

★ ★ With the Armed Forces ★ ★

SEVERAL UNIVERSITY alumni previously reported missing in action in the Philippines last month were announced by the War Department as Japanese prisoners of war. Some of the men are believed to be interned in prison camps set up in the Philippines.

Prisoners of war include Maj. Dale J. Kinnee, '25ba, former Woodward newspaper man and graduate of West Point; Maj. Charles Miller, '27geol, Henryetta, member of the Army Air Forces since 1934; Maj. Carlos E. McAfee, '28law, former Oklahoma City attorney; Lt. Fred P. LaBoon, '39eng, Chickasha; Lt. William T. Howell, '39speech, former state politician from Woodward; Lt. George Verity, '37law, McLoud; Lt. Richard Duckwall, '34-'40, Tuttle; Lt. Glenn Rice, '39bus, Denton, Texas; and H. J. Bussey, '40-'41, soldier from Quapaw.

► Official recognition for heroism and achievement in battle last month was bestowed on Sooners with the armed forces on scattered fighting fronts. Maj. Herbert B. Shields, Jr., '37med, Enid, was awarded the Silver Star for heroism during a Japanese bombing of the New Guinea hospital to which he was attached. Major Shields and eight other Medical corps officers stayed at their posts and continued caring for wounded during a heavy raid by enemy planes.

► Lt. Amos Battenfield, '41journ, bomber pilot from Chickasha, was decorated with an Air Medal on New Year's Day for heroism in action over enemy territory in the Pacific area.

► Capt. Lloyd W. Taylor, '41med, Hugo, was awarded the Silver Star for having "accomplished wonders despite raids and primitive working conditions" in the New Guinea battle zone. Captain Taylor was assistant to Maj. Lemuel E. Day, Chicago, chief surgeon with American forces on Papua who died of heart trouble following grueling weeks of work under fire and bombing attack. Dispatches from the front, describing Major Day as one of the most respected men on the island, reported that his last words were spoken to Captain Taylor. The young medical officer, went overseas last summer, spent two months in Australia and was sent to New Guinea in October.

► Lt. Beecher Snipes, '32-'37, Waurika, was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism in air assaults against Japanese in the Aleutians. The presentation was made at Jacksonville, Florida, following Lieutenant Snipes' return from several months of service in the Alaskan area.

► Capt. Leonard L. Billingsley, '41eng,

Mutual, Oklahoma, received the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism with the Army Air Forces on the North African front. Captain Billingsley and 48 other Air Force members were decorated according to an Associated Press dispatch

How Sooners Serve

ARMY	
Privates	361
Corporals	73
Sergeants	119
Warrant Officers	24
Cadets	175
Lieutenants	1,663
Captains	582
Majors	215
Lieutenant Colonels	53
Colonels	10
Brigadier Generals	2
Major General	1
WAACS	32
TOTAL	3,310
NAVY	
Seamen	164
Petty Officers	34
Cadets	63
Ensigns	199
Lieutenants	129
Lieutenant Commanders	21
Commander	1
Captain	1
WAVES	17
TOTAL	629
MARINES	
Privates	13
Sergeant	1
Cadet	1
Lieutenants	15
Captains	5
Majors	2
Lieutenant Colonel	1
Colonel	1
TOTAL	39
COAST GUARD	
Seamen	27
Petty Officers	4
Ensign	1
TOTAL	33
GRAND TOTAL	4,011

"on wind-swept desert air fields strewn with the wreckage of axis planes."

► Capt. James Bruce Morehead, '38, Washington, Oklahoma, received a Silver Star for gallantry in action over Darwin, Australia, last August in aerial combat against the Japanese. He also holds the Distinguished Service Cross for heroism. Captain Morehead last month was dividing top honors for number of enemy planes downed in the Southwest Pacific with Capt. Andy Reynolds, '40, Seminole. Both are pilots with the Army Air Forces.

► Lt. Euel A. Travis, '40ed, former Indianola teacher, was awarded the Silver

Star for gallantry in action while participating in a bombing mission against shipping at Rabaul harbor. Lieutenant Travis, navigator on a bomber, manned a machine gun and his accurate fire warded off Japanese planes, contributing much to the success of the bombing raid.

► Casualties among Sooners in service last month included Pfc. Jesse B. Mitchell, '40-'41, Shidler, who was killed when the jeep in which he and three other Marines were riding collided with an automobile. The accident occurred near Camp Elliott, California, where Private Mitchell was assigned as radioman and gunner with a Marine bombing squadron. He was a freshman in the College of Arts and Sciences while attending the University. Survivors include his mother, Mrs. Katherine M. Mitchell of Shidler.

► Sgt. William Burroughs Thompson, '41eng, Shawnee, was reported killed in action on the European front in a casualty list issued by the War Department. Sergeant Thompson was a graduate trainee with the Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company before entering service. At the University he was a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Thompson of Shawnee.

► Lt. Gene Neville, '35, Oklahoma City, was reported killed in action during a mission over occupied France last September according to a War Department telegram received January 18 by his mother in Oklahoma City. Lieutenant Neville, former copy boy for the *Daily Oklahoman*, was previously reported missing by English authorities. He was a pilot officer with the Royal Air Force until his transfer ten days before his death to service with the U. S. Air Forces.

► Lt. Samuel E. Kelly, '40bus, Oklahoma City, who landed with the first American forces in North Africa, was reported killed in action on the African front. He was presumed to have been serving as bombardier, aerial gunner or observer with the Army Air Forces to which he transferred after having received his commission in Field Artillery. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Kelly, live in Altus.

► Lt. S. B. (Andy) Anderson, Jr., '41, who was 20 years old on the day Pearl Harbor was attacked, was reported missing in action on the European front. Lieutenant Anderson joined the Army Air Forces early in 1942 and was sent overseas last October. While attending high school in Oklahoma City and the University, he participated in sports, principally golf and football. Survivors include his father, Capt. S. B. Anderson,



CONDUCTS FIRST RITES

Lt. Phineas Casady, '29ba, Army chaplain, conducted funeral services for the first American dead in the African campaign in a cemetery at Fedhala, French Morocco.



ALUMNAE IN NAVY

Among the first to receive commissions in the WAVES were (left) Ensign Marya Welch, '37phys.ed, Guthrie, and Ensign Mary Louise McElwee, '38phys.ed, Oklahoma City.



AWARDED MEDAL

Bomber pilot in the Pacific area, Lt. Amos Battenfield, '41journ, was decorated on New Year's Day with the Army's new Air Medal for meritorious action against the enemy.

who was on duty at Corpus Christi, Texas.

► Maj. Raymond S. Morse, '33-'37, Elk City, has been reported missing in action with the Army Air Forces in the South Pacific. Major Morse, formerly stationed in Hawaii, held the Silver Star which he was awarded after leading an Army photographic mission over the Gilbert Islands a year ago. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. G. V. Morse of Elk City.

► Capt. Duane L. Jones, '35-'40, bomber pilot with the American forces in England, was reported missing in action over Europe. Former Okmulgee resident, Captain Jones was an outstanding trackman while attending the University. His wife lives in Pendleton, Oregon, and his parents in Wichita, Kansas.

► Lt. Orville S. Witt, '38-'40, member of the Army Air Forces from Oklahoma City, has been missing in action over France as of December 20 according to a War Department communication to parents. He received his wings a year ago at Luke Field, Arizona, and went on overseas duty in October. His parents are Dr. and Mrs. O. S. Witt of Oklahoma City.

► Sgt. Jimmie M. Nayfa, '38-'39, Oklahoma City, has been reported missing in action in the Southwest Pacific by the War Department. Sergeant Nayfa, who enlisted before war was declared, was a member of the Army Air Forces.

► James Jackson Jones, '39journ, former Madill resident, was believed to be missing in action in the Philippines. Mr. Jones enlisted in the Coast Artillery and was stationed at Fort Stotsenburg near Manila

before hostilities began. While attending the University he was employed as a printer-pressman in the shop of student publications and had worked for various Oklahoma newspapers. After graduation he was employed for a time on the *Daily News-Sun* in Hobbs, New Mexico.

► Lt. Robert I. Van Horn, '37-'39, Tulsa, was one of five crew members killed when a four-motored Army bomber crashed January 15 in a takeoff at the Smoky Hill Air Base near Salina, Kansas. The plane,



IT'S CAPTAIN ASHBY NOW
Commanding officer of a WAAC company at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, Capt. Hannah Ashby, '37ed, former Norman teacher, recently received a double promotion from third to first officer in the Women's Army.

starting a routine training flight, crashed and burned on the runway. Lieutenant Van Horn was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity at the University. His father is H. V. Van Horn of Tulsa.

► Sgt. Roland B. Close, '40, Norman, escaped uninjured in a freak accident January 1 which caused the death of another airplane mechanic at Will Rogers Field near Oklahoma City. The two men were driving a small tractor across a runway after adjusting some flares when an incoming plane struck the vehicle. Sergeant Close saw the plane in time to jump from the tractor without injury. The driver of the tractor, Sgt. Antonio Matonti, of Bronx, New York, died instantly.

► Clyde L. Schenck, '33eng, Fort Worth, graduated as honor man of his class at the Naval Training Station at Great Lakes, Illinois, in January. Mr. Schenck enlisted as an apprentice seaman and was chosen to go to the school after taking a series of aptitude tests. He was formerly an engineer with the Texas Electric Service Company in Fort Worth.

► Lt. Com. George England, '39law, Ponca City, now on the teaching staff of the Midshipmen's School in New York City, recently returned to the United States after participating in raids on the Gilbert and Marshall Islands, Tulagi, and battles of the Coral Sea and Midway.

► Lt. Com. William N. New, '34med, former Guthrie physician now chief surgeon with a Marine group on Guadalcanal, credited powdered blood plasma with saving lives of many wounded soldiers in an Associated Press dispatch from the battlefield where he was stationed.