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OUR GIRLS IN ARMS



VIRGINIA ANNE FORBUSH

(WAVES - Photographer 3rd Class)

Entered service with the WAVES in June, 1943, and after boot training at Hunter College in New York City, went to Iowa State College at Cedar Falls, Iowa, for further training. Virginia is assigned to special "hush-hush" work in Washington.

Cited for Bravery

Cited for heroic achievement in action against the enemy, Pfc. Anthony W. Capone was awarded the Bronze Star Medal recently by Brig. Gen. John B.

Murphy, acting commander of the 100th Infantry Division, at ceremonies in Goppinger, Germany. He also holds the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

He has been in the Army nearly three years and is now attached to the 399th Infantry. Overseas since November, 1944, he trained at Fort Bragg, N. C., and Camp Croft, S. C.

Released by Army

Cpl. Michael Rossi, holder of the Silver Star for gallantry in action with the 25th Infantry (Tropic Lightning) Division in the battle of San Manuel on Luzon in the Philippines, was granted an honorable discharge on July 22nd at Fort Dix. He had amassed 137 points.

Also released through the Fort Dix Separation Center during the same week was S/Sgt. Michael Eannucci.

According to reports reaching us, 71 Scotch Plains servicemen have received discharges from the services.

Family Celebrates Veteran's Return

With the return home of Staff Sgt Thomas Christopher after nearly three years' overseas service, the family of Mrs. Harry J. Christopher Sr., 2306 North Avenue, staged a reunion recently to celebrate the occasion.

Arriving in the States late in July, Tom was granted an honorable discharge at Fort Dix after more than 4 1/2 years of Army service which added up to 119 points. His brother Harry J. Christopher Jr., also a staff sergeant, was discharged two weeks earlier.

The brothers, both members of the 102nd Cavalry, NJNG, entered the service simultaneously in January, 1941, shortly after the National Guard was federalized. As members of a mechanized reconnaissance squadron, they were together during the invasion of Normandy, landing on the French Coast the day after D-Day, but were separated when Harry was wounded in action at St. Lo in July, 1944.

Tom holds both the Silver and Bronze Star medals. He also has the Purple Heart for wounds received in action and has five battle stars on his ETO campaign ribbon.

Pvt. John Kitt Home from Italy

Pvt. John Kitt, of Weaver Street, is home on a 30-day furlough after 27 months' service in the ETO. At the end of his furlough he will report to Camp Swift, Tex., for redeployment to the Pacific area.

Assigned as a chaffeur with the 22nd Car Company of the Fifth Army, John was in Italy for more than 15 months and prior to that had completed a year's tour of duty in Bizerte, Tunisia. He entered the service in November, 1941, and received quarter-master training at Camp Lee, Va. He later was stationed at Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, N. Y.

In July, 1942, he was transferred to Hudson Bay, Canada, with the 12th Port of Embarkation outfit and returned later to Camp Myles Standish, Mass., prior to going overseas in April, 1943.

He wears the ETO campaign ribbon with three battle stars for the Rome Arno, Apennine Mountain and the Po Valley campaigns; the American Theatre bar and the Pre-Pearl Harbor Medal. He also holds a Presidential Unit Citation with one cluster, awarded his group.

MISSING PLAINSMAN SHOWS UP

Pvt. Walter Biddulph, 39 Plainfield Avenue, who was reported missing in action in Italy on Sept. 28, 1944, is now enjoying the beauty of the Italian countryside. A War Department telegram listing Walter as missing in action was received by his parents on October 18, 1944. A second communication reporting him safe was received some weeks later.

While the official message gave no detailed information as to their son's rescue, the Biddulph's learned later that their son had become stranded from his outfit while in combat and had been taken to an off the-lines hospital for treatment of minor injuries. He was detained in the hospital for sometime before returning to his division.

He holds the Purple Heart for wounds received in action in Italy on May 18, 1944, and narrowly escaped serious injuries shortly after that when he stepped on a trip wire of a discarded mine which exploded and struck him in the chest. A cigaret lighter in his pocket saved him from serious injury. In addition to the Italian campaign, he also participated in the North African campaign and has been overseas for more than 20 months.

Now assigned to a transportation section of the 85th Infantry Division of the Fifth Army, Walter is devoting much of his spare time to mastering the Italian language.

Sgt. John Torbyn In Long Island Hospital

M/Sgt. John Torbyn, a member of the 117th Tank Reconnaissance Squadron, who returned to this country in April after 31 months overseas duty, is now confined to the Mason General Hospital at Brentwood, L. I. He is being treated for arthritis in both arms and legs. After his return to this country, he was stationed in Camp Shanks, N. Y., and the Tilton General Hospital, Fort Dix, before being transferred to Long Island.

His wife, the former Miss Pauline Skrutowski lives at Newmarket. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Torbyn of Farley Avenue.

A former member of the 102nd Cavalry, New Jersey National Guard, he entered the service soon after the National Guard was federalized in January, 1940. He trained at Jackson, S. C., and Fort Knox, Ky., before going overseas in September, 1942, and saw action in North Africa, Italy and France.
