

In the fall of 1940 President Roosevelt issued an executive order setting in motion America's first peace time conscription.

Men between the ages of 21 and 35 inclusive must register. Members of the Active National Guard are not required to register. Members of the Inactive National Guard must register.

September 26, 1940

Registration day was October 16, 1940 and cards were issued.

Carl Emerson Meier
(First name) (Middle name) (Last name)

Order No. 10900 has been classified in Class I-C Dis

(Until _____, 19____)
(Insert date for Class II-A and II-B only)

by Local Board.
 Board of Appeal (by vote of _____ to _____).
 President.

NOV. 7th, 19 46 C. C. Currie
(Date of mailing) (Member of local board)

The law requires you, subject to heavy penalty for violation, to have this notice, in addition to your Registration Certificate (Form 2), in your personal possession at all times—to exhibit it upon request to authorized officials and to surrender it, upon entering the armed forces, to your commanding officer.

Form 57. (Rev. 12-10-43.)

Men Must Carry Registration Cards

Men must carry their registration cards with them at all times, or they are liable to arrest. Any law enforcement officer—including policemen, highway patrolmen, game wardens, and the like—has the right to ask a man for his registration card. It is now as essential to carry your registration card as it is to carry your drivers' license.

It is emphasized that failure to produce the registration card upon request will result in a man's arrest.

Right now, when the idea of carrying the registration card all the time is new, officials do not wish to be too strict about the matter. But within a week or two, there will be a concerted drive to round up evaders of the registration law, and so this warning is again issued.

November 11, 1940

Pine City had a very active National Guard group. Formed in 1924 Battery E met weekly at the Naval Militia Armory in Pine City. The local paper contained regular updates of their activities.

BATTERY MADE FINE SHOWING

The annual Federal inspection of Battery E, 125th F. A., was held in the armory, last Tuesday evening, with Captain E. R. Block of Duluth as the inspecting officer. Only one member was absent and that was Les Tate who is ill at his home with an attack of pneumonia. Lt.-Col. Nelson of St. Paul, assistant adjutant general of Minnesota, was present to witness the inspection.

Following roll call, Capt. Block inspected the men and then the battery went thru close-order drill, facings, manual of the pistol and calisthenics and members were interrogated on their knowledge of first aid, etc. The

March 26, 1931

CAPT. BLOCK TO INSPECT BATTERY

The annual Federal inspection of Battery E will be held in the armory next Tuesday evening, February 24, starting at 8 o'clock. Captain E. R. Block of Duluth will be the inspecting officer. The public is cordially invited to attend the inspection and will be admitted to the balcony. A banquet will be served for members of the battery, following the inspection.

There was close to 100 percent attendance at drill, last Tuesday evening, and members of the battery remained until after 11 o'clock going thru the various phases of the drill that will be given at inspection.

March 19, 1931

BATTERY GOES TO CAMP NEXT SUNDAY

Battery E will leave on the early morning train Sunday, for the annual encampment at Camp Ripley. An advance detail consisting of Peter Resch, mess sergeant, Hank Kvech, battery cook, and Art Schloesser, assistant cook, left on the early train this morning and will have a hot meal ready for the battery on their arrival at camp.

Saturday evening, Battery members going to camp will be the guests of Pine Camp Pavilion and all men in uniform will be admitted free to the dance.

Address for mail sent to those at camp should read "Battery E, 125th F. A., Camp Ripley, Minn."

June 8, 1933

The Naval Militia Armory, home to Battery E in Pine City.



photo courtesy of Jim Foster

Battery E spent time at camp each year. In 1937 they were at Camp Ripley.



photo courtesy of Jim Foster

Battery E continued to be active in the days leading up to World War II.

Battery Returns to One Drill a Week

Starting this week, Battery E will have only one drill a week, and will drill every Monday evening until further orders. The two drills each week, during the past 3 months, will bring the total drills for the fiscal year to 60, which is the maximum drills allowed by the present law. The number of drills may be increased at this session of congress, in which case National Guard drills will probably be returned to two each week.

February 1, 1940

Three Weeks Camp For Battery E

Battery E, Pine City National Guard unit, will spend three weeks in camp this summer according to an official announcement just received. The dates as set are August 4th to 24th inclusive. Battery E will take part in divisional army maneuvers, in Camp Ripley and vicinity, when a large number of troops from the midwest will be concentrated there.

May 5, 1940

A Few Vacancies In Battery E

There are a few vacancies in Battery E, due to members having moved away. Three new members joined during the past week. Anyone wishing to join should see Sergeant Leo Moriarity at the armory or come to the armory during drill next Monday evening. Any single man between the ages of 18 and 35 in good physical condition is eligible. The minimum condition is each drill is one dollar. Battery E will spend three weeks at Camp Ripley in August, and will take part in the army maneuvers from August 4th to 24th.

July 4, 1940

In February 1940 Battery E was at the head of the Pine City Winter Carnival Parade.



Pictured above is Battery E, 125th Field Artillery, leading the Pine City winter carnival parade. At the head is the color squad—left to right, Bert John, George Lentz, Corporal Dick Tamke and Dayton Thorstenson. Battery E, Pine City's National Guard unit, has a strength of 80 enlisted men and 4 officers.
—Photo by Kenneth M. Wright Studios, St. Paul

**BATTERY E WILL BE MOBILIZED
IN OCT. FOR YEAR'S TRAINING**

**LATEST DISPATCH GIVES JAN. 3
AS DATE BAT. E WILL MOBILIZE**

October 3, 1940

As America nervously watched world events, Battery E prepared for an even greater level of involvement.

Major General Ellard A. Walsh, adjutant general of Minnesota, announced yesterday the Minnesota National Guard will be mobilized for a year's training in October, probably on or before October 16th.

Battery E, 125th Field Artillery, Pine City National Guard unit, will leave in the next couple of months for a year's training in Louisiana, according to present information. Definite orders for induction of the Minnesota National Guard into federal service, and the date such service begins, will probably be received in the near future.

The first announcement of mobilization was in the August 29, 1940 issue of the Pine Poker Pioneer.

According to a dispatch from Washington, last week, it was reported unofficially that Friday, January 3rd, had been tentatively agreed upon as the date for mobilization of the 34 division, Minnesota National Guard, and its induction into the army for a year's training. Battery E of Pine City is a unit of the 34th.

It is expected the division will train at a camp about 18 miles south of Alexandria, Louisiana.

The following article, taken from last Sunday's Minneapolis Star-Journal, describes Camp Beauregard:

The Guardsmen who go to Camp Beauregard will live in camps which will be towns within themselves. The camp sites proper cover a total of more than 1,200 acres and, in addition, the troops will have at their disposal more than two million acres, representing every type of terrain except mountains. Much of the maneuver territory, de-

**PRESIDENT ORDERS MOBILIZING
THIRTY-FOURTH DIV. FEB. 10**

January 2, 1941

Battery E sponsored an annual New Year's Eve Dance.

BATTERY "E" READY FOR NEW YEAR DANCE

The infant Nineteen Thirty-Two will receive a royal welcome when he appears at the armory, sharp on the stroke of twelve o'clock midnight next Thursday evening, December 31st, at the annual dance given by Battery E.

Everything will be in readiness to usher in the New Year with the armory beautifully decorated for the occasion and an abundance of New Year novelties has been purchased for free distribution to the dancers. Captain Jorgensen informs us there will be no confetti this year as it makes such a dust but there will be more novelties than other years — paper hats, horns, streamers, etc.

This will be the big get-together for local folks who are away at school or teaching and are home for the holidays. It will also be the big annual celebration for the 66 members of the Battery who will be out in force to dance the old year out and the New Year in.

December 24, 1931

HERE AGAIN!!
THE NEW YEARS
DANCE!
 At the Pine City Armory
Thurs. Eve., Dec. 31
 1931

As of old... Battery "E" is making big preparations for this occasion. Help us show Old Father Time out the back door, and usher Miss New Year in the front door in all pomp and glory she is entitled to.

The Armory
Will be Beautifully Decorated!

There Will Be
Hats, Horns, Confetti, Balloons, Etc.

NEW YEARS EVE
DANCE
Bigger - Better - noisier
Friday, Dec. 31

Given by Battery E in the
PINE CITY ARMORY

The Big Holiday Get-Together with a rousing
 Welcome to Nineteen Thirty-eight

Balloons, Paper Hats, Noise Makers and Novelties

See the Old Year Out and the New
 Year In at the Armory

December 23, 1937

FAREWELL GET-TOGETHER WITH BATTERY E NEW YEARS EVE

An abundance of noisemakers, paper hats, balloons and novelties of all kinds, and a beautifully decorated armory will greet merrymakers at the annual Battery E New Years Eve Dance next Tuesday evening, December 31st.

The Battery E. New Years dance, which has been an annual event for many years, has always drawn capacity crowds with celebrators attending from a radius of many miles.

The dance this year takes on an added significance as members of the battery will not be here to celebrate New Years Eve a year from now.

Battery E leaves soon for a year's training in Louisiana. Celebrate New Years Eve with battery members at the armory and help make it a farewell party the Guardsmen will enjoy and remember.

December 26, 1940

As America moved closer to war and Battery E prepared to leave for at least a year the annual dance took on new significance as 1940 came to a close.

Battery Dance New Years Eve

The New Years Eve dance, given annually by Battery E in the armory, will take on an added significance this year, as it will be in the nature of a farewell get-together with battery members. Battery E will leave in the near future for a year's training in Louisiana.

As usual, the armory will be beautifully trimmed in holiday decorations for the occasion, and there will be plenty of noisemakers, balloons, hats and novelties to add to the fun.

Make your plans now to usher in the New Year at the armory on New Years Eve, Tuesday, December 31st.

December 19, 1940

New Years Eve
DANCE!

PINE CITY ARMORY
TUESDAY, DEC. 31st

BALLONS, NOISEMAKERS, PAPER
HATS, NOVELTIES OF ALL KINDS.

Battery E leaves soon for a year's training in Louisiana. Celebrate New Years Eve with Battery Members at the Armory. Help make it a Farewell Party the Guardsmen will Enjoy and Remember

December 26, 1940

Battery E Ready For Induction Into Federal Service Monday

Members of Battery E held their last formation—for at least a year—Monday evening, as members of the Minnesota National Guard, for the Battery will be mobilized next Monday, February 10th, and inducted into federal service. At 12:01 a.m. Sunday night, National Guardsmen of the 34th division, of which Battery E is a unit, will become members of the National Guard of the United States, on the same basis as soldiers in the U. S. army.

Members of the battery have been ordered to report to the armory Monday at 8 a.m., or as soon thereafter on that date as they can. The order also includes all inactive members of the battery whom, together with active members, are inducted into active federal service.

February 6, 1941

There were additional postponements but on February 10, 1941 Battery E was mobilized and officially inducted into federal service.

Once they were inducted they were on fulltime active duty.

Starting next Monday, all members of Battery E, both active and inactive consisting of 4 commissioned officers and 96 enlisted men, will be on full time active duty. Eighty-five members of the battery will sleep at the armory, during their stay here. The balance will sleep at home but will report at the armory each morning at 7 a. m. and will be on duty until after the evening mess.

They marched in formation to the 61-Way Cafe where meals were served. Most members slept on cots at the armory.

Battery members will eat at the 61-Way Cafe with mess being served at 7:30 in the morning, 12:30 at noon and 5:30 in the evening. The battery will march to the cafe and back to the armory in formation for each meal.

The public could visit each evening from 7 to 10 pm. A room that formerly housed the Legion was turned into a club room for socializing.

Two additional Pine City officers were also inducted on February 10th, Captain A.K. Stratte & Major C. R. Boo. Dr. Stratte was the commanding officer of the medical unit attached to Battery E.

**FAREWELL PROGRAM AND DANCE
FOR BATTERY E, MONDAY**

The Commercial Club and the American Legion sponsored a grand send off party.

**Farewell
Party and Dance
FOR BATTERY E
Monday, February 17**

Program at 8:00 p. m.
H. S. Auditorium
— Tickets 25c Each —

Dancing
At the Armory
Gents 50c — Ladies Free

All proceeds go to Battery Mess Fund

The evening began at the high school auditorium with what was billed as high class entertainment.

The entertainment included a master of ceremonies, Lew Brock, a variety of singers, dancers and a comedian.

ter of ceremonies. Artists appearing on the program were Peggy and Vernis, two talented dancers who appeared in several numbers, the first being a shackle number, in which they tripped the light fantastic with their ankles shackled together. Auzie Dial, a young lady of color, who has appeared at the famous Cotton Club in New York and with leading colored orchestras over the country, was accompanist and a clever one too, and sang a couple of pleasing numbers. Ann Hardy, a clever dancer, entertained with several of the new Riff type tap dance numbers, and she also assisted Brock in a Model T Car comedy skit. Randy Merriman, the pitchman, furnished the comedy for the show, which was thoroughly enjoyed by the large audience.

February 13, 1941

February 20, 1941

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Executive Department

Saint Paul

HAROLD E. STASSEN, Governor

February 15th, 1941

Captain W. S. McEachern
Commander Battery E
125th Field Artillery
Pine City, Minnesota

Dear Captain McEachern:

Thank you for your kind invitation to attend the farewell party being given for your Battery on February 17th. I regret that I cannot be present personally to extend farewell wishes to Battery E.

I am proud of our Minnesota National Guard and of the fine spirit with which the members have responded to the call to regular army training. I feel confident that others in the Country's service will be spurred to higher levels of attainment by the splendid example they will find set before them by the members of our National Guard.

I wish God's speed to every member of Battery E for a happy and safe journey and we shall look forward to their return after the year's training.

Sincerely yours,
Harold E. Stassen,
GOVERNOR

A letter from the Governor of Minnesota was read and each member of Battery E was given a going away gift of a pen and pencil set with their name engraved.



Pen & Pencil courtesy of the family of Edward Roubinek

February 20, 1941



The battery clerk was then called to the platform and as the boys filed past the gift table, his name and rank was announced and each officer and man received a beautiful pen and pencil set with his name engraved on the piece. Maybe it was a suggestion to the boys to write home often, and if so, we trust they will do that very thing, because the folks back home will be anxious for news of their camp life.

Battery E consisted of 4 officers and 95 enlisted men

Captain W. S. McEachren - Battery Commander

First Lieutenant DeWitt C. Gottry

Second Lieutenants James Engel and Everett Johnson

First Sargeant

William Stuck

Staff Sargeant

Douglas Stuck

Sargeants

John Erickson

Henry Foster

Emil Gardner

Ervin Kruse

Fred Kruse

Leo Moriarty

Herbert Teich

Carl Thore

Corporals

Robert Brekke

George Franta

Howard Hady

Bruce Hanson

Marlon Hooker

John Ingram

Robert Peters

Carl Teich

Oscar Teich

Ralph Teich

Dayton Thorstenson

Privates First Class

John Anderson

Thomas Bede

Robert Biederman

Joseph Blahnik

Harvey Brones

Kenneth Cox

Wallace D'Aoust (bugler)

Edward Erhart

Robert Ferguson

Clark Foster

Earl Foster

James France

Paul Frye

Donald Greig

Orville Harman

Joseph Kasprzyk

Edward Kubat

Raymond Libra

Ray McClellan

John McKusick

Robert Moeding

James Poferyl (battery clerk)

Edward Swan

Cyrus Swanger

Leonard Whitting

Battery E

Privates

Edward Bell
Michael Biederman
Raymond Brekke
Curtis Broostin
Philip Broz
Waldo Carlson
Russell Chase
Richard Cherrier
James Cummings
Warner Cyr
Major Greig
Herschel Hahn
Philip Haugen

Rogert Hegman
George Hoffman
Orrin Ingram
Harvey Jensen
Donald Karsky
James Karsky
Clarence Kruse
Leonard Kub
Anton Libra
Lloyd Lindeman
Robert Madden
Jack Manska
Walter Martinson

Wilbur McFerran
Robert McKusick
Wayne Michael
Sylvan Millwood
Dale Moeding
Kenneth Myers
Philip Nordstrom
Norris Olander
Robert Reiser
Arthur Richter
Edward Roubinek
William Rys
George Schumacher

Wilbur Struiksma
Robert Swofford
Louis Tauber
Harvey Thayer
John Wenborg
Clifford Weiner
Kenneth Wilson
Robert Wilson
Louis Witte
Vernice Whitting
John Zalaznik

The first contingent of Battery E to leave Pine City consisted of 24 men and one commissioned officer, Dr. Stratte. They traveled by motor convoy leaving Pine City on February 26, 1941 and traveling to Anoka where they joined the 2nd Battalion. This convoy then proceeded to Camp Claiborne in Louisiana with overnight stops in:

Jackson, Minnesota

Clarinda, Iowa

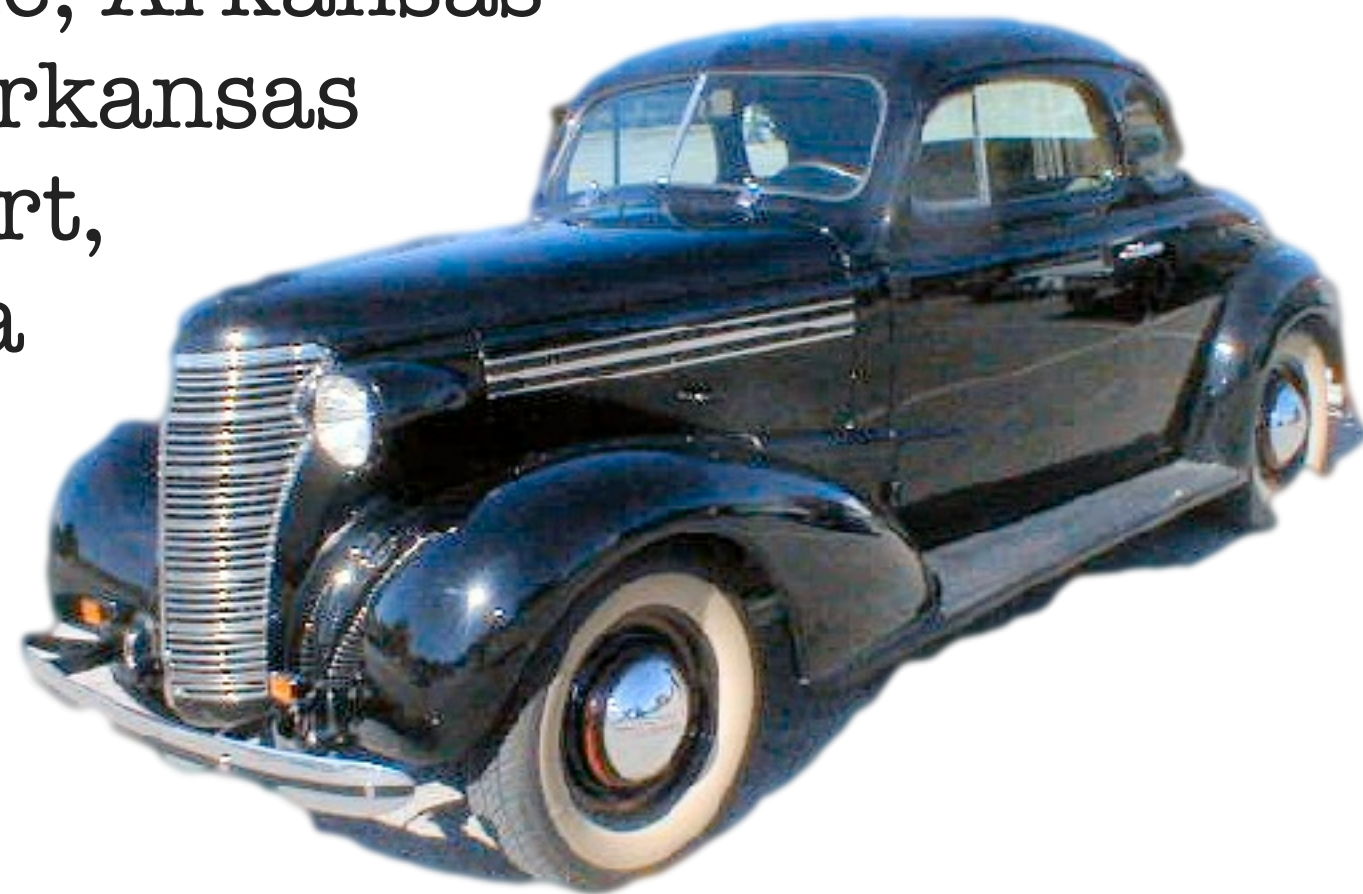
Nevada, Missouri

Fayetteville, Arkansas

Mena, Arkansas

Shreveport,

Louisiana



The following is from a letter Dr. Stratte wrote to his family describing the start of that trip.

Dear Folks,
I have had my last letter from you folks and now the only way I can expect to get any news from you until March 5 will be by phone. And don't be surprised if I do call you up either. I got a good break yesterday. In the original plans I was suppose to ride in a station wagon (no heater). Thanks to someone, I think Col. Douglas, an order came thru the last minute for me to ride in a private car, belonging to Fred Kruse. Its a 1938 Chev. & not too fancy but it has a heater. A happy thought struck me yesterday, to put my old radio (from the Plymouth) in the Kruse car. The boys installed it for me so now I will be setting pretty, heater, radio, a driver of my own (Jim France). At 30 miles per hour all these things will be greatly appreciated.

Feb 26, 1941

Dr. Stratte wrote to his family throughout the trip, buying and mailing postcards as he went.

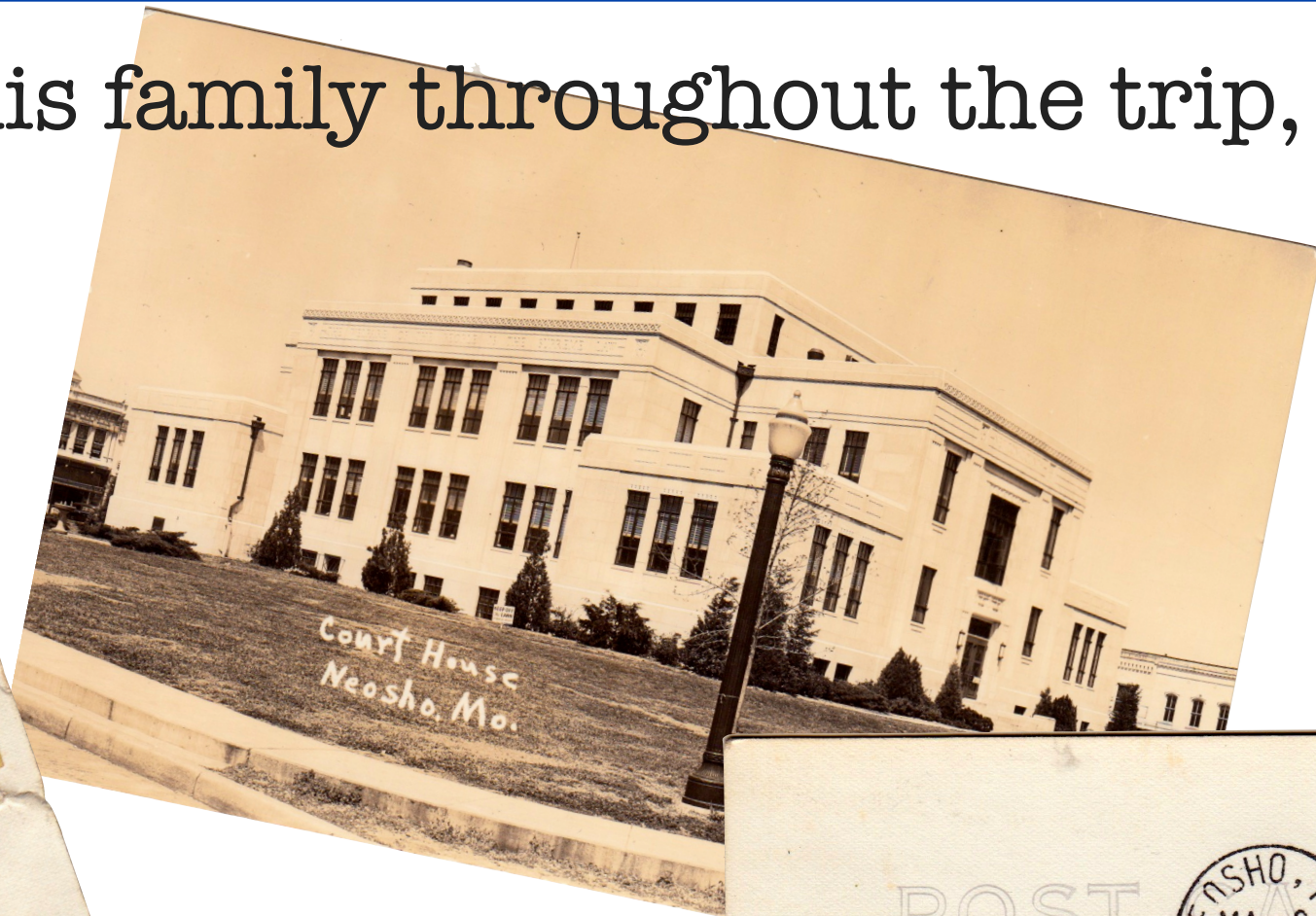


Friday Feb 28th
 8 am.
 Milford Iowa
 We just passed
 Park where the H.C. Stratte
 & we spent that day (part)
 will eat lunch at Carol
 & spend the night at
 Clarinda. Last night I
 up Ralph. I expect to call
 west over to Windsor for the
 night instead of sleeping at Madison
 with the rest. Read a nice letter
 to Buddy. Mary's showed
 to Bonnie. She feels scrubbed. nice trip so far.

ROCK, IOWA
 FEB 28
 4-5-PM '41

ADDRESS
 Mrs. A.K. Stratte
 151 Park Ave
 Lake Charles
 Louisiana

Carroll, Iowa



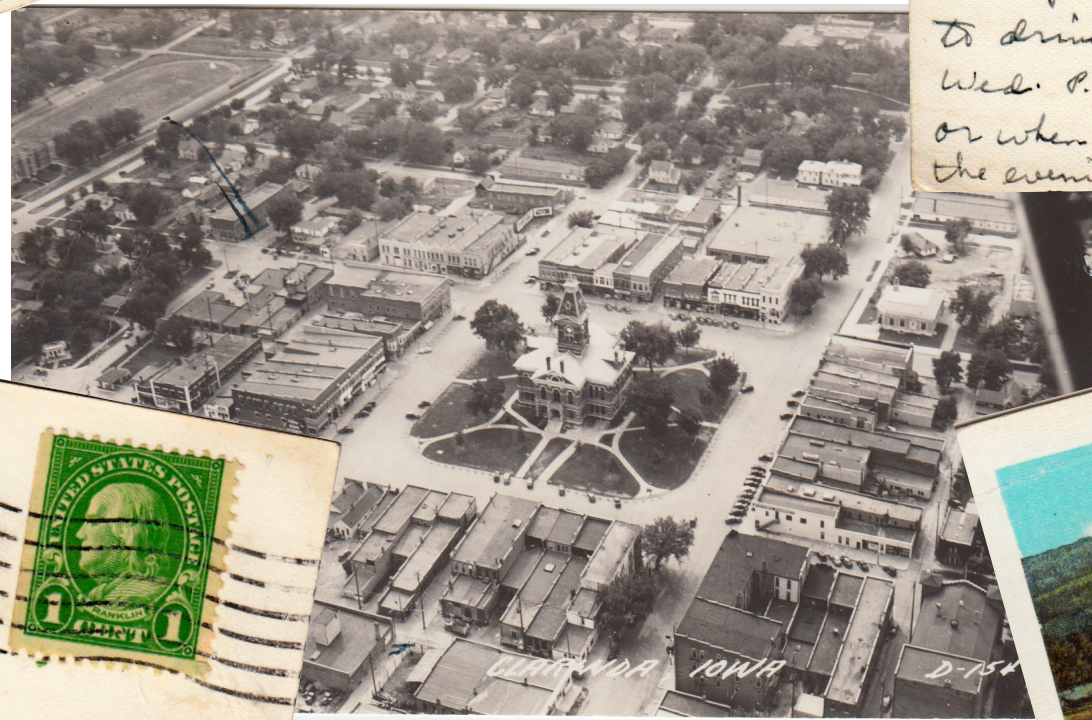
Neosho, Missouri

POST
 CORRESPONDENCE

NEOSHO, MO.
 MAR 2
 1-PM '41

ADDRESS
 Mrs. A.K. Stratte
 151 Park Ave
 Lake Charles
 Louisiana

Still rolling along &
 everything running like
 clockwork. Remember
 this place?
 Hope you are planning
 to drive out to Camp
 Wed. P.M. I don't know if
 or when I can get away for
 the evening but would like just a look if you have time.



Clarinda, Iowa

Friday night.
 Do you remember
 when we hit this
 town just after we
 left Tabor that Wed.
 morning?
 Four of us officers
 are sleeping on our
 cots in the office
 of the Rural Credits.
 I just called up
 Ralph. Everything O.K.
 at Tabor. Ralph said
 Ann is leaving you
 Monday so I won't see her.

CLARINDA, IOWA
 MAR 1
 11:30 AM
 1941

ADDRESS
 Mr. Alf Stratte Jr.
 151 Park Ave
 Lake Charles
 Louisiana



Cotley College, Nevada, Mo.

Saturday night.
 It won't be long now!
 Today it really seemed
 as tho we came
 south. It warmed
 up so that we shed
 our mackinaws.
 Have gotten by so
 far without accidents
 or much sickness. I took
 one sick man in my car
 today but he is almost all
 now.

NEVADA
 MAR 1
 8 PM
 1941

POST CARD
 Mr. Jon Stratte
 151 Park Ave
 Lake Charles
 Louisiana

Nevada, Missouri



Fayetteville, Arkansas

Sunday night.
 8 pm.
 Irish just stopped by
 is driving in his own car
 with my + Jean. They are
 going on to turn I called
 Windsor to stay for the night.
 Irish said he stopped at P.E.
 on Friday + Dr. Brown had
 just been operated on for
 acute appendicitis. I don't
 think that tough luck to be hit
 just at this time when he
 needs the money so badly +
 was going so good. Irish
 is going to see you about coming
 out to camp Wednesday. I
 am not sure if I can get away or
 not. Will had to see if there are any cars driving out

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK.
 MAR 2
 1941

POST CARD
 Mrs. A.K. Stratte
 151 Park Ave
 Lake Charles
 Louisiana

The second contingent of Battery E left Pine City on March 3, 1941.



photo courtesy of Jim Foster

This photo was taken at the Pine City depot as the second contingent of Battery E waited to board the train to Camp Claiborne in Louisiana. The photo was taken by Dorothea Points who married Earl Foster (center of photo looking to his right) on December 23, 1941.

The second contingent of Battery E Pine City consisted of 70 men and four commissioned officers. They traveled by train leaving Pine City at 10:47 a.m. on March 3, 1941. A big send off had been planned. Members of the recently organized Defense Force, the Legion Post and the High School band were all going to march to the depot. The stores were set to close from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. to allow employees the chance to join the farewell demonstration.

Many loved ones of the battery members were forced to miss this touching farewell demonstration, when the high wind of Sunday night piled roads full of fresh snow. Many of these young men have never been away from home for more than a few days at a time, and the thought of a year's absence from home and loved ones brot a lump to their throats and tears to the eyes of those mothers and fathers. The wives and sweethearts of the departing guardsmen were naturally affected at the thought of this long separation, and there were many tear-dimmed eyes in the crowd of well-wishers

March 6, 1941

Unfortunately the weather didn't cooperate. The second worst blizzard of the 1940 - 41 winter struck the night before damping somewhat the size of the crowd.

The travel schedule.

The balance of the battery, 4 officers and 70 men will leave on the southbound morning train, leaving Pine City Monday, March 3rd at 10:47. They will join the 2nd Battalion train, bound for Louisiana in the Twin cities.

The traveling schedule is as follows:

Leave Twin cities,	4:45 p.m.
March 3rd.	
Arrive Chicago,	6:40 a.m.
March 4th.	
Leave Chicago,	8:40 a. m.
March 4th.	
Arrive St. Louis,	3:50 p. m.
March 4th.	
Leave St. Louis,	6:00 p. m.,
March 4th.	
Arrive Camp Claiborne,	3:30
p.m. March 5th.	

February 27, 1941

Launch Local Defense Company

The initial steps toward organizing Co. D, second regiment Minnesota Defense Force, which will be stationed at Pine City, were taken at a Legion meeting, Monday evening, when 38 men signed up for enlistment in the new organization. As soon as enlistment blanks are received, which are expected in the next few days, enlistments will be completed. The new company can be mustered in with a minimum strength of 50. Maintenance strength of the company will be 79 enlisted men. Officers of the company are Jess Ingram, captain; Wm. Challeen, first lieutenant and Dewey Wilcox, second lieutenant.

The Defense Force will replace the National Guard, during the Guard's absence while in federal training. The Minnesota National Guard expects to be inducted into federal service January 3rd. The company here will be equipped with uniforms and rifles and will drill one night a week at the armory.

November 7, 1940

The Minnesota Defense Force was organized to replace the activated National Guard.

Anyone wishing to join the local company should notify one of the officers at once. Following a list of those who signified their intention of joining Monday evening:

Walt. F. Glasow, Harry Krech, Al Oman, Dave Hoefler, Carl B. Peterson, H. W. Pope Erwin H. Blanchard, Richard Tamke, Robert Wilcox.

Frank Peterson, Carl R. Peterson, Robert Leigh Ardner, Otto H. Wiedemann, V. W. Ziebarth, Arthur P. Hanson, Fred E. Westrom, Peter Joseph Fyten.

M. W. Edwards, Gene Peters, Glen Turner, Wm. Ling, Howard C. Robinson, Dr. J. F. Russ, James A. Mullins, A. C. Klicker, Anton Witte, Fred Schwartzwald.

L. Milgrom, Frank Skalicky, Jr., Guy E. Milliren, Ervin L. Nelson, Hugo Holmstrom, Richard G. Kowalke, Geo. T. Olsen, Otto Haug, Ernest Meyer Ehler Rohweder and John Kyncl.

**BEING EXAMINED
FOR DEFENSE CO.**

Captain Jess Ingram, commander of the Pine City Defense Company, which is in the process of organization, is a busy man these days rounding up his recruits. The minimum requirement of 50 enlisted men for mustering the company has been secured. Enlistment blanks have been received and enlistments are being completed. Physical examinations are being given by Dr. Stratte and Dr. Brown, at their offices, after 4:30 p.m. each day. Recruits are urged to have their physicals as soon as possible. Better call the doctors' office for an appointment to be sure they will be there.

November 21, 1940

By January 1941
Company D, the Pine
City unit of the
Minnesota Defense
Force was ready to
muster.

Company members had
been measured for
uniforms and were
awaiting their arrival.

Company D Officers

Captain Jess Ingram

1st Lieutenant Wm. Challeen

2nd Lieutenant Dewey Wilcox

January 23, 1941

COMPANY D MUSTER WED.

Company D, Pine City unit of the Minnesota Defense Force, will be mustered into service at the armory next Wednesday evening at 8 p.m. A major from the inspector general's department will be the mustering officer and Colonel Weaver of Duluth, regimental commander of the second regiment of which the local company is a unit, is expected to attend.

Company members were measured for uniforms last evening, and the new equipment will probably arrive in the near future. There are at present over 50 members of the company and more men have signified their intention of joining.

The Minnesota Defense Force will replace the National Guard, during the latter's absence in federal service. Company D will take over and be in charge of the local armory, following departure of Battery E.

Officers of the company are Jesse Ingram, captain; Wm. Challeen, first lieutenant; and D. R. Wilcox, second lieutenant. Max Edwards is first sergeant. Other non-commissioned officers will be appointed later.

DEFENSE FORCE UNIT GETS NEW UNIFORMS

Members of Co. D, Minnesota Defense Force, received their uniforms at the regular drill last Wednesday night, March 19th, and the boys present a very satisfactory appearance when they are all dolled up. The addition of these new uniforms made a world of difference in the appearance of the outfit and when they get out on dress parade some of these days you who have not had a chance to see the new regalia will be more than pleased. The new uniforms consist of shoes, serge slacks, field belts, wool shirts, black ties, field caps and wool mackinaw jackets.

March 27, 1941

Company D members
looked quite snappy
when the new uniforms
arrived.

Capt. F. R. Hunt Inspects Co. D.

Capt. F. R. Hunt, Plans and Training Officer of the Minnesota Defense Force staff, visited Co. D last Wednesday evening at its regular drill, in an official capacity and found the company in excellent condition. The boys have received their new uniforms and presented a very neat appearance. They have also been doing considerable drilling since the battery unit left for Camp Claiborne and will improve in their drill work as time goes on.

Jesse Ingram is captain of the unit, Wm. Challeen is 1st Lieut.; D. R. Wilcox, 2nd Lieut and Max Edwards is "top-kick".



March 27, 1941

photo courtesy of Harold Kick

Company D, the Pine City branch of the Minnesota Defense Force in front of the Armory.



photo courtesy of Jim Foster

One Soldier's Story - Carl Meier

In April of 1942 Carl Meier joined Company D in Pine City. At the time Carl was a truck driver, single and 39 years old.

ENLISTMENT RECORD
OF

Meier, Carl E. None Private
(Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Army Serial No.) (Grade)

Enlisted April 21, 1942, at Pine City, Minnesota

In the service of the State of Minnesota, under call of the Governor, from _____ to _____

Serving in First enlistment period at date of discharge.

Prior service: † None

Noncommissioned officer: No

Qualification in arms: ‡ None

Attendance at: None
(Name of noncommissioned officers' or special service school)

Knowledge of any vocation: Truck Driver, Gunsmith.

Date and result of smallpox vaccination: None

Date of completion of all typhoid-paratyphoid vaccinations: None

Date and result of diphtheria immunity test (Schick): None

Date of other vaccinations (specify vaccine used): None

Physical condition when discharged: Normal Married or single: Single.

CHARACTER: EXCELLENT

Remarks: None.

Signature of soldier: *Carl E. Meier*

James McCallum
Capt.
Commanding *Co. D - 2nd Regt M.S.S.*

† Give company and regiment with inclusive dates of service in each enlistment.
‡ Give date of qualification or rating and number, date, and source of order announcing same.

Carl Meier artifact courtesy of Darcy Meier Pinotti

SELECTIVE SERVICE

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300

LOCAL BOARD NO. 1
PINE COUNTY

JUL 14 1942 - PM 001
PINE CITY, MINNESOTA

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Carl Emerson Meier

Box 304

Pine City, Minnesota

16-18635 GPO

In July of 1942 Carl received this card in the mail, the first sign that he was about to be drafted.

LOCAL BOARD NO. 1 74
PINE COUNTY 115

JUL 14 1942 001
PINE CITY, MINNESOTA

NOTICE TO REGISTRANT
TO APPEAR FOR
PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

July 14, 1942
(Date)

Dr. Brown
(Name of examining physician)

You are hereby directed to report to _____
at Pine City, Minnesota for physical examination at 11:00 a.m.,
(Address)
on July 17, 1942 Failure to do so is an act punishable
by imprisonment and fine, and may also result in your losing valuable rights and
in your immediate induction into military service.

Charles Olson
Member of Local Board.

D. S. S. Form No. 201
16-18635 GPO

Carl Meier artifact courtesy of Darcy Meier Pinotti

One Soldier's Story - Carl Meier

In October of 1942 Carl was drafted. He was discharged from the Minnesota State Guard and inducted into the army. Carl kept a diary that tells of his experience.

Entries from Carl's diary.


Oct 6, 1942: Got my notice from draft board today to report for duty in the Army.

Oct 19, 1942: Went to Fort Snelling to have Army exam along with other Pine City drafters 89 total.

Oct 20, 1942: Passed exam at Snelling, so did Ernest Pangerl. 26 were rejected. Came back to Pine City on a special bus in a.m. on 14 day furlough. Going back for active duty Nov 2.

Oct 27, 1942: Washed and waxed my truck and put it on blocks in Holetz's shed to store it for the duration.

Minnesota State Guard



To all whom it may concern:

This is to Certify, That Carl E. Meier

* Private, Company "D", Second Infantry Regiment

as a Testimonial of Honest and Faithful Service, is hereby Honorably Discharged from the Minnesota State Guard by reason of † Enl in US Armed Forces. (Discharge in process of completion)

Said Carl E. Meier was born in Algona, in the State of Iowa

When enlisted he was 39 years of age and by occupation a Truck Driver

He had Gray eyes, Brown hair, Ruddy complexion, and was Five feet 6 1/2 inches in height.

Given under my hand at Pine City, Minnesota this 27th day of, October one thousand nine hundred and Forty Two

William M. Ouellette
Capt. Minn. State Guard
Co "D", 2nd Regt.
Commanding

AGO-MINN. FORM NO. DF-5 000-4-42 12046

* Insert grade and company and regiment, "Sergeant, Company A, 1st State Guard Regiment."
† If discharged prior to expiration of service, give number, date, and source of order or description of authority therefor.

One Soldier's Story - Carl Meier

Nov 6, 1942: At Fort Snelling still same stuff and still don't know what branch of the Army I am going to be put. Ernest was put in the Infantry and left for training in Cal.

Nov 9, 1942: At Fort Snelling. Got orders this morning to get ready to leave for Armored Force. Left for Fort Knox KY in p.m. Helen met me at the St Paul Depot and we had supper together.

Nov 12, 1942: Training at Fort Knox, KY. Had some drilling and radio aptitude test. This camp is about 34 miles from Louisville, has about 75000 soldiers all of the Armored Force consisting of medium and light tanks, tank destroyers, half-track trucks, jeeps, peeps and etc.

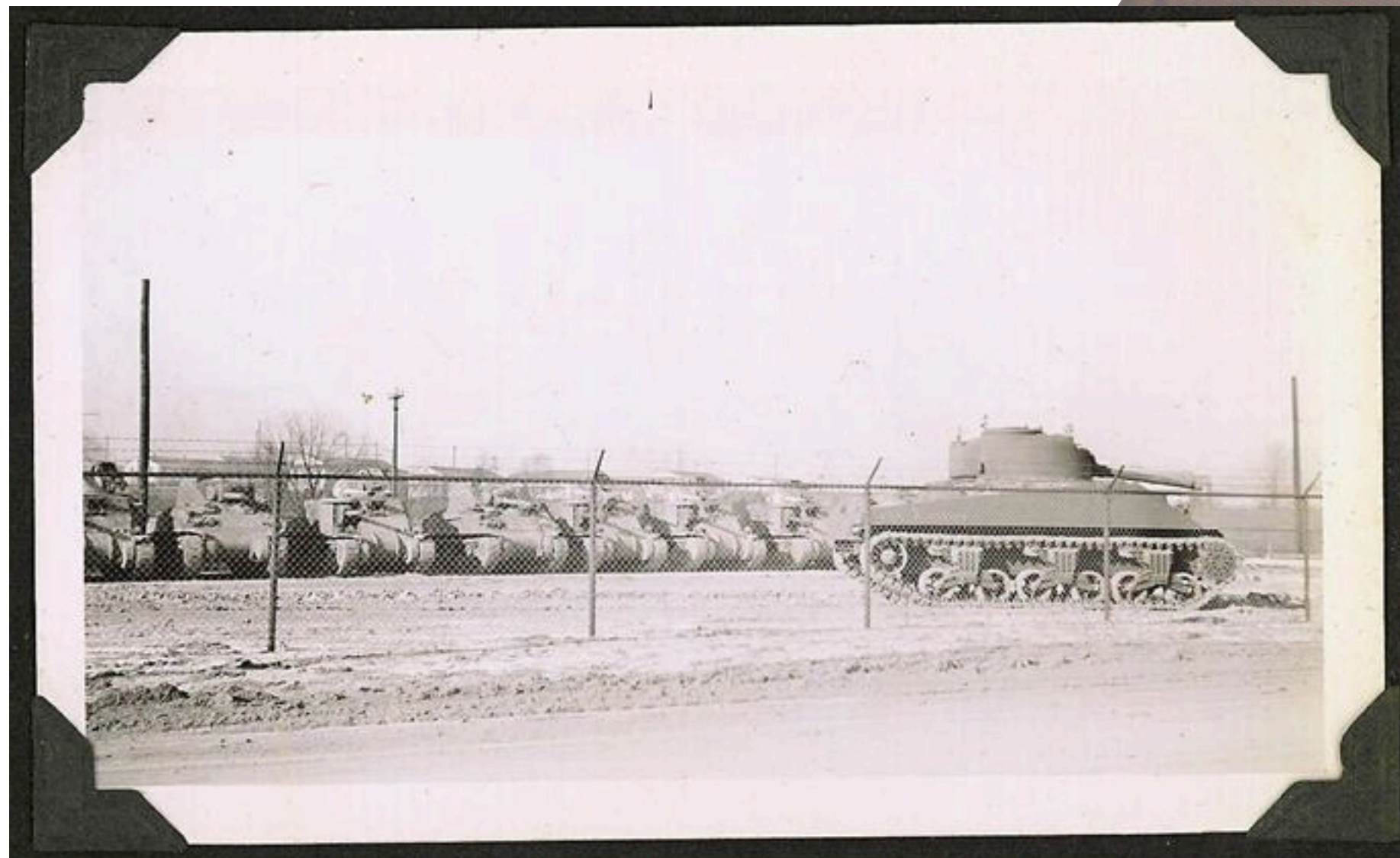


photo courtesy of Darcy Meier Pinotti

Nov 15, 1942: No drill today. Took a hike around camp and done some dreaming about the big game hunters in Minnesota where deer season opens today.

Nov 17, 1942: Got five dollars advanced pay today. My first Army pay - spot cash! Had some drills with the Thompson sub gun. Rained all day and this Kentucky mud is just grand for marching!



photo courtesy of Darcy Meier Pinotti

One Soldier's Story - Carl Meier

Nov 21, 1942: Basic training at Fort Knox KY. Raining as usual, plenty of mud.

Nov 22, 1942: Rain. Rain. Rain. Real nice cool rain. Brrrr. No drill, no marching today not even much to eat! Oh well guess I'm in the Army now.

Nov 23, 1942: Woe is me! Of all the times to be called on KP it had to be for Thanksgiving! Was in the kitchen washing pots and pans from 4am till 9pm and will have to be on all day tomorrow.



photo courtesy of Darcy Meier Pinotti

Nov 24, 1942:

Thanksgiving Day. What a dinner! And what a lot of pots and pans! All the pots and pans in the Army must be in our kitchen and they were used seventeen times over and poor me to scour them each time. The dinner was great - turkey and everything.

Dec 1, 1942: Gas rationing started today for civilians. Cold rain all day. Were out in it all day at the motor pool servicing our new tanks that just came in. They are the new multi bank M4-A4 five motor built by Chrysler. I am a very wet tired drip tonight!

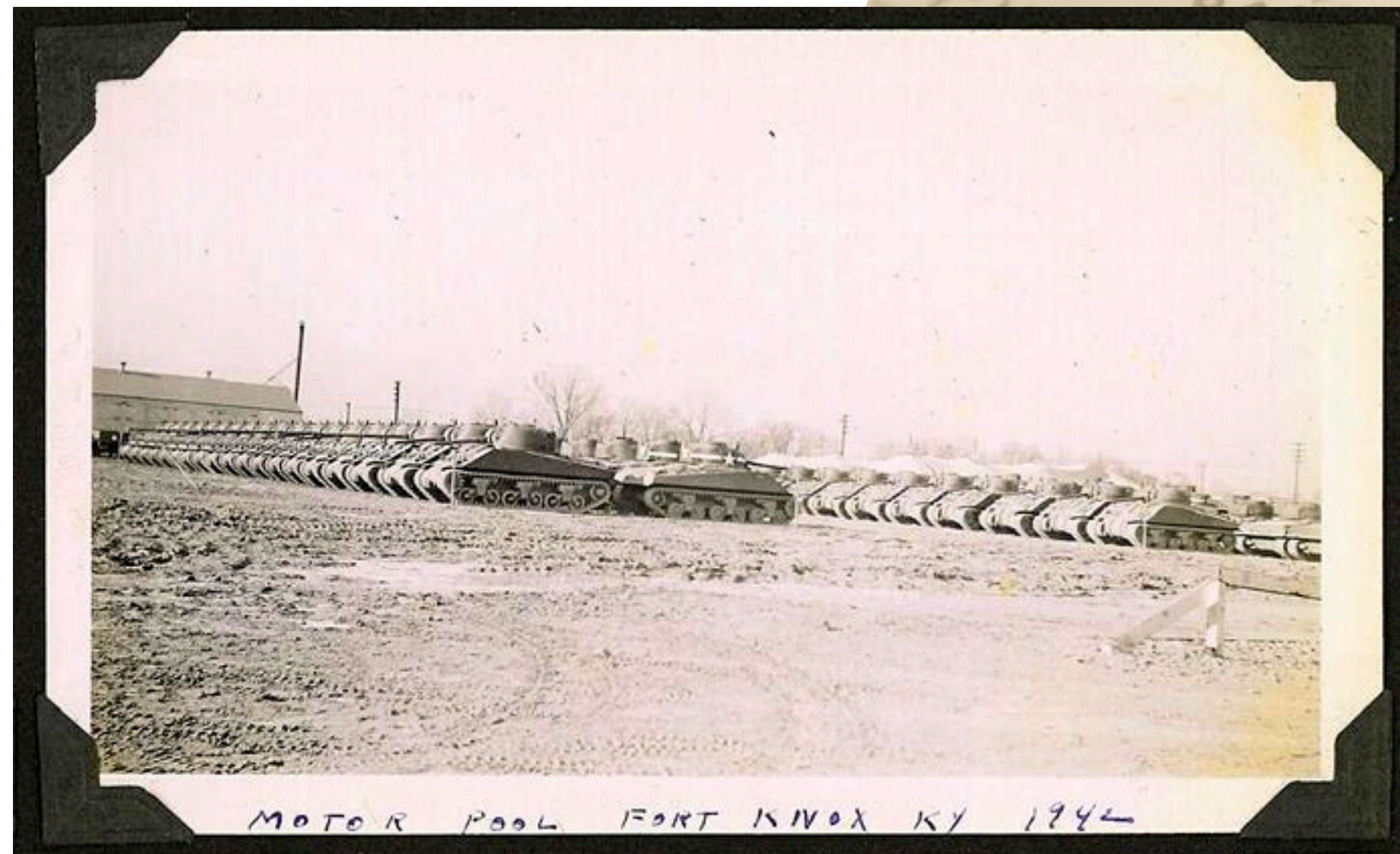


photo courtesy of Darcy Meier Pinotti

One Soldier's Story - Carl Meier

Dec 9, 1942: Out on the tank range driving all day in mud up to their bellies. Chow out in the mud and snow. Came back to the motor pool at 7pm then had to wash all that nice yellow KY mud off the nice little tank, grease it and put it to "beddy bye". BS!

Dec 14, 1942: Took some pictures today. It is so darn cold here now the mud is all pavement. Hope it stays that way.

Dec 22, 1942: Rained all day. We were out where the mud was deepest and terrain roughest driving tanks. At noon we got a cup of hot coffee (with sugar and cream) and two sausage sandwiches which we devoured in

the rain and mud, of course by this time we didn't even notice the rain.



photo courtesy of Darcy Meier Pinotti

Jan 10, 1943: Rain and some snow mixed in this pm. There is a rumor that all men over 38 will be discharged from the Army after their basic training and I am 39.

Jan 12, 1943: Tues on the rifle range (30 cal enfield) range all day shooting for medal scores. I qualified as expert on the official 200 yd range I made 19 bulls eyes out of 20 shots fired from 3 positions. Prone sitting and kneeling my score 197.



photo courtesy of Darcy Meier Pinotti

One Soldier's Story - Carl Meier

Jan 17, 1943: There are six divisions here now of 15000 men each making a total of 90000 men in camp.

Jan 30, 1943: McCluskey says if mud plasters are good for the face, we will win some beauty prizes soon!

Jan 31, 1943: Mon pay day and as I write I can hear the dice rolling on all sides. No more men to be sent overseas over 38 years old and no more school for anybody over 35. It looks as if I am a total loss to the army.

Feb 4, 1943: The mud at this range isn't yellow, it's blue!



photo courtesy of Darcy Meier Pinotti



photo courtesy of Darcy Meier Pinotti

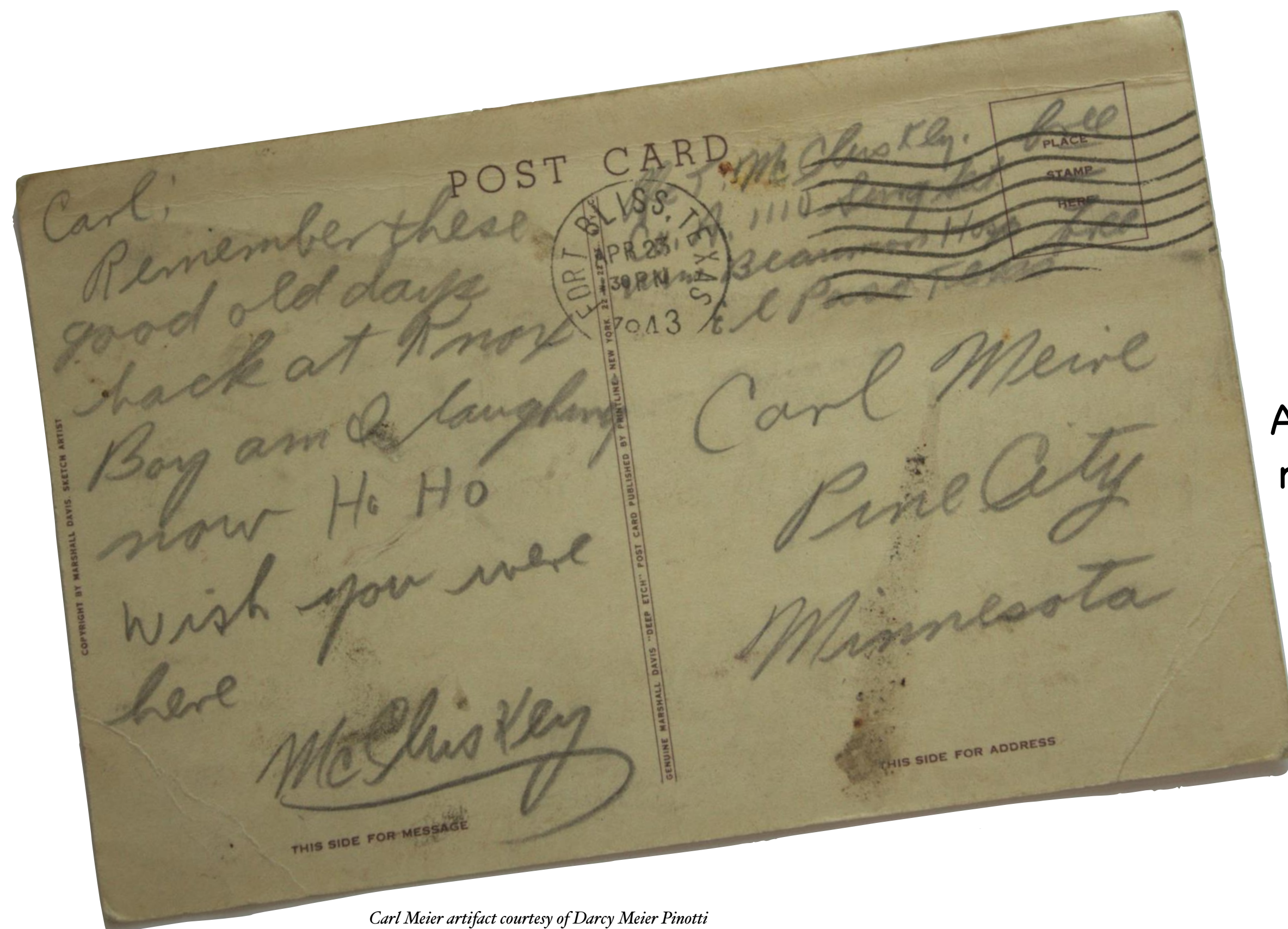
Feb 6, 1943: Out on the sloppy range with chow on the run. Eat in the knee deep mud. There are two kinds of mud here - the yellow and the blue mud. I think the blue smells the best but the yellow is by far the best for taste - it's not so sour!

Feb 13, 1943: Ptomaine poisoning in camp! 64 cases, they fell over like flies and were carried over to the first aid station on stretchers. No casualties. I thought McCluskey would die laughing at the busy stretcher carriers.

One Soldier's Story - Carl Meier

Mar 3, 1943: Wrote my last letter to Helen today from Fort Knox. I will be discharged next Fri.

Mar 5, 1943: Discharged this am. Took bus to Louisville and got train out of there for Chicago at 1130pm. Good bye to the armored forces.



Carl Meier artifact courtesy of Darcy Meier Pinotti



April 14, 1943: Signed up to leave for Alaska job next Monday from Mora by train on Elliot construction job and got release from draft board.

The George Kick family had 5 sons who served during World War II.

Some of the postcards the Kick boys sent home.



Carl 1941



Waldo 1942



297 SIBERIAN DOG TEAM, ALASKA

6A-H523

To Waldo G. Kick 37024609
Battery C 215th C.A.(AA)
A.P.O. 937
To Postmaster
Seattle Washington
U.S. Army



POST CARD

Just a card to let
you know I'm still
in the best of health.
Hope you are all the
same.
Your son Waldo,

Mrs. George C. Kick
Route 4
Pine City,
Minnesota

"C.T. ART-COLOR-TONE" REG. U.S. PAT. OFF. C.P. JOHNSTON CO. SEATTLE WASH.

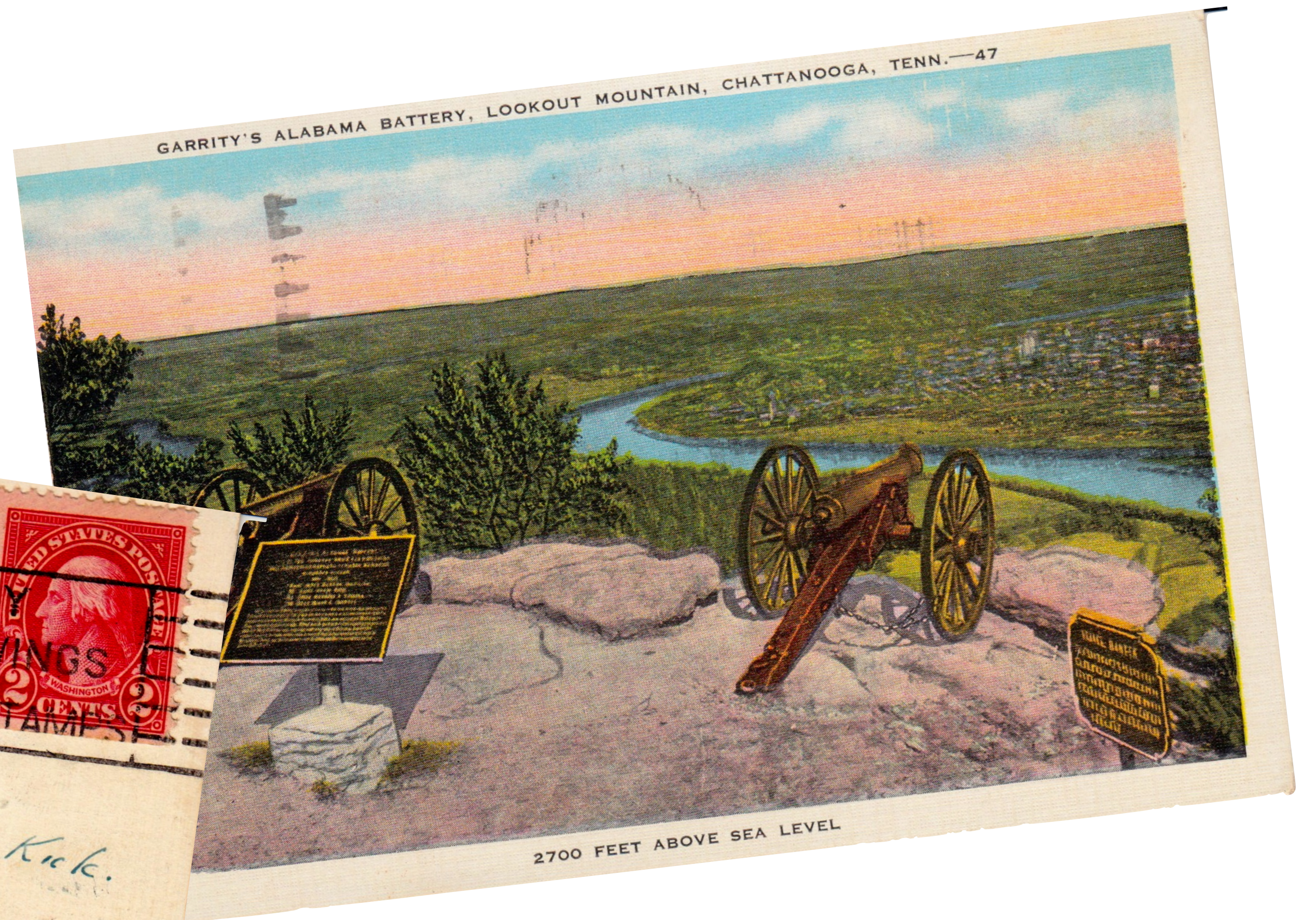


Harold 1943



Kick family artifact courtesy of Harold Kick

Carl 1943



GARRITY'S ALABAMA BATTERY,
LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN, TENN.
2,700 Feet Above Sea Level.

This Battery was placed on Lookout Mountain Nov. 24, 1863, facing the Union Army in the plateau below, guarding the heights of Lookout Mountain.

5825

CHATTANOOGA, TENN. AUG 13 11 PM 1943

POST CARD AND STAMPS

BUY WAR SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

2 CENTS

BY E. C. KROPP CO., MILWAUKEE, WIS. (JUL)

Dear Mother,

Just stopping here on way to manovers. My new address for a while will be.

LT. CARL W. KICK
N/5 Co. 294th Engr. (C) Bn.
A. P. O. 402 Postmaster
Nashville, Tennessee.

Getting along fine. Will try to write when we arrive at new location. Say hello to every body. Will be pretty busy from now on.

Your son,
Carl

Mrs. George E. Kick.
Pine City, Minn.
R. F. D. # 4.



Glen 1943



Kick family artifact courtesy of Harold Kick

Harold 1943



Jefferson Barracks, established in 1826, is located just outside St. Louis, Mo. The post has a long history in military annals. At one time during the Civil War, General U. S. Grant headquartered here. It was only recently that the post became exclusively an Air Corps Replacement Training Center.

Post. Harold P. Kick 171
Lt D 1166 T.S. Sp
Jefferson Barracks, Mo

Dear Mother,
Will write as soon
as possible. Put in
6 hr. days. Not much
time to write.
Love
Harold

JEFFERSON BARRACKS, MO.
FEB 11
11:30 AM
U.S. PAID OFF.
U.S. AIR CORPS

POST CARD

PLACE
ONE CENT
STAMP
HERE

Mrs. Geo E. Kick
Pine City, Minn

GENUINE CURTEICH-CHICAGO "C.T. ART-COLORTONE" POST CARD (REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.)

Kick family artifact courtesy of Harold Kick

Over sixty men and women from the Pine City Area served as commissioned officers in WWII.

Lt. Col. A.K. Stratte	Army	Lt. Charles Schmidt	Marines
Lt. Col. C.R. Boo	Army	1/Lt.. Everett Stelzner	Army
Lt. Col. John Roberts	Air Force	1/Lt. Robert Therrien	Air Force
Maj. Eben Gillespie	Air Force	1/Lt. Robert Hejny	Air Force
Maj. E.McEachern	Army	1/Lt. John Grover	Air Force
Lt. Co. R.G.Johnson	Navy	1/Lt. Harold Kick	Air Force
Capt. Carl W. Kick	Army	1/Lt. Clark Foster	Army
Capt. Everett Johnson	Army	1/Lt. Wallace D'Aoust	Air Force
Capt. James Engel	Army	1/Lt. Ben Boo	Air Force
Capt. Robert Swafford	Air Force	1/Lt. Earl Nelson	Air Force
Capt. David Hall	Air Force	1/Lt. George Lutz	Army
Capt. Kenneth LaTourelle	Air Force	1/Lt. William Syzmonik	Army
Capt. Theodore Buselmeir	Army	Lt. George Herman	Army
Capt. Everett Walters	Army	Lt. Clifford Perkins	Marines
Capt. Vernon Lange	Air Force	Lt. George Serbin	Navy
Lt. Willard Roberts	Navy	Lt. Sidney Boreen	Army
Lt. Robert Roberts	Navy	Lt. Charles Woehrle	Air Force

Commissioned officers in WWII continued....

F/O Morris Milgrom	Army	Ens. Harriet Wilcox	Navy
Lt. Albert Milgrom	Army	Lt. Verna Sherman	Army
Lt. John Sauser	Marines	Lt. Frank Koksma	Army
Lt. Duane Glasow	Navy	Lt. Robert Wilson	Army
Lt. Robert Dickenson	Navy	Lt. Garfield Christopher	Navy
Lt. Ivan Behrendt	Navy	Lt. Haslum McKusick	Army
Lt Rollis Odendahl	Air Force	Ens. Albert Oman	Navy
Lt. Emil Gardner	Army	F/O Elmer Ziegler	Air Force
Lt. Harold Letho	Army	Ens. George Saunders	Navy
Ens. Orville Thorson	Navy	Lt. Kenneth Wiedemann	Air Force
Lt. John Berg	Army	Lt. Eleanore Wiedemann	WAC
Lt. Edward Peterson	Air Force	F/O Reuben Nordstrom	Air Force
Lt. Roger Gottry	Navy	Lt. Ivan Holland	Marines
Lt. Ralph Teich	Army	Lt. Chester Johnson	Army
Ens. Marlin McNeal	Navy		
Lt. Hal Harrison	Air Force		
Lt. Robert Cherrier	Marines		

This information is courtesy of Harold Kick It comes from his book, "Chinese Laundry" an account of his World War II experience.

Women were relatively new to the armed services in 1942. Women volunteered, they were not drafted. Harold Kick's research for his book "Chinese Laundry" found 32 Pine City women who volunteered for service in WWII.

1st Lt. Elenore Wiedemann	Air Force	Audrey Eng	Audry Lindquist
Lt. Irene Nordstrom		Leona Grothe	Elsie Martinson
Lt. Harriet Wilcox	Navy	Mary Beth Gustafson	Helen Martinson
Lt. Verna Sherman	Nurse	Betty Hall	Ruth Nelson
Sgt. Margaret Rolph	Air Force	Myrtle Hanson	Orale Rassmussen
Margaret Ingram	Army	Lila Hinze	Alice Shuey
Denice Rawley	Air Force	Joan Huber	Lorraine Stumne
Margery Stratte	Nurse Cadet	Louise Jewell	Helen Swenson
Doris Sommer	Navy	Dorene Johnson	Elenore Thiry
Virginia Bede		Martha Kubat	Patricia Wenborg
		Dorothy Lentz	

Thirty Pine City Area men were killed while in military service during WWII. Nation wide statistics would indicate a community the size of Pine City should expect to have a loss of twelve or thirteen.

*This information and the accompanying photos are also courtesy of Harold Kick
They come from his book, "Chinese Laundry" an account of
Harold's World War II experience.*



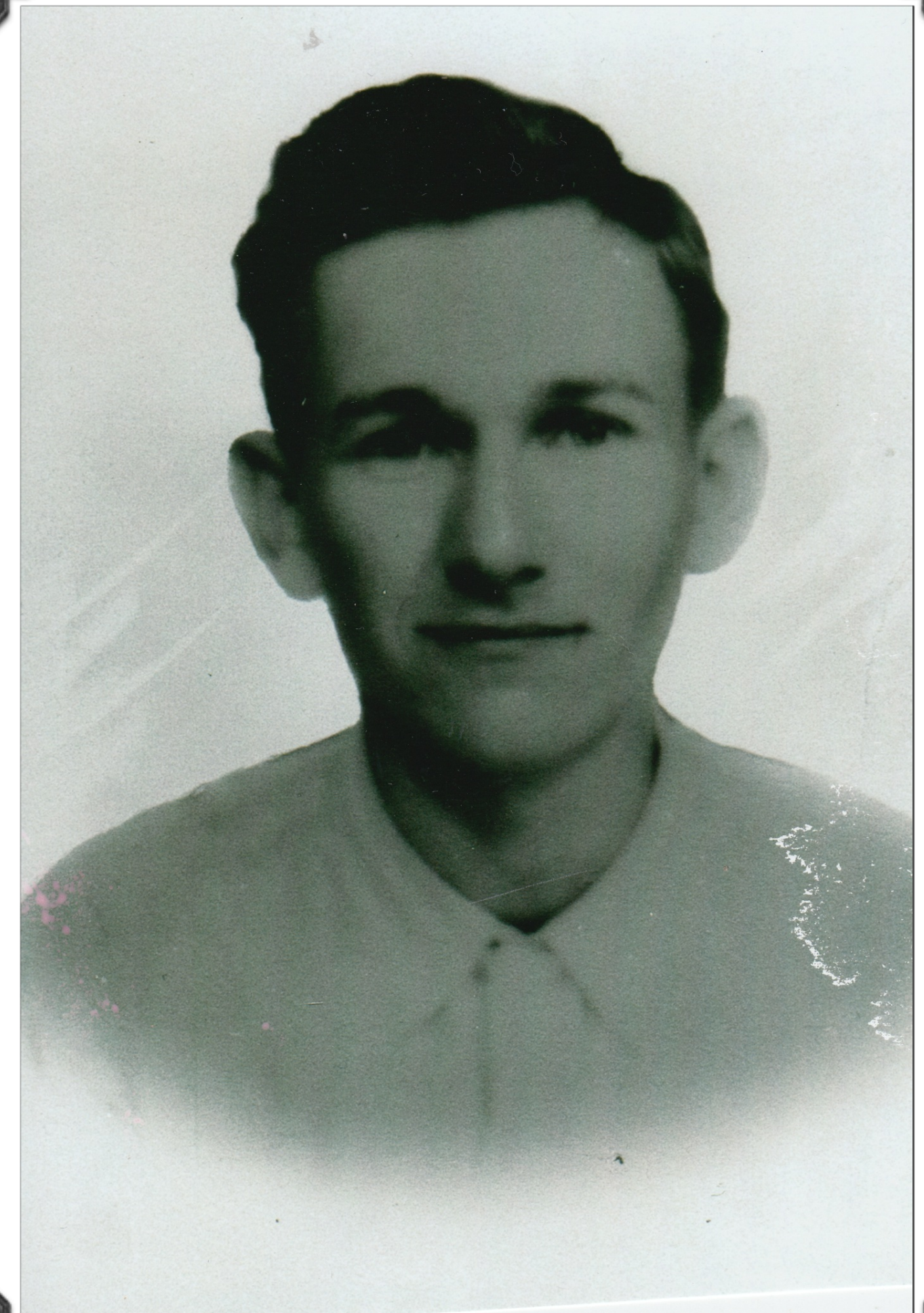
Pine City Area History Association

*Photo
Unavailable*

Gerald Corrigan
US Navy
Killed August 1942



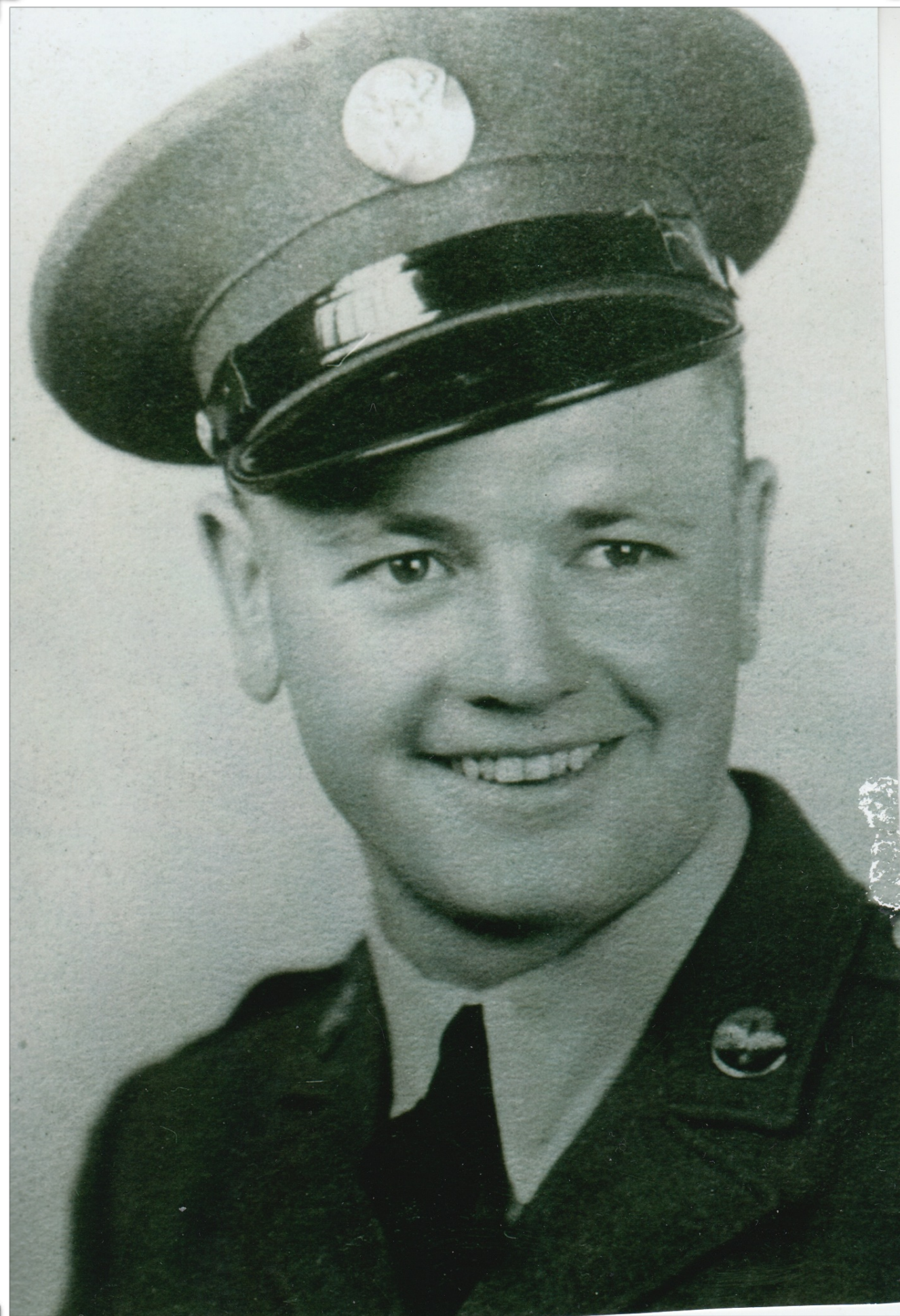
Anthony Rode
US Army
Killed August 6, 1942



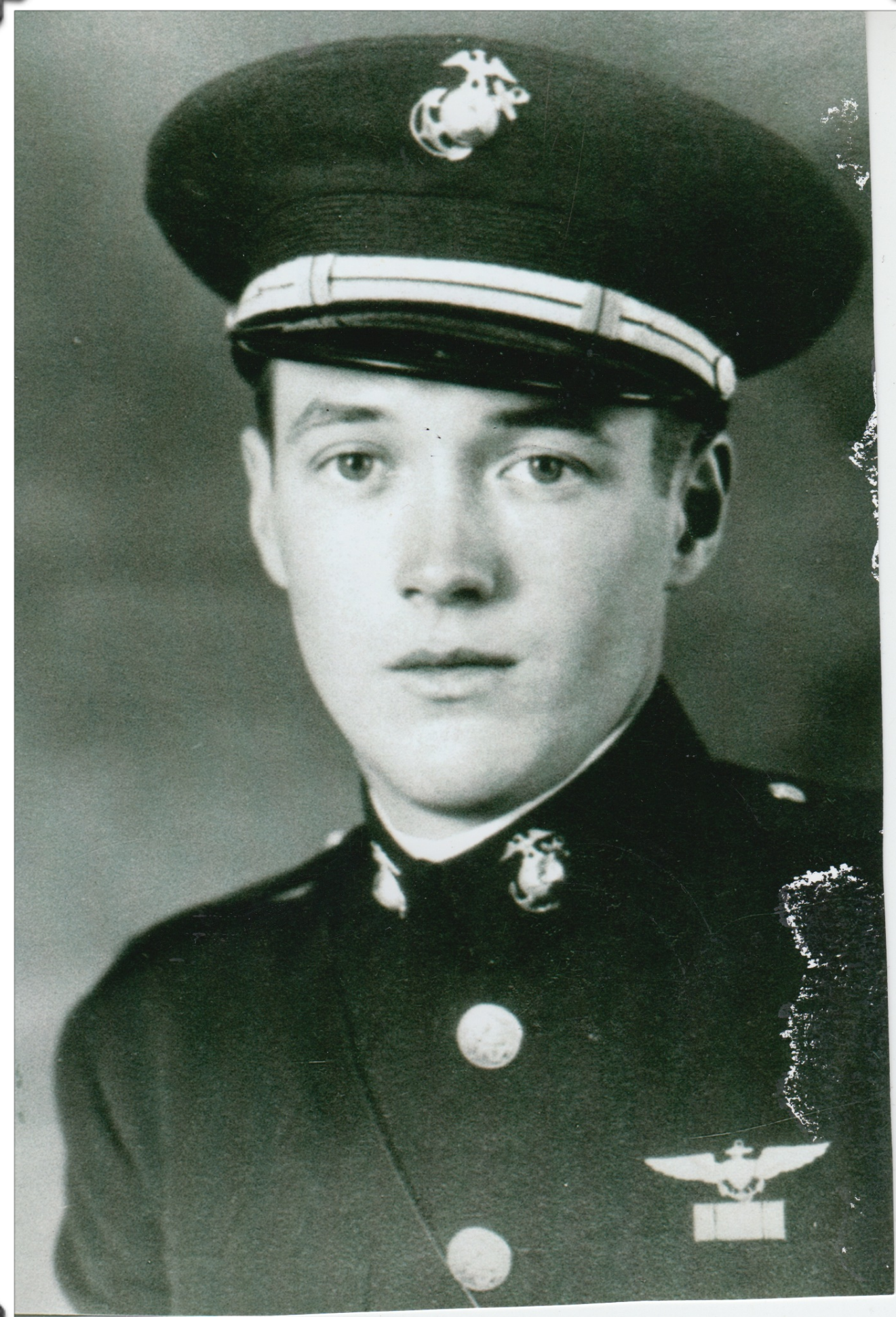
William Osman
US Army
Killed August 30, 1942



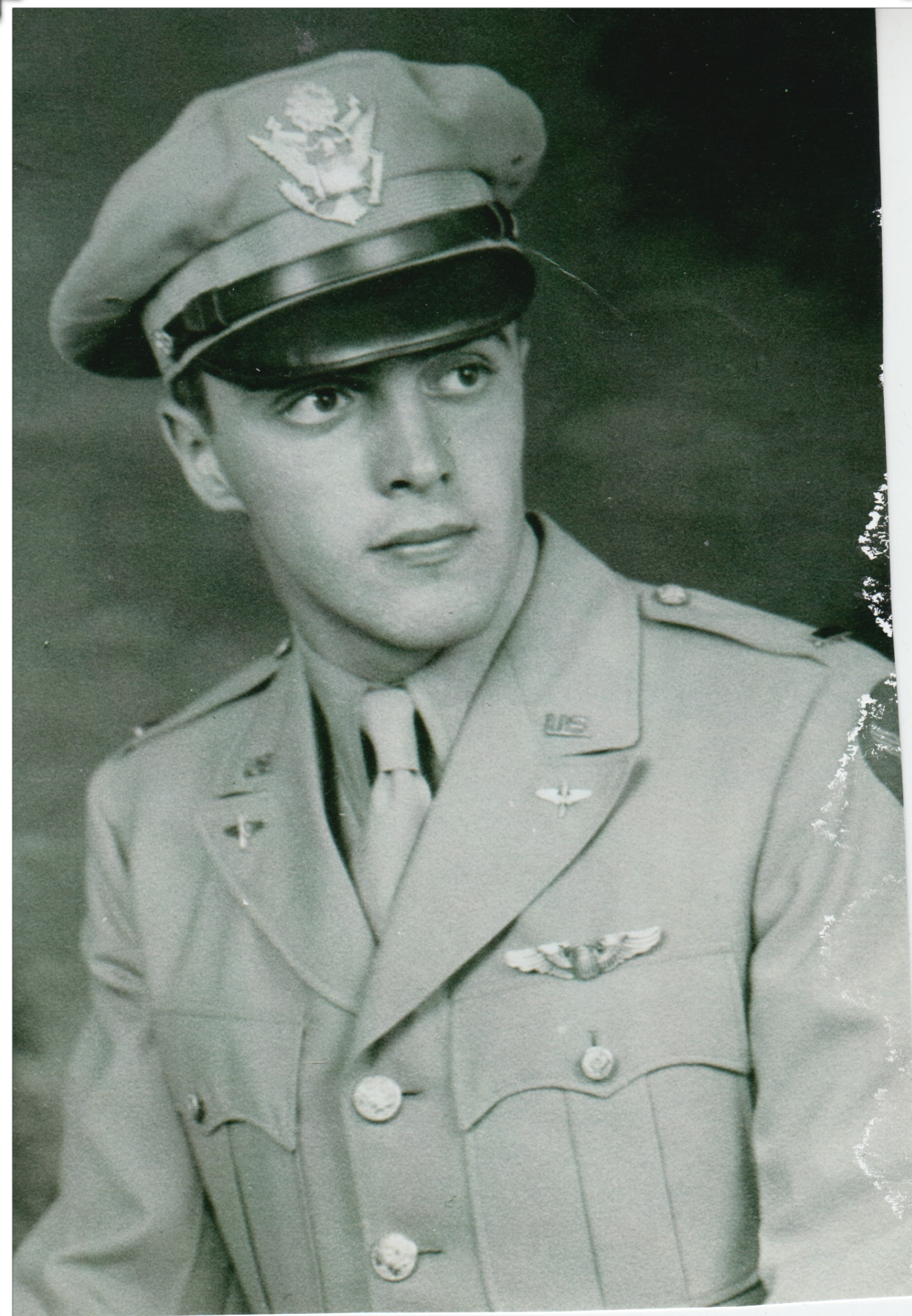
Russell Milliren
US Navy
Killed November 15, 1942



Dean Swenson
US Army Air Force
Killed February 24, 1943



Clifford Perkins Jr.
US Marines
Killed May 19, 1943



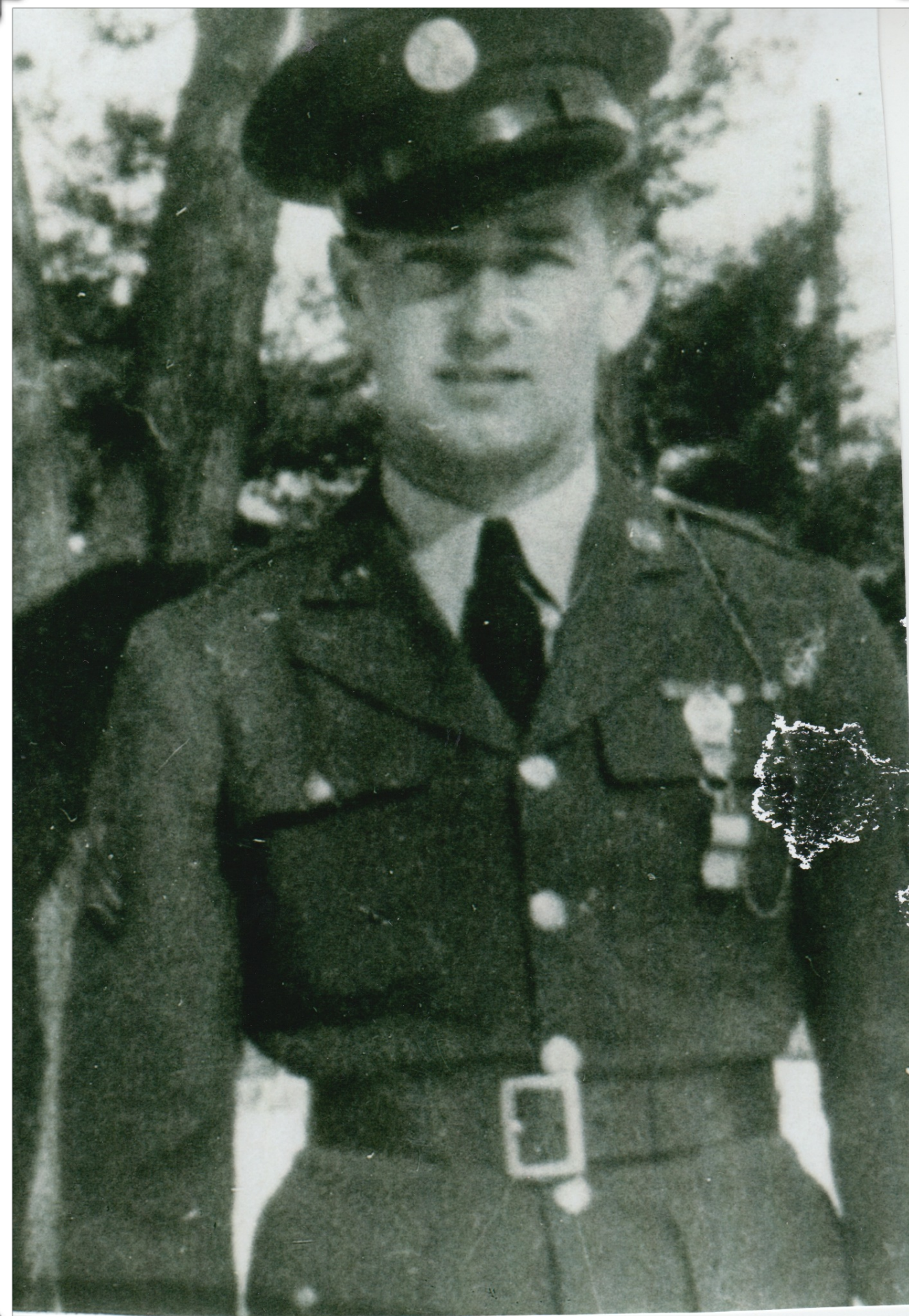
Wallace D'Aoust
US Army Air Force
Lost November 5, 1943



John Sauser
US Marines
Killed November 23, 1943



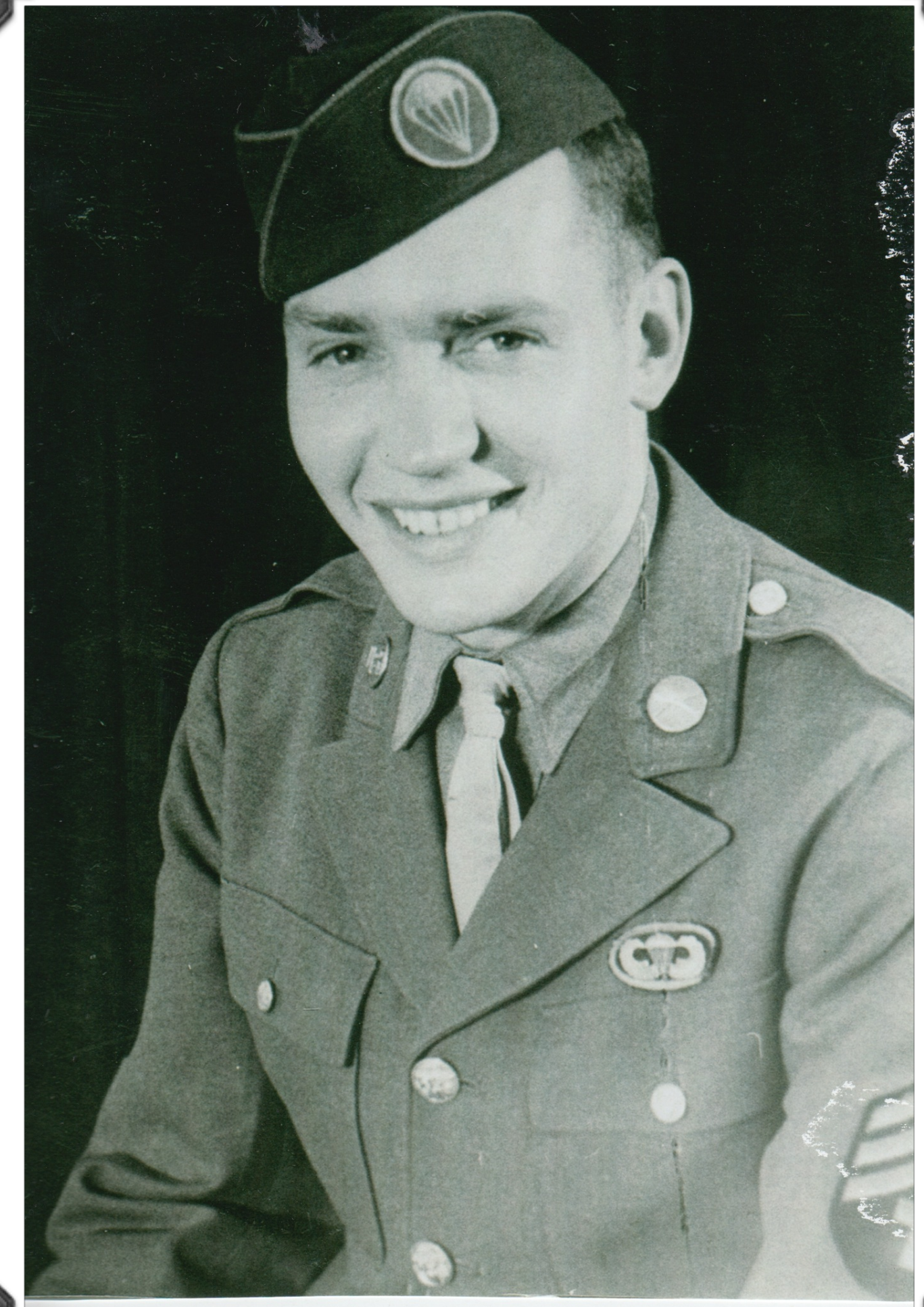
Lawrence Atkinson
US Army
Killed January 21, 1944



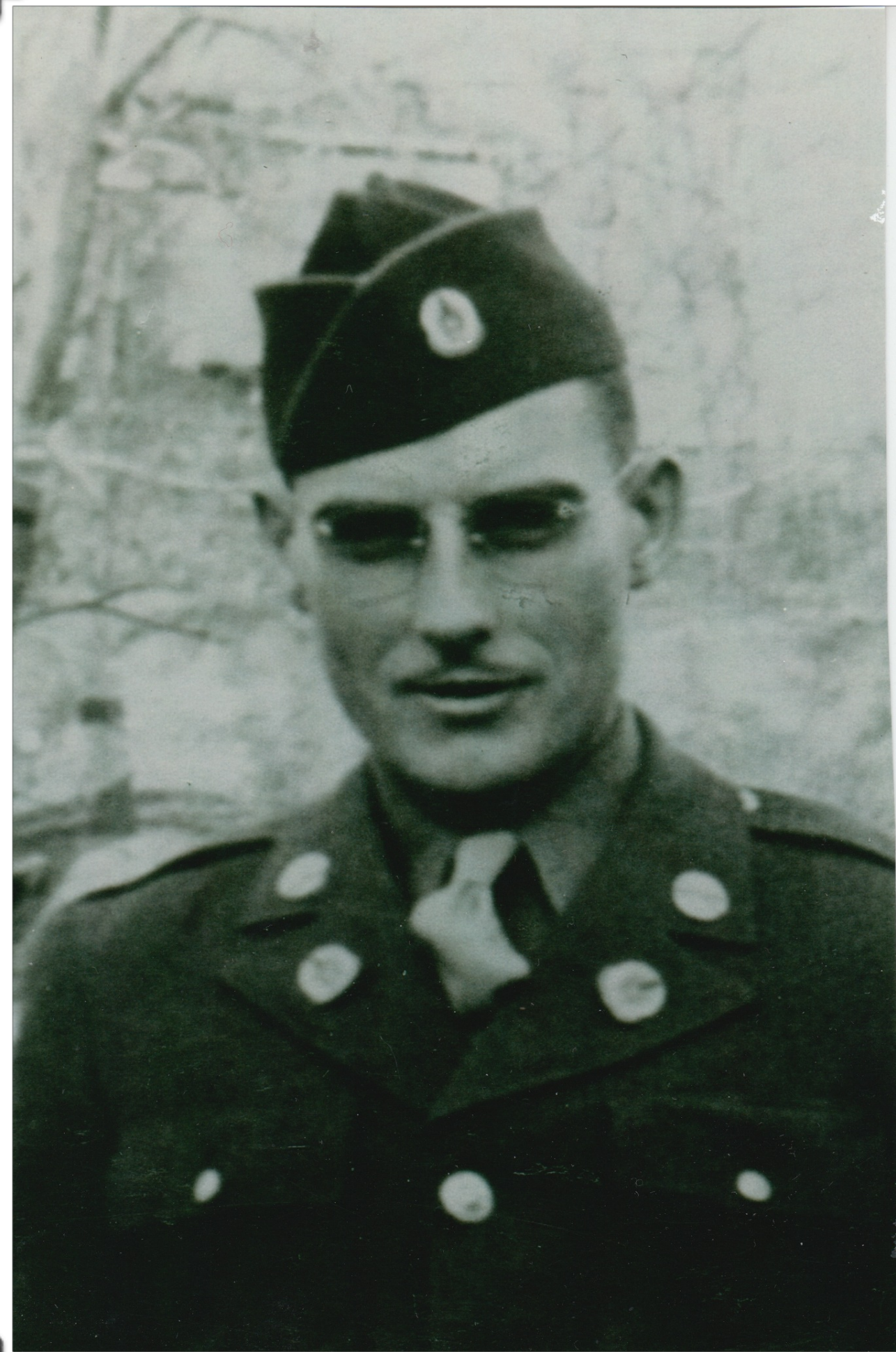
Kenneth Wilson
US Army
Killed May 24, 1944



Stanley Jacobson
US Army
Killed June 24, 1944



Burton Thore
US Army
Killed July 7, 1944



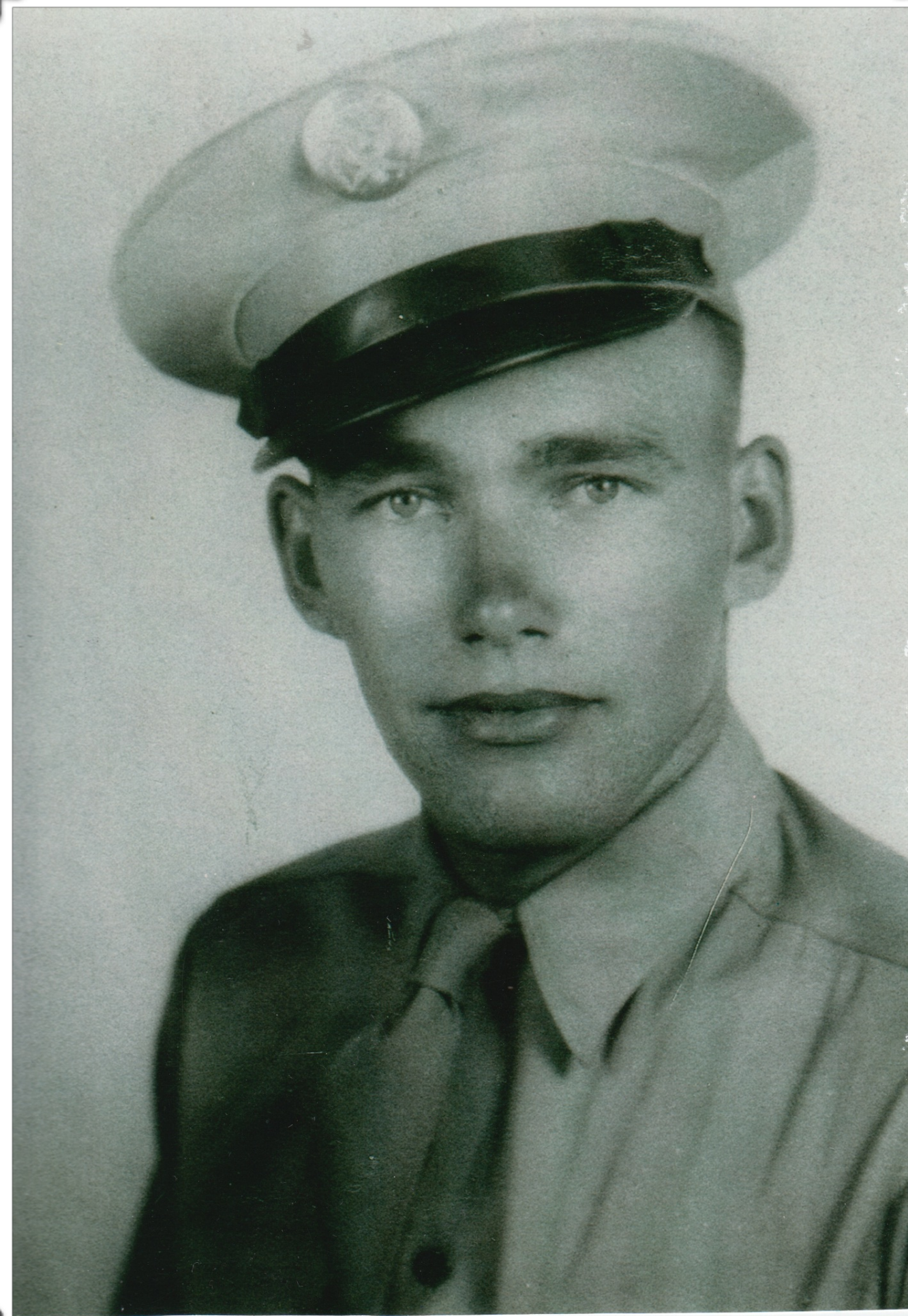
Clifford Seedorf
US Army
Killed July 14, 1944



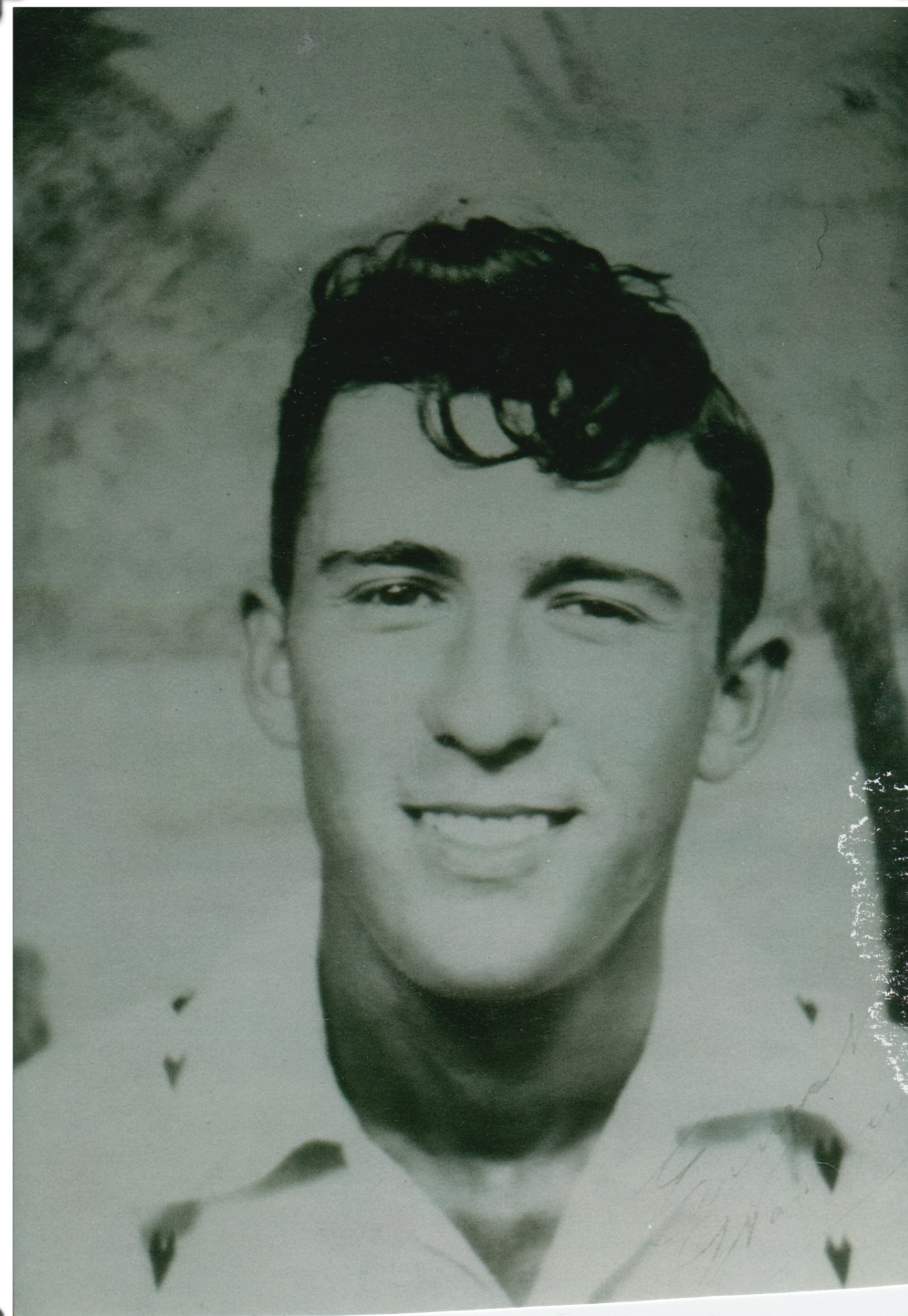
Vernon Nelson
US Marines
Killed August 1944



Carl Purdy
US Army
Killed September 20, 1944



Dean Trippler
US Army Air Force
Killed November 1944



Ernest Wanous
US Navy
Killed December 13, 1944



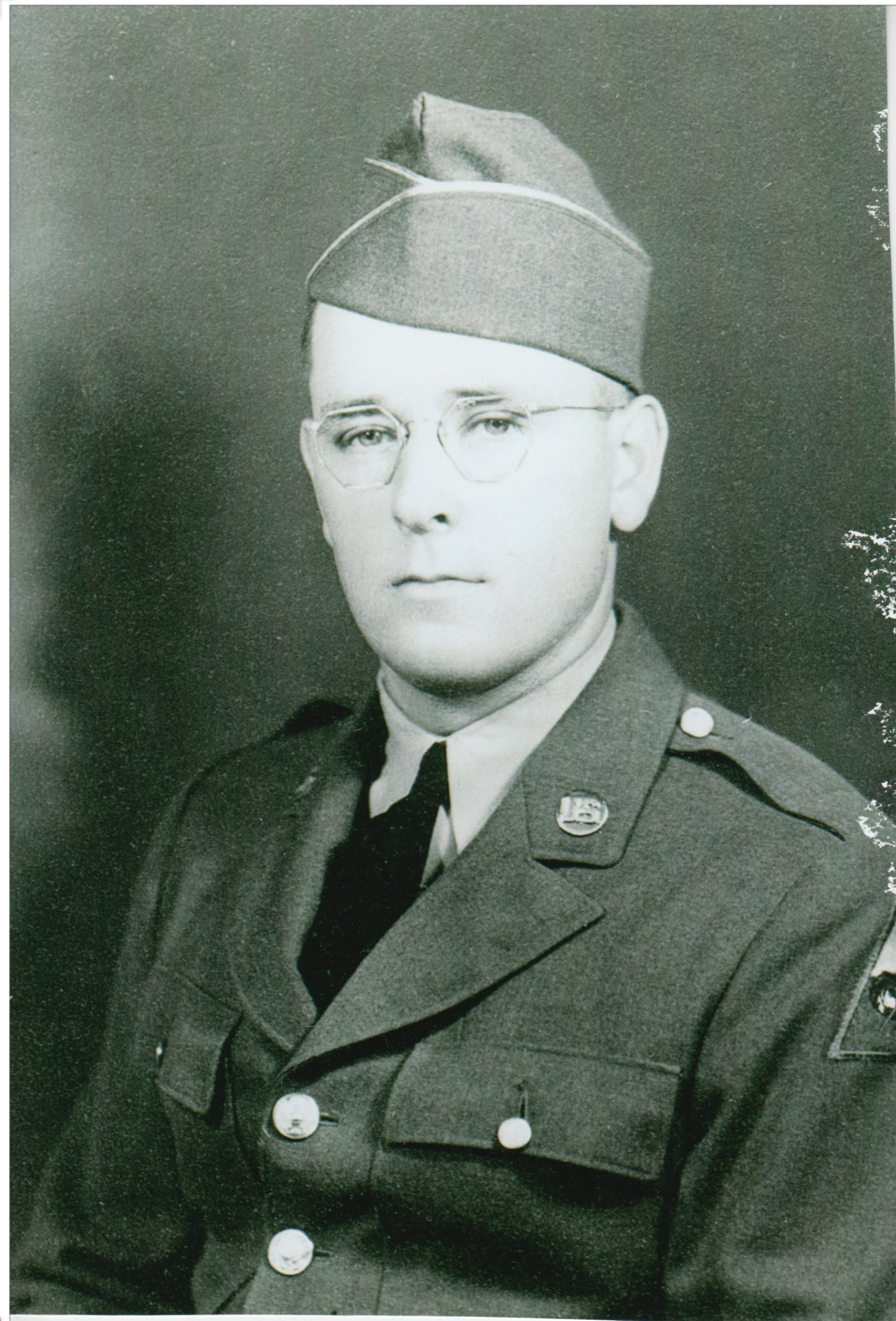
Pine City Area History Association

*Photo
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Melvin Peter
US Army
Killed December 13, 1944

*Photo
Unavailable*

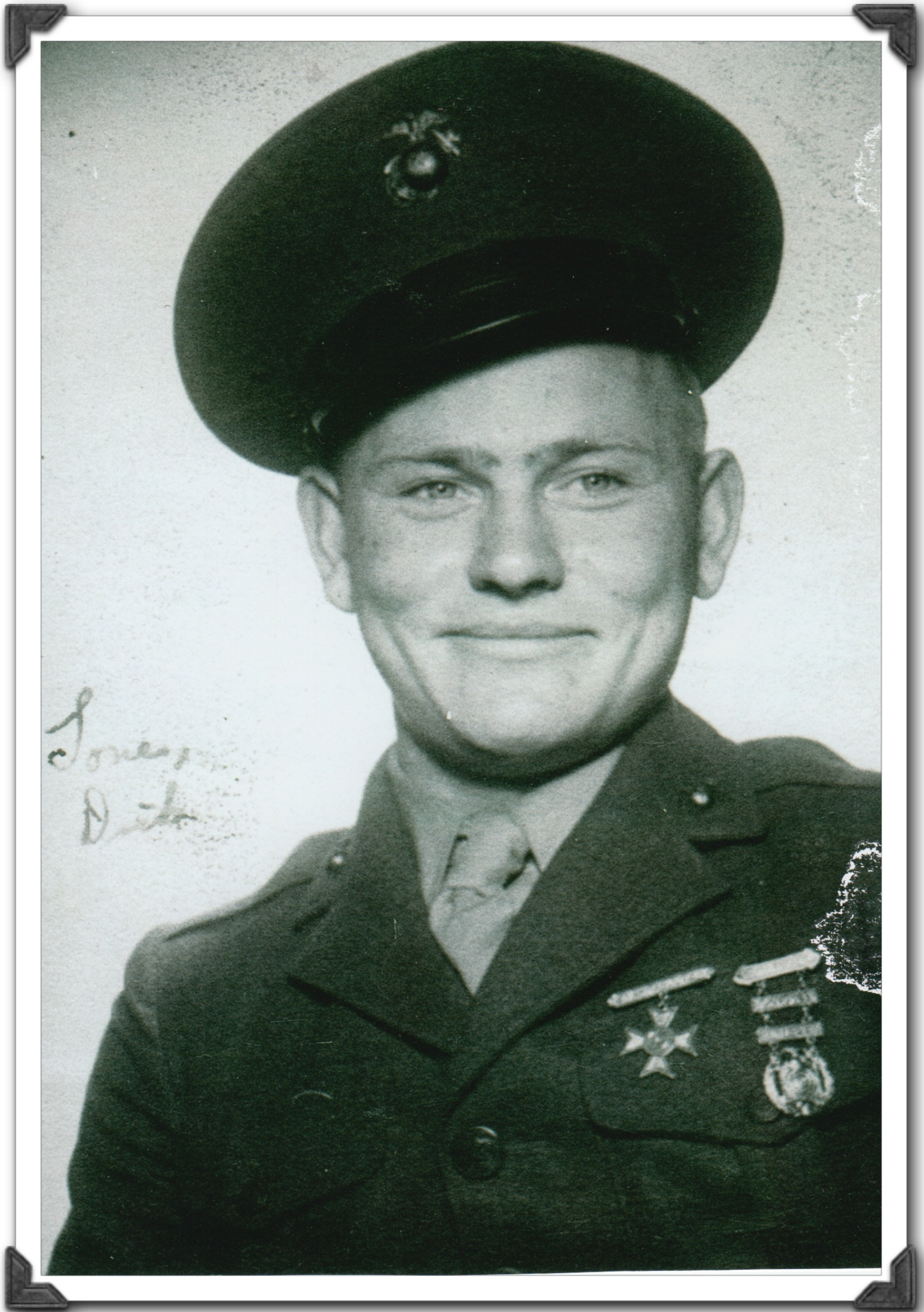
Gerald Pepin
US Army
Killed January 11, 1945



Ervin Miller
US Army
Killed January 11, 1945



Orville Thorson
US Navy
Killed February 10, 1945



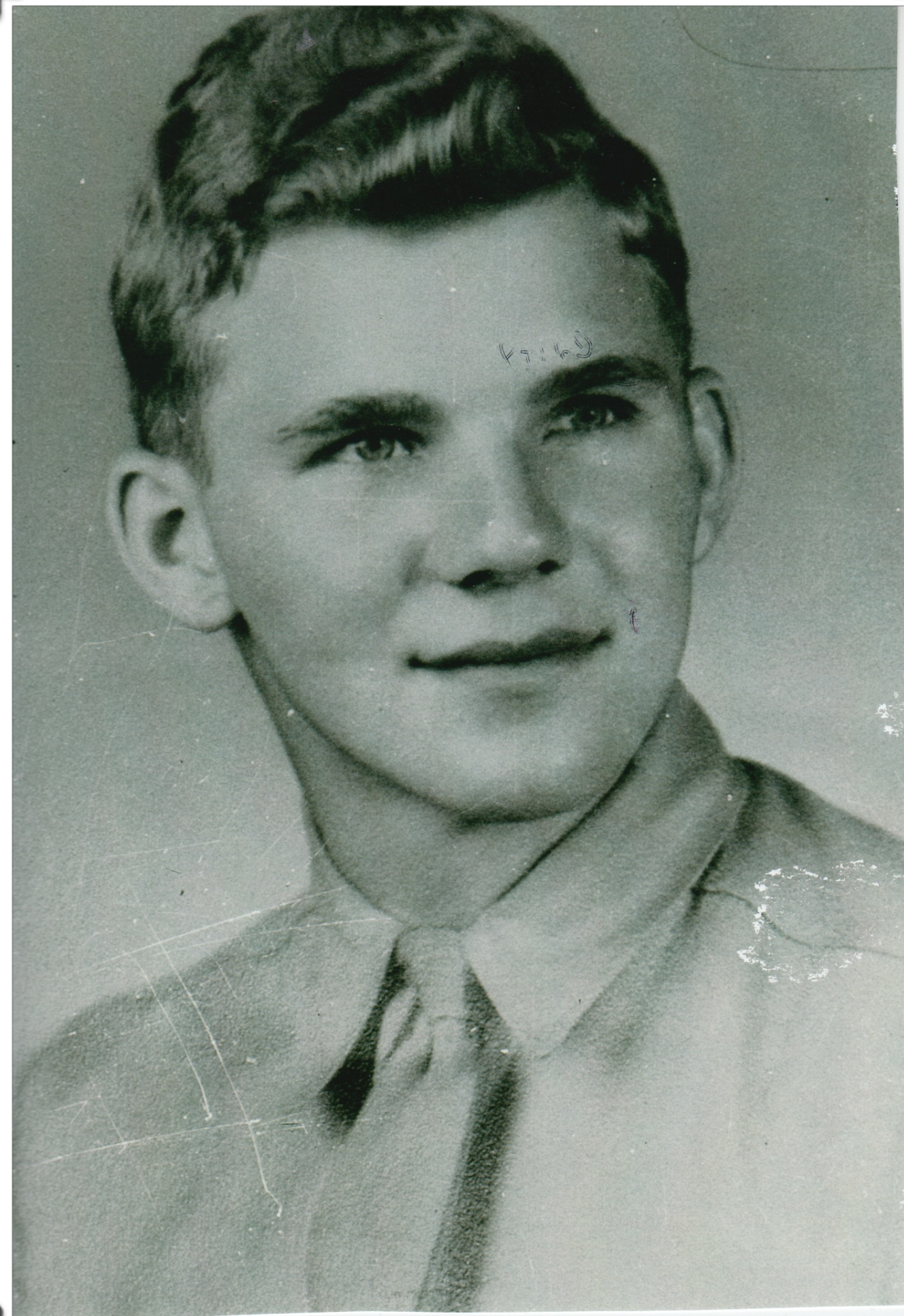
Richard France
US Marines
Killed March 3, 1945



Neal Goodrich
US Army
Killed March 25, 1945



Duane Schwartzwald
US Navy
Killed April 8, 1945



Richard Petersen
US Army Air Corps
Killed April 10, 1945



*Photo
Unavailable*

Lloyd Gorman
US Army
Killed April 14, 1945



Gerald Michael
US Army Air Corps
Killed May 24, 1945

*Photo
Unavailable*

Floyd Rypkema
US Navy
Killed June 30, 1945

*Photo
Unavailable*

Elmer Ziegler
US Army Air Force
Killed July 10, 1945



Walter Holms
US Navy
Killed September 16, 1945

Pine City &
World War II

Thank you to all the people who contributed photos, artifacts and information.

A special thank you to The Pine City Pioneer, Harold Kick, Darcy Meier Pinotti, Jim Foster, the family of Edward Roubinek & Margery Stratte Swanson.

*Do you have something we could add to this exhibit?
We would love to hear from you.*



Compiled in 2014 by Judy Scholin as a local history project in cooperation with

Pine City Area History Association