

# SERVICE BRIEFS

Pfc. F. Willoughby Frost, of Rahway Road, breakfasted one morning in February with some Chinese soldiers on the Burma Road. He says they really do use chopsticks and he is bringing a pair home for his son. Willoughby was promoted to Pfc in the field in Burma. He says that in spite of his "great age" (he's 36) he has been able to keep up and keep well. He lives in a foxhole 5 feet deep and comes up only to cook or to fight. He doesn't expect to see Rahway Road until he gets all of the Japs off the Burma Road.

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The Combat Infantryman's Badge for outstanding performance of duty has been awarded Pvt Archibald Payne, who is confined in a hospital in England, recuperating from wounds received in action in Belgium. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Payne of Ridgewood Ave.

He entered the service on July 31 1944 and trained at Camp Robinson, Ark., with the Infantry and was home on a 14-day furlough in December. On Christmas Day he reported to Fort George G. Meade, Md., He's a graduate of SPSHS and a former member of Boy Scout Troop 21 of Scotch Plains.

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Flight Officer Robert A Young, AAF, of 2421 Seneca Road, came home on leave and took unto himself a bride Miss Jeanne (Honeychile) Wrye, of Atlanta, Ga. Following a brief wedding trip to New York, the couple will go to Lincoln, Neb., where Bob has been assigned for B-29 training.

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Pvt. Vernon Compton, USMC, of 2053 Grand St., was wounded in the battle of Iwo Jima, and is now convalescing at a rest camp in the Pacific.

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Theophilus Enz, S 1/C, is home on leave following a year's service aboard a destroyer in the South Pacific. In combat duty since April, 1944, he wears the American Defense Medal, and the Asiatic-Pacific and Philippines Campaign Ribbons with four bronze battle stars for participation in the battles of Leyte Gulf, Palau, Formosa and Luzon.

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Lester F Thompson Thomas G Thompson

Les Thompson entered the Army in March 1942 and went to Camp Berryhill Tenn. He was assigned to OCS at Daming, New Mex., from which he graduated at a 2d Lieut. He received further training at San Antonio, Calif., Pompano, Fla., Tampa, Fla., Langley Field, Va. and Drew Field, Fla. Les was promoted to 1st Lieut. a few months ago, and as reported last month, has been awarded the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, which he won as a bombardier on an 8th Air Force B-17 Flying Fortress of the 385th Bombardment Group, a part of the famed Third Air Division cited by the President for its historic shuttle-bombing of the Messerschmidt airplane factories at Regensburg, Germany, in Aug. 1943. A graduate of SPSHS, he attended Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia, Kan., before entering the Army. Les has completed his missions and is on his way home. We join his parents and his wife, the former Miss Mavis E. Richardson, of McLeouth, Kansas, in extending him a loyal welcome.

M/Sgt. Thomas G. Thompson (331644 36), Co. C, 3d Repl. Bn., ASFPI Depot, Camp Beale, Calif., entered the Army in March, 1942, at Sharon, Pa. He received training at New Cumberland, Pa., Camp Maxey, Texas, Camp Gruber and Muskogee, Okla., San Antonio, Tex., Cheyenne, Wyoming, Aberdeen, Md., and Camp Beale Calif. He went overseas in October, 1944, and is now in the South Pacific.

Both are sons of Mr. and Mrs. G.T. Thompson of 14 John Street, with whom Mrs. Les Thompson is now living.

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S/Sgt. Matthew P. Gwain Jr., engineer-gunner of the "B-24" Liberator "Lace", with a record of 20 bombing missions over Germany and enemy occupied territory, has been awarded the Air Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters for "meritorious achievement" in combat. His wife is the former Jane E. Blake of 411 Evergreen Blvd. where she resides with her parents.

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Pfc. William Boykin, 740th Med. San. Co.) of Richmond Street, is convalescing in an Army Hospital in England having been injured while on duty during a robot bombing.

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Eugene H. Mann



Edward H. Mann



William H. Mann

Eugene H. Mann, Mo. MM 3/G, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry E. Mann Jr., 328 Westfield Road, enlisted July, 1943, training at Newport, R. I. Served on a sub-chaser in the American Theatre of war and also took part in the invasion of France. After a recent 36-day leave he reported to Key West, Fla. where he was assigned to a new ship.

His uncles, Edward H. Mann and William H. Mann are sons of Mr. Henry E. Mann Sr. of 238 Hatfield Ave. Corp. Edward H. entered the service Jan. 1943 and trained at Camp Bowie, Texas, with an Ordnance unit. Has been overseas since Sept. 1944 and is now in Germany. William H. Mann, S 1/C, was home recently on a 30-day leave after 18 months in the South Pacific. He is now in California awaiting further assignment. His wife and two children are residing with his father for the duration.

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