

Two Indianapolis Men Die, Three Are Missing in Action

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the merchant marine. He was 37. Mr. Wolf, 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 and was in the German navy during the last war. He already has given six pints of blood to the Red Cross.



Bernhard Wolf

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

PVT. GWINN 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 school of the New York Central railroad.

A brother, Stanley McCaslin, is with the Seabees.

S. SGT. LOUIS E. ZNIDERSCH, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Znidersch, 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. Znidersch was on the bomber "I Caught in Draft." He recently wrote his father that he would soon be home on a 30-day furlough after knocking down a German plane.

Completed 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 Fayette, Tex.

Born in Indianapolis, Sgt. Znidersch 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 enlisted 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 Ermet 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 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 Dallhart, Tex. He was sent overseas last October.

PVT. GORDON RANDELL, son of Mr. and Mrs. Pete Randell, 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. Randell was employed at the Lukens-Harold Corp., before joining the marines.

T. SGT. GR. CHARLES E. KETTEL, husband of Mrs. Louise Kettel, 2315 N. Gale st., and CAPT. ROBERT H. FECHTMAN, nephew of Mrs. Ada C. Fechtman, 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

April, 1941, and after competing his fighter pilot training went overseas in July, 1942.

He was advanced to lieutenant in 1943, to captain last July and to major in December, 1943.

In a V-mail letter to his parents, Maj. Bell said: "My engine cut out cold at 1000 feet with two new zeros on my tail. I am extremely fortunate to be alive at all. I finally bailed out, but I broke my leg hitting the tail. I got one zero, probably."

The 26-year-old pilot holds the distinguished flying cross, the silver star with one oak leaf cluster, the purple heart, the air medal with one cluster and the Chinese award of the Fourth order of the Flying Cloud.

He was wounded in June, 1943, by two fragments of flak. A year ago he was reported missing for a month when his fighter plane was shot down over Burma but he walked back to his base.

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 HOOSIER 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, Boonville; Pfc. John A. East, son of Mrs. Ruth Kerns, Wheatfield; S. Sgt. Elbert G. Gourley, son of Mrs. Goldie M. 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. Weyerbacher, Boonville; 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 (Continued From Page One)

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 mining operations rounded out the night's activities from British bases. All planes returned safely.

Sofa Bombed Again

In the Mediterranean end of the pincers, RAF jet-engined bombers, presumably Liberators and Halifaxes, joined twin-engined Wellingtons in a pre-dawn raid today on Sofia.

Amlens, a railway junction through which German reinforcements and supplies for anti-invasion forces along the channel coast must pass, was raided for the second straight night.

The 40-hour 8000-ton total included 2500 tons dropped on Cassino, Italy, by American bombers Wednesday and 2000 tons cascaded on targets in Europe Wednesday night by the R. A. F.

Eighth air force Flying Fortresses and Liberators in "very great strength" and totaling perhaps 1000 dropped 1500 or more tons of bombs on industrial targets in southern Germany in daylight yesterday.

German broadcasts identified the main targets as the Messerschmitt manufacturing center of Augsburg, 30 miles north of Munich, and near-by Ulm. An American communique said all targets were bombed through clouds with the aid of special "magic eye" devices.

Mother to Accept Medal for Raider

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leben, Germany, July 28, 1943, and was listed among American prisoners of the Nazis in September.

LT. Moreland, who will be honored at his alma mater, won the air medal for meritorious achievement on five missions over enemy territory.

Attending the ceremonies will be his wife, Mrs. Martha Ann Moreland, 8816 Broadway; his father, his sister, Miss Ruth Louise Moreland, and other relatives.

Mrs. Moreland Jr. is treasurer of the Officers' Wives' club of Indianapolis and Mrs. Moreland Sr. is president of the newly formed American Prisoners of War society.

Ceremonies will be held in the university fieldhouse in case of inclement weather.

OIL COMPANIES CRITICIZE OPA

Local Firms Intimate Gasoline Market Not So Black.

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sibility 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.

"They pointed out a weakness on the part of OPA in holding the dealers responsible for handling counterfeit coupons, and yet failing to provide them with a means of identifying such stamps.

The oil man who termed the black market expose a political move called the newspapers "suckers" for falling for OPA's "smear of honest people to save their own necks."

"Putting on Show"

"OPA's life ends in June unless congress prolongs it," he explained. "So OPA's taking the jump and putting on a great show. People don't like to be called crooks—they're disgusted with the whole business."

In his opinion the black market has resulted from the over-issuance of gas coupons and theft of coupons from OPA offices and banks.

Turning to another phase of Indiana's gasoline situation, Mr. Williams urged consideration of OPA's motives in cutting the Midwest gas rations from three to two gallons.

Here are the facts he sets forth: Gas coupon values in a district are determined by the certification for motor fuel consumption by the petroleum administrator for war.

No Quota Released

So far, the Midwest's certification for this quarter has not been released, yet the OPA reduced the coupon values.

How can OPA determine the need for a reduction without first having the PAW certifications?

Mr. Williams points out that OPA statements indicate the Midwest motorists have done a better job of complying with regulations than those in the east coast and gulf coast areas who have consistently exceeded their quotas.

In a telegram to Senator Raymond E. Willis, he asked: "Is it not plain that increased effort should be made at local boards to control coupon issuance as well as black market operations, rather than reducing coupon values? Reduction in A coupons tends to cause local boards to be more lenient in the issuance of B and C coupons."

"Is it fair to conclude that the purpose of this reduction is to equalize A coupon values throughout the nation as a political gesture to the voting population on the eastern seaboard?"

EMBLEM CLUB TO MEET

The Emblem club, newly-organized group interested in building up Y. M. C. A. memberships in Indianapolis, will meet at 7:15 p. m. March 31 in the main auditorium of the central Y. M. C. A.

Japanese homeland from the South Pacific but would restore China's Pacific communications.

MacArthur said Australia in the last two years had faced and overcome the gravest peril of its entire history.

"It was here that the tide of war turned in the Pacific and the mighty wave of invasion broke and rolled back."

He paid tribute to Australian and American troops who fought off the Japanese in New Guinea at the high point of Japan's southward drive.

"On such an occasion as this, my thoughts go back to those men who went on their last crusade in the jungle thickets to the north, where they made the fight that saved this continent. With faith in their hearts and hope on their lips, they passed beyond the mists that blind us here. Their yesterday makes possible our tomorrow."

"Belong to Australia"

"They came from the four quarters of the world, but whatever land that gave them birth—under their stark white crosses they belong now to Australia forever."

Shortly after MacArthur arrived in his Flying Fortress, "Batman," he was presented with one of Britain's highest awards, the knight grand cross of the Order of the Bath.

Wearing his usual khaki field jacket and battered gold braided cap, MacArthur accepted the award from Lord Gowrie, governor-general of Australia, and said:

"Your excellency, I thank you sincerely for this high award. I regard it as a symbol of the magnificent valor of the soldiers of whom it was my signal fortune to command in the vital Papuan campaign. I shall wear it in their honor."

A crowd of about 200 was on hand when MacArthur arrived at a sun-drenched field. As he stepped from the plane, he was greeted by Prime Minister Curtin and Nelson T. Johnson, U. S. minister to Australia.

"How nice to see you and how good it was of you to come down and meet me," the general said, shaking Curtin's hand.

Protest Plan To Use Funds Of Charities

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less charity we'll have after the war."

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."

He wished to distinguish between "having Mr. Johnson directly with United War Fund money and paying him with money received by the Post-War Planning committee from the United War Fund."

"Virtually Approved"

Other post-war officials stated that the \$5000 appropriation for Mr. Johnson's salary had been in the "discussion stage" and had been "virtually approved" before announcement of his selection was made. Mayor Tyndall also authorized the appointment, they said.

"Post-war planning is a major war problem," declared Mr. Carr. "You won't get any criticism from the larger United War Fund subscribers."

He said that "technically," Mr. Johnson's salary would be paid by the planning committee itself, through certain contributions granted the committee by the war fund.

Other Sources

"If we don't obtain it from the war fund, you can bet that it's available elsewhere," he assured, pointing out that "many private sources had offered the plan committee economic support."

Informed of the row precipitated by his appointment, Mr. Johnson said, "I thought they had it all straightened out."

In this newly created full-time job he will co-ordinate the various sub-committee programs and serve as technical adviser to Post-War Chairman George A. Kuhn and other sub-committee leaders.

As city engineer under the administration of ex-Mayor Reginald Sullivan, Mr. Johnson charted a multimillion dollar blueprint of post-war public improvement projects, but Mr. Carr said yesterday that Mr. Johnson will "start from scratch" in his new capacity.

Served With City

Mr. Johnson served a total of 15 years in the city engineering department, nine of them as assistant city engineer. He directed construction of Municipal airport and later became superintendent of the field in 1931 and 1932.

He previously had been connected with the state highway department. A World War I veteran, he attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Mr. Kuhn suggested that the committee study advisability of introducing a measure in the special session of the legislature enabling the city to levy an additional 10-cent tax rate for public improvement expenses.

YANKS MAKE NEW ADMIRALTY LANDING

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ran through landmines and booby traps and encountered some machinegun and mortar fire.

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 of the 7th army air force apparently flew from bases in the Marshalls, probably Kwajalein, 961 miles to the east.

The four-engined Liberators smashed Eten and Dublon islands in the center of the 30-mile ring command.

NAZIS ARE CAUGHT IN CASSINO TRAP

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troopers sent into Cassino Wednesday night with orders to hold the town or die.

Almost 48 hours after a heavy allied aerial and artillery bombardment had tumbled the ancient town down about their heads, a determined band of German gunners was reported fighting back bitterly to retain the slim Nazi hold on the edge of Cassino.

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

Aspirin Brings \$16 Tax Rebate

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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 cellophane.

"I had these left over," Cromwell quipped.

Westover's reply was brief: "Thanks for the aspirin. We need it. You paid \$16 too much."

CONGR. CONF.

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EVER Red Cross an Easter seal Indiana state nament, an Women's 2-3 ett-Hunt-O-Mari Omega night. Indiana Inte tion, Claypo National League Indiana br Kappa Kappa 2004 ahu house, 2 p. St. Benjamen Park school,

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