was injured Sunday, Nov. 26, 1944 while manning a five inch gun on his ship which was attacked by four enemy planes, three of which were destroyed by their gunfire. The fourth was destroyed by one of our fighter planes.

Niemeyer and seven other members of the crew were injured by flying debris and bomb splinters from the crashing planes.

He has since returned to duty. His brother, P. M. Niemeyer is a pharmacist mate first class, USNR.

Irish Wounded

SILVERTON—Lt. George Irish, 23, son of Mrs. H. R. Irish and the late Mr. Irish of Silverton, sustained three bullet wounds on Mindanao and is hospitalized. Two brothers and a sister are in service. Lieutenant Irish is a member of the 41st division.

SALEM HEIGHTS—Mrs. Olive Beardsley has returned from an extended visit in the south with her three boys, Lt. Orville D. Beardsley, stationed at Richmond, Va., recently assigned to the First air force combat training with P-47; A/C Charles Beardsley, Pensacola, Fla., and Lt. Russell Beardsley, stationed at Camp Wolters, Tex. Mrs. Beardsley plans to return to them again as soon as she disposes of her home, 90 Madonna ave.



Pvt. J. H. Versteeg, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Versteeg of Turner, has finished training at Camp Roberts and is now with the US army parachute troops at Ft. Benning, Ga. His wife, the former Effie Bair, and their two children are living in the Clear Lake district.

SWEGLA — Mrs. Dillon Jones has received a letter from her brother, Pvt. Marion West stating he had been in the hospital for six weeks ill with yellow jaundice but is now on duty with the first cavalry, a motorized machine gun squad which has been active in the Philippines near Manila.

LA. Alan Edgell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Edgell, 1595 South Cottage st., Salem, who was slightly wounded in action with First army infantry in Germany March 10 is now back with his outfit, according to his parents.

DALLAS — Pvt. Don Webster now stationed at Fort Sill, Okla., is spending a 15-day furlough with his father, C. A. Webster. He is center.

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE

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