

Two Indianapolis Men Die, Three Are Missing in Action

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the merchant marine. He was 37.

Mr. Wolff, who came to Indianapolis from his native country, Germany, in 1923, had been in service since 1938. Before joining the merchant marine, he was employed at the International Machine Tool Co.

His brother, Henry, was in the merchant marine in Germany before coming to the United States. **Bernhard Wolff**

and was in the German navy during the last war. He already has given six pints of blood to the Red Cross.

Word of the sailor's death came from another brother, Albert, who is a chief engineer with the merchant marine stationed in New York.

Henry Wolff Jr., nephew of Bernhard Wolff, is in training at Great Lakes naval training station.

PVT. GWYN EMMERY McCASLIN, son of William McCaslin, was killed in action with the marines.

His father has received no details as to the time and place of his death and did not know where he had been stationed after he left the West coast.

Pvt. McCaslin, who was 18, had been in service 10 months and went overseas in November. He attended Southport high school and was employed at the Beech Grove shops of the New York Central railroad.

A brother, Stanley McCaslin, is with the Seabees.

S. SGT. LOUIS E. ZNIDER-SICHL, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Znidersich, today was reported missing in action since Feb. 3 over Germany.

The 19-year-old radio operator and gunner in the army air forces was believed to be on his last mission when he was lost.

Based in England, Sgt. Znidersich was on the b o m b e r, "I Caught in Draft." He recently wrote his father that he would soon be home on a 30-day furlough after knocking down a few Germans and completing his 25 missions.

Inducted in the army Dec. 26, 1942, he flew overseas a few days before Christmas last year. He received his gunner's wings in Pyote, Tex.

Born in Indianapolis, Sgt. Znidersich attended public school 52 and was graduated from Washington high school. He worked at King's before entering service.

The sergeant was a good baseball player, winning diamond championships with lodge teams. His father is employed at McQuay-Norris Co.

PVT. VERN L. WILLIAMS, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Williams, yesterday was reported missing since Feb. 6 in Italy.

The 19-year-old infantryman en-

listed in the army last May and went overseas in November. Before moving to Italy, he was stationed in Africa.

A former Technical high school student, he worked at Ermel Products before entering service. He received his army training at Camp Shelby, Miss.

His brother, Danny N. Williams, is a first class petty officer in the navy and now is taking advanced training in Chicago. His sister is Mrs. Pauline Radcliff, 2211 N. Dearborn st.

T. SGT. JACK BLACKER, son of Mr. and Mrs. Matt Blacker, was reported missing Feb. 25 in a raid over Germany, according to a telegram received Wednesday by his parents. He was an engineer and gunner on a Flying Fortress.

His last letter home, dated Feb. 14, said "I am on operational missions over enemy territory." He Sgt. Blacker

wears the air medal and two oak leaf clusters.

The 23-year-old airman entered the service in 1942 and received training at Boeing aircraft school, Seattle, Wash.; Keesler field, Miss.; Las Vegas, Nev., and Dalhart, Tex. He was sent overseas last October.

PVT. GORDON RANSELL, son of Mr. and Mrs. Pete Ransell, 1450 Standish ave., was wounded in action in the Marshall Islands, Feb. 22, and is now recovering in a navy hospital.

Entering service Nov. 17, 1942, he has been overseas seven months. A graduate of Southport high school, Pvt. Ransell was employed at the Lukas-Harold Corp., before joining the marines.

T. 5TH GR. CHARLES E. KETT, husband of Mrs. Louise Kettell, 2315 N. Gale st., and CAPT. ROBERT H. FECHTMAN, nephew of Mrs. Ada C. Fechtmann, 4120 Broadway, were wounded in action in the Mediterranean war zone, the war department announced today.

MAJ. PAUL BELL, fighter pilot in the China-India-Burma war theater, is in a hospital in India recovering from a broken leg received in air combat.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Bell, formerly of 5228 Pleasant Run Blvd. Mr. Bell is state manager for the State Life Insurance Co. of Indianapolis in Pittsburgh, Pa.

A graduate of Shortridge high school, Maj. Bell attended Indiana university and was graduated from the University of Pittsburgh. He enlisted in the army air forces in

OIL COMPANIES CRITICIZE OPA

Local Firms Intimate Gasoline Market Not So Black.

(Continued From Page One) possibility for any of their dealers, explaining that their stations are leased out 100 per cent, with the lessee operating with complete independence.

Express Faith

The oil men all stated that they did not believe the black market was as great as it has been played up and expressed their faith in the integrity of the majority of their customers and employees.

SECOND LT. ROBERT A. GOLDBERG and T. SGT. ROBERT J. OFFUTT JR. have been awarded the distinguished flying cross for their part in attacks with medium bombers over the coast of France.

FIRST LT. LEONARD JEFFERS, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Jeffers Sr., 3517 N. Grand ave., has been awarded the air medal for five separate bombing attacks on Nazi targets in Germany and occupied France.

Lt. Jeffers, pilot of an 8th air force Flying Fortress, "Cuddle Cat," was employed at Allison division of General Motors before enlisting. He is a graduate of Warren Central high school and Indiana University.

ONE HOOISER outside Indianapolis has been killed and five wounded in action on various fronts.

Ralph Harding, machinist's mate 2-c, was killed in naval action. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer J. Harding, Shoals.

Wounded in the Mediterranean theater are Pfc. Norman Davis, son of Mrs. Carrie Golden, Bonville; Pfc. John A. East, son of Mrs. Ruth Kerns, Wheatfield; S. Sgt. Elbert G. Gourley, Madison; Cpl. Orville Law, son of Mrs. Bessie Law, Austin, and Pfc. James W. Smith, son of Walter Smith, Logansport.

CAPT. MARK E. McNULTY of Huntington has been awarded the bronze oak leaf cluster to the distinguished flying cross for his part in raids over Germany and France.

Distinguished flying crosses have been received by 1st Lt. John B. Neill, Lafayette; 2d Lt. Kenneth W. Weyerhaeuser, Bonville; T. Sgt. Ralph M. Stephens, Evansville, and S. Sgt. Norman L. Bell, Warsaw, for participating in combat over France and Germany.

BOMBERS SMASH AT VIENNA AREA

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fighter escort, on targets in southern Germany.

The target of the Anglo-American heavyweights was the Luftwaffe in the air and the factories on the ground that keep it going. Satisfactory results were achieved in both instances.

Stuttgart and Augsburg, vital breeding places of the Luftwaffe, were hit heavily. The British lost 40 bombers and the Americans 22.

The weight of bombs dropped on axis Europe, including southern Italy, in the last 40 hours, was estimated at more than 8000 tons.

Attacks by Mosquito light bombers on western Germany and minelaying operations rounded out the night's activities from British bases. All planes returned safely.

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Protest Plan To Use Funds Of Charities

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YANKS MAKE NEW ADMIRALTY LANDING

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ran through landmines and booby traps and encountered some machine gun and mortar fire.

The post-war helmsman said he was particularly interested in maintaining his committee as a strictly non-political group. It's going to be O. K. or I'm through. I believe you could say that Mr. Johnson is nominally a Republican, although he was appointed city engineer under a Democratic mayor. But one thing is certain—nobody can point a finger at him.

V. F. W. SPONSORS PARTY

The Burns-West-Strebeck auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars will sponsor a card party at 8:30 p. m. tomorrow at the Post hall. Mrs. Emma Morre is chairman.

The four-engined Liberators

smashed Eten and Dublon islands in the center of the 30-mile ring com-

prising Truk atoll, hitting airdrome installations, fuel dumps and ammunition storage areas.

Other American planes hit Oroku, Ponape and Pingelap atoll, outlying Japanese bastions protecting Truk.

The aerial offensive also continued throughout the Southwest with new attacks centered on Wewak, New Guinea, and Rabaul, the almost neutralized New Britain base, where South Pacific air forces have completely wrecked the five enemy airfields.

The attack by land-based Liberators on Truk was believed to be the opening of a concentrated assault to eliminate the one-time Japanese mystery base. The big bombers reported fighting back bitterly to retain the slim Nazi hold on the edge of Truk.

Front reports said the attacking forces were hampered almost as much by the mounds of rubble strewn through the streets as by the German rifle and mortar fire.

Ground fighting slackened on the

NAZIS ARE CAUGHT IN CASSINO TRAP

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other main Italian fronts. Active

patrol clashes were reported along the lower Garigliano valley while American troops on the Anzio beachhead repulsed three minor German attacks on their positions near Carano.

Aspirin Brings \$16 Tax Rebate

LOS ANGELES, Cal., March 17 (U. P.)—Internal Revenue Collector Harry C. Westover yesterday received a tax return from Robert H. Cromwell of Tujunga, plus several aspirin tablets neatly inclosed in cellulose.

"I had these left over," Cromwell quipped.

Westover's reply was brief:

"Thanks for the aspirin. We need it. You paid \$16 too much."