



Pvt. LEONARD M. VELARD



Cpl. ANDREW C. SMITH



T/Sgt JOHN BARICH

PVT. L. M. VELARD DIES OF WOUNDS.

Pvt. Leonard M. Velard, 21, son of Michael A. and Margaret Toolan Velard of Morse Avenue, died January 11th in Billings General Hospital, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., of wounds received while in action with a paratroop infantry unit in Holland Sept. 26, 1944. Private Velard was first hospitalized in England and arrived in the U. S. Dec. 27th.

A graduate of SPSHS, Class of 1941, he entered service on October 24, 1942, when he enlisted in New York. He went overseas in January 1944, and served in Africa, Anzio Beachhead, Naples, Italy and England.

He was formerly assistant scoutmaster of Troop 21, BSA, Scotch Plains. He is survived by his parents.

SGT. JOHN BARICH AND CPL. A.C. SMITH KILLED IN ACTION IN GERMANY.

T/Sgt. John Barich, 26, an Army Infantryman, was killed in action in Germany, December 7th, according to a War Department telegram received by his wife, Mrs. John Barich of Hunter Avenue.

Overseas since August, Sgt. Barich was awarded the Bronze Star in October for heroic conduct in the battle and he was also awarded the Expert Infantryman's Badge. The Presidential citation was accorded to Sgt. Barich for "his courageous devotion to duty, which enabled his company to take its part in a coordinated attack." At the time the awards were made, he was promoted from the rank of Pfc. to staff sergeant.

Entering the service, in February 1942, he trained at Camp Bowie, Tex; Camp Hood, Texas, and Fort Jackson S. C., with a mechanized tank unit. After transferring to the Infantry, he was stationed at Camp Van Doren, Miss., and Fort George Meade, Md.

In addition to his widow, the former Miss Mary Puchel, he is survived by a son, John Richard Barich, two

years old; three brothers, Michael of Cranford, Louis of Delaware and S/Sgt. Nicholas stationed in England.

Cpl. Andrew C. Smith, 20, son of Mrs. Frank Bopp Jr., 2071 Westfield Avenue, and the late Charles Smith, was killed in action in Germany on December 10th.

Attached to an armored tank division of the 1st Army, Corporal Smith had been overseas since last January. A graduate of SPSHS, Class of 1942, he entered the service Nov. 12, 1942 and trained at Fort Knox, Ky., and Camp Campbell, Ky.

The last letter received by his mother, written Dec. 6th, extended Christmas greetings to his family and friends. He wrote that he was feeling fine and that his Irish luck was still holding out. He mentioned also that the Jerries were "quite disagreeable" but made no reference to his combat activities.

In addition to his mother, he is survived by his step-father, Frank Bopp Jr., a sister, Mrs. Robert Strehl, living at home; and his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. A.A. Doney of Newark.

Sgt. Edward Stagaard, 22, an Army Infantryman, was killed in action in France on December 14th, his parents Mr. and Mrs. Philip Stagaard, of 143 Hunter Avenue, Fanwood, were advised in a War Department telegram.

Overseas since October, Sgt. Stagaard entered the service in September 1940, when a pupil in SPSHS. He trained at Camp Claiborne, La., Fort Lewis, Wash., Stockton, Calif., and Fort Jackson, S. C. In October he and the former Miss Nebga Burns of Rock Hill, S. C. were married.

Born Jan. 9, 1922, in South Orange, Sgt. Stagaard, besides his parents, is survived by three brothers, Philip with the U. S. Maritime Service; Philip's twin, William, also of the Merchant Marine, and Raymond, at home; also two sisters Gloria and Joan, at home; and his paternal grandmother, Mrs. George Stagaard, of E. Second Street, Scotch Plains.

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FOR THE

MEN AND WOMEN IN SERVICE
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SCOTCH PLAINS TOWNSHIP