

★ ★ With the Armed Forces ★ ★

THE FOURTH INFANTRY Division, commanded by Maj. Gen. Raymond O. Barton, '07, Ada, was reported among American units closing in last month on the German homeland.

This division was one of three units which led the Allied breakthrough west of St. Lo and fought its way into Paris with the Second French Armored Division. General Barton directed the St. Lo fighting from a farmhouse on a French widow's farm.

After entering Paris, the Fourth then pushed on to the east and participated in the attack on the Siegfried line. General Barton's men landed in Normandy on D-Day and took part in the capture of Cherbourg.

► Col. E. H. (Bud) Larecy, '26, G-4 officer who was recently promoted to his present rank, was with the Seventh Army in the Southern France invasion and in the advance last month north of Belfort.

In a letter to his family in Norman he wrote, "It is really a sight to see the Americans go in the towns. The people just go mad. Old men and women, kids of all ages line the roads and streets, yelling and clapping their hands, passing out wine, and the soldiers throwing cigarettes and C rations out of the trucks."

He describes France as "really a beautiful country." The Riviera where they landed reminded him of Southern California, with resorts and mountains running down to the sea. He compared the rolling, velvety-green farm land to a very well kept golf course, with fat cattle, great Percheron horses, sheep and chickens. "The farmers grow food," Colonel Larecy wrote. "It's only in the towns that the people are hungry."

► Capt. James O. Stinnett, '36-'38, Cushing, is S-2 officer with a Combat Engineers battalion advancing into Germany. A former student in the College of Fine Arts at the University, Captain Stinnett ran into Barre Hill, professor of music on leave for military service, at a concert of the London Symphony in Liverpool before he left for action on the continent.

► Among American troops which advanced 125 miles north to Grenoble in eight days after the Southern France landing was the 179th Infantry, a unit of the 45th Division composed largely of Oklahomans.

The regiment first went into action in Sicily and landed at Salerno a year later, spending 66 days in combat on the Italian front. The 179th was participating in the march on Rome before transfer to the French front.

► Unarmed and injured, Capt. John Y. Battenfield, '37med, formerly with the

State Health Department in Oklahoma City, captured the entire staff of a German hospital after he landed with paratroopers in Southern France on the day of the invasion.

While wandering around lost, Captain Battenfield entered a town held by German medical troops who promptly surrendered and turned the hospital over to him for the care of wounded French civilians. One of the officer's ribs was fractured when he landed, but he did not know it until the next day.

► Capt. A. V. Peoples, Jr., '40bus, Oklahoma City, formerly a prisoner of war in Bulgaria, was reported released and once again with Allied troops. A B-24 pilot, he had been missing in action since August 18 when he failed to return from a mission over Rumania.

Back From Battlefronts

Capt. Howard Hively, '37-'40, Omar, West Virginia, has returned to the United States after flying on more than 200 combat missions and shooting down 22 enemy planes in the European theater.

A Mustang Fighter pilot, Captain Hively is a member of the Royal Air Force Eagle Squadron of American fliers which began operations before the United States entered the war and later transferred to the U. S. Army Air Force. He recently was promoted to commanding officer of the famed squadron.



NO PIKER SHE
Marine Cpl. Marjorie Jackson, '42
phys.ed, teaches combat swimming at
the Marine Corps Air Station at
Mojave, California.

Among his collection of decorations are the Distinguished Service Cross, the Distinguished Flying Cross with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Air Medal with three Clusters, the British Star, two Presidential Citations, a Canadian Air Medal with one Cluster, and a Purple Heart.

► Lt. Col. Hugh A. Neal, '27bs, Bartlesville, has returned to the United States for treatment at Borden General Hospital in Chickasha after being wounded by an 88 mm. shell during the Italian campaign. He spent 81 days in a hospital in Naples. Colonel Neal was commanding officer of a Paratroop battalion which saw action in Sicily before going into Italy. When he was wounded his command was taken over by Maj. John Cooper, '36ba, Wewoka, who was injured later when the group went into Southern France.

► Lt. Col. Jack F. Morehead, '37med, Washington, Oklahoma, returned this fall from the South Pacific, where he commanded a 500-bed Army Hospital. The hospital was one of the first set up in Australia after the war started, and later moved up to the front. Colonel Morehead went overseas in February, 1942, after the hospital unit was activated at Fort George Meade, Maryland.

► Holder of an Air Medal with one silver and three bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, Lt. Patrick H. Watts, '36-'40, Waurika, has returned to this country from the South Pacific and was a patient in the Air Force convalescent hospital at Albuquerque, New Mexico. Lieutenant Watts, who was overseas for 21 months as a navigator-bombardier aboard a B-25, has been recommended for the Distinguished Flying Cross.

► Lt. Robert H. McKinney, '41bus, Enid, has returned to the United States after serving for 13 months in Alaska. Bombardier-navigator on a B-25 Mitchell, Lieutenant McKinney flew on 20 missions in the Northern Pacific. Upon his arrival in this country he was sent to the Army Air Force Redistribution Station in Miami Beach, Florida.

► Gordon W. Buffington, '41bs, Inola, Oklahoma, has returned to the United States after serving for 14 months in the Southwest Pacific as a pharmacist's mate first class. He took part in the Bougainville and Green Island campaigns. Upon his return he was stationed at the Marine Corps Air Station, Santa Ana, California.

► Comdr. D. G. Willard, '29med, former Norman physician and Naval medical officer who has been attached to a Marine combat unit in the South Pacific, was home on leave last month. He has seen action at Guadalcanal and in New Caledonia.

► Maj. Robert Cates, Jr., '39pharm, Atoka, was at home on leave this fall after being released from Ashford General Hospital at White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, where he was recuperated from wounds received at Anzio.

► Maj. J. C. Hamilton, Jr., '31-'32, Oklahoma City, was assigned to the Air Force Redistribution Station at Santa Monica, California, upon his return from the European theater, where he served for more than two years as a bomber pilot. He holds the Distinguished Flying Cross and an Air Medal with nine Oak Leaf Clusters.

► Lt. O. M. Murray, '40-'41, Norman, has returned to the United States after completing more than 71 missions as pilot of a Marauder bomber in the European theater. He holds the Air Medal with 14 Oak Leaf Clusters. Upon his arrival in this country he was assigned to the Air Forces Redistribution Station at Miami Beach, Florida.

► Capt. Sherrill W. White, '31ba, Oklahoma City, was assigned to duty at the Marine Corps Station, El Centro, California, shortly after he returned from the Southwest Pacific.

► Lt. Col. Jack Romerman, '40law, Oklahoma City and Dover, has returned to the United States after serving for more than two years as an Air Force intelligence officer in the European theater. He holds the Distinguished Service Cross, the Legion of Merit and the Order of the Purple Heart.

► Maj. John Browne, '39law, Oklahoma City, was in the United States this fall on a 30-day leave from his post at Teheran, Iran, where he has been stationed more than a year.

► Lt. R. J. Standerfer, '39, Shawnee, has returned from the Italian front where he was in action with the 45th Division. He was sent to the Army-Navy General Hospital at Hot Springs, Arkansas, before being assigned to a new post.

Decorations

Lt. Col. Merton E. Munson, '31law, Lawton, of the 90th Division, received the Silver Star for gallantry in action and devotion to duty with the Field Artillery in France.

While Colonel Munson's battalion was supporting the Infantry on July 3, important wire communications between an observation post and the fire direction center were cut. Under heavy enemy fire, he and a small wire crew went down the wire line to repair it and Colonel Munson went on to the observation post for a conference with the forward observer.

On this trip, Colonel Munson was severely wounded and had to be returned to a hospital. He left the hospital against medical advice, returning to his battalion and directing it in artillery fire which was instrumental in seizing important objectives in the sector.

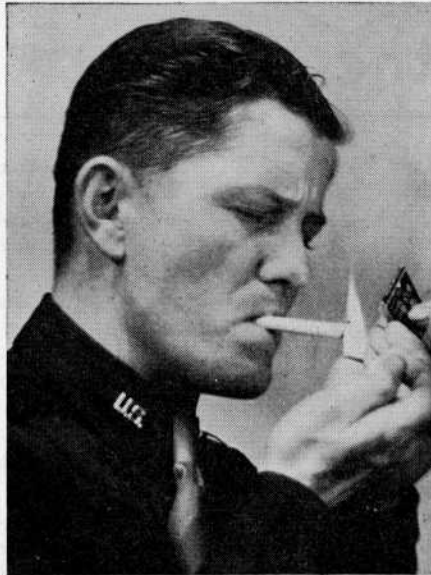
► Seven Oak Leaf Clusters have been added to the Air Medal held by Maj. Joseph H. Griffin, '38-'40, Pauls Valley, who also holds the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Veteran of the American Volunteer Group in China, Major Griffin was with the Ninth Air Force flying a plane named *Hellszappin II*, after the ship he flew in China. He took part in the assaults on Cherbourg, St. Lo and Falaise during the first stages of the French invasion.

► Sgt. Alan S. Cameron, '40letters, Oklahoma City, medical technician with a Liberator Bomber squadron of the 15th Air Force, has been awarded the Soldier's Medal for heroism in Italy.

At great personal risk, Sergeant Cameron removed several bodies from a burning Liberator after it crashed onto the air field and seconds before it exploded. He thus succeeded in saving the life of one man, a gunner.

► Lt. V. R. Young, Jr., '36-'40, Holdenville, has been decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross, a Presidential Unit Citation, and an Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters for his work with the 15th Air Force in the Mediterranean area. He recently returned to the United States after being overseas seven months and flying 51 missions as navigator aboard a B-17. Lieutenant Young enlisted in the Air Force in June, 1942,



FLEW WITH CHENNAULT

Veteran of General Chennault's American Volunteer Group in China, Maj. Joe Griffin has been flying with the Ninth Air Force.

and received his wings at Selman Field, Louisiana, in July, 1943.

► Lt. Robert E. Fraley, '38-'40, Oklahoma City, a B-17 bombardier who recently returned to the United States from the European theater of war, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and an Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters. He participated in the mass bombing attack of the continent on D-Day, and has 35 bombing missions to his credit, many of them over Germany. Lieutenant Fraley received his commission as a bombardier at Midland, Texas, in April, 1943.

► Lt. Simeon W. Hebert, '36-'40, Oklahoma City, has been awarded an Air Medal for sustained operational flights against the Japanese in the Southwest Pacific.

► The Air Medal with an Oak Leaf Cluster has been awarded to Flight Officer Edgar G. Theus, '36law, Oklahoma City, Flight Officer J. P. Smith, '38-'39, Chickasha, and Lt. Jonathan E. Sharp, '39-'42, Carthage, Missouri, all members of a Troop Carrier squadron commanded by Capt. William Black, '42, Oklahoma City. The entire group was awarded a Presidential Unit Citation for outstanding performance on D-Day and for work in Italy.

► Lt. Rex I. Edwards, '36-'40, Oklahoma City, holds the Air Medal with an Oak Leaf Cluster for continued meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy as a member of the 15th Air Force in Italy. He is navigator on a B-24 Liberator, and has 32 missions to his credit. Before joining the Air Force, Lieutenant Edwards was assistant manager of the Charles C. Miles School Supply Company in Oklahoma City.

► Staff Sgt. Roland D. Attaway, Jr., '40-'41, Tulsa, has been decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross and an Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters for extraordinary achievement in combat over Europe. The B-17 squadron to which he is attached has been awarded a Presidential Unit Citation. Sergeant Attaway, ball turret gunner on the Fort *Big Deal*, was at one time missing in action but is now back with his group.

► Capt. Edgar A. Hambleton, '39-'42, Ada, has been awarded an Air Medal after completing 65 combat missions with the Air Force in the South Pacific. The accompanying citation stated that Captain Hambleton has taken part in sustained

operational flight bombing missions against enemy shipping and supply bases.

► Lt. Earl S. Craig, '41-'42, Oklahoma City, has been awarded an Air Medal with an Oak Leaf Cluster for meritorious achievement during bombing attacks on enemy targets in Europe. He is pilot of a Flying Fortress with the Eighth Air Force.

► Capt. Charles W. McClellan, '41med, Tulsa, has been awarded the Bronze Star for exceptionally meritorious work as a member of the Army Medical Corps in France. Overseas for a year, Captain McClellan landed in France at the beginning of the invasion. Before entering the Army he served his internship at Broadlawns Hospital, Des Moines, Iowa. His brother, Lt. James P. McClellan, '42med, was with the Medical Corps at Camp Livingston, Louisiana.

► Capt. Robert D. Sheehan, '40-'41, Tulsa, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for extraordinary achievement while serving as lead pilot on numerous combat missions over enemy-occupied territory in Europe. He is pilot of a B-24 based in England. Besides the D. F. C., Captain Sheehan holds an Air Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters. He has been overseas since last March and has completed more than 20 missions.

► Lt. Bert Benaar, '41-'42, Tulsa, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial action against the enemy as pilot of an A-36 fighter plane. Lieutenant Benaar, attached to the 12th Air Force, has been on more than 60 missions over enemy territory and is credited with the destruction of two Messerschmitts.

► Capt. Felix Simmons, '42bus, Oklahoma City, based in Corsica with the 12th Air Force, has been awarded an Air Medal for meritorious service in the Italian campaign. Captain Simmons is currently engaged in the action in Southern France.

► Sgt. John H. Culp, '33ba, Norman, has been commended by his commanding officer for his fine work in the supply division of an Air Service Command depot in England. Activities of the depot have been increased five times in the last six months. The citation, from Col. John G. Moore, Las Animas, Colorado, stated that Sergeant Culp is worthy of the highest commendation.

► Capt. C. LaVaughan Barton, '40ed, Norman, has been awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service with the Fifth Army in Italy. He is communications officer with the 85th Division, supervising installation and maintenance of communications lines over difficult terrain, often exposing himself to enemy fire.

► Lt. Henry W. Reaves, '41bus, Norman, has been decorated with the Bronze Star for meritorious service in the campaign in which Saipan was taken from the Japanese. He is a Field Artillery officer, a graduate of the University R.O.T.C. unit. Before taking part in the Saipan campaign he was in action on Makin Island. Presentation of the Bronze Star took place on Saipan.

► Lt. W. Joe Boucher, '43bus, Hydro, has been awarded a Bronze Star for his work as a Field Artillery officer in the Italian campaign, serving as forward observer with a Field Artillery battalion. In recent letters to friends he told how he directed fire from his bed in the farmhouse which he was using as an observation post. He was asleep when the call came from headquarters to fire a problem. From his window he could see the target, so he adjusted fire on the enemy without getting out of bed and directed fire over his field telephone.

► Maj. Jess D. Herrmann, '31med, Oklahoma City, has been awarded the Bronze Star for performing a delicate brain operation on a soldier only six days after being operated on for appendicitis himself. He is on the staff of an Evacuation Hospital in the Southwest Pacific.

► Maj. Harrison R. Christy, Jr., '34, Oklahoma

City, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and an Air Medal with six Oak Leaf Clusters for his service with the Air Force in Africa and Italy. Before going to the Mediterranean area he served in Panama and South America. Major Christy, pilot of a B-24 bomber, was home on leave in Oklahoma City this fall, having arrived there one week before his son, Harrison Randolph Christy, III, was born.

► Maj. James L. Lain, '37bus, Oklahoma City, has been awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious achievement in military operations against the enemy on an unidentified island in the Southwest Pacific. With the Field Artillery, Major Lain has seen action in New Guinea and Saidor. He has been overseas more than two years.

► The Distinguished Flying Cross has been awarded to Capt. Louis J. Lamm, '37-'39, Vici, who already held an Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters. Captain Lamm has more than 98 missions and 2,000 flying hours against the Japanese to his credit. He started his combat career in the Pacific in June, 1942, in the Aleutians, and has since participated in action in the Ellice, Gilbert, Marshall and Caroline Islands. He is now stationed in the Marianas.

► Capt. Harold Rubin, '41journ, Marietta, has been awarded the Air Medal for his work as intelligence officer with an Air Force Bombardment squadron in Europe. Captain Rubin recently wrote the Alumni Office that he watched the invasion of Southern France and has seen a lot of Europe from the air.

► Lt. Wallis Ivy, '42bus, Duncan, has been decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross, an Air Medal and three Oak Leaf Clusters for his work with the Eighth Air Force as navigator of a B-17. He was returned to the United States this fall after completing 30 missions over Germany and participating in D-Day operations.

► A Silver Star has been awarded posthumously to Lt. Woodrow W. Rorex, '32-'33, Tulsa, who was killed in action June 12 in France. Wounded while moving forward with his company, he continued to direct fire as long as he could. The citation accompanying his Silver Star stated that his example of bravery, courage and leadership encouraged his men to close in and destroy the enemy.

► Capt. Elvin F. Shultz, '40eng, Oklahoma City, has been awarded the Bronze Star for heroic action as a Field Artillery officer in France. He trained at Fort Sill, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, before going overseas.

► Lt. Joe N. Magee, '41eng, Robstown, Texas, has been awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious achievement with the Eighth Air Force. The honor was given him for his contribution of invaluable technical knowledge and advice in the development of an oxygen regulator test stand which aids in quick restoration of damaged planes to combat status. Lieutenant Magee is an engineering officer at an Eighth Air Force depot where damaged planes are repaired for further combat use. Before entering the service in August, 1942, Lieutenant Magee was a petroleum engineer with the Humble Oil and Refining Company in Houston, Texas.

Deaths in Service

Maj. Rex Hochdoerfer, '40ed, Cleveland, veteran of the North African and Sicilian campaigns, was killed in action on August 3 in France. He had recently been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action with the Field Artillery in the battle for Cherbourg.

Major Hochdoerfer entered the Army in 1940, training at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, before going overseas in 1942. At the University he was active in musical affairs, appearing in several operas and

oratorios, singing with the Men's Glee Club and the a cappella choir and playing with the University Symphony Orchestra. His degree was in vocal music education.

Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Hochdoerfer of Cleveland, three brothers and one sister.

► The death April 17, 1943, of Capt. Walter Smiley, '41, Owensboro, Kentucky, has been officially confirmed by the War Department.

Captain Smiley was leading a Bombardment group on a mission over Bremen when attack came from a large group of German fighter planes. He proceeded to the target, bombed it successfully and was en route back to England when his ship was shot down by the enemy into the North Sea and lost.

Before his death Captain Smiley received a commendation from his commanding officer for the heroic manner in which he maintained his squadron formation and covered his squadron leader during a combat mission over enemy territory October 9, 1942, when the squadron leader's plane was crippled by enemy fire.

Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Smiley, Owensboro.

► Capt. Roy E. Baze, '36med, Chickasha, medical officer on the staff of a Station Hospital, was killed in action in France on an undisclosed date. He had participated in the North African campaign and in the invasion of France.

Captain Baze practiced medicine with his uncle, Dr. W. J. Baze, in Chickasha before entering the Army in May, 1942. Shortly before his death he was awarded a Silver Star for gallantry in action.

Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Baze, Oklahoma City, his wife, and a son Frank, of LaBelle, Missouri.

► Lt. Darwin D. Warner, '41, Enid, died at Maffin, New Guinea, on August 22 of wounds received in action with the Field Artillery after serving overseas for 18 months.

At the University Lieutenant Warner was a student in the College of Engineering. Survivors include his mother, Mrs. Mollie Klutsenbeker, Enid.

► Lt. Norris B. (Cub) Haney, '42law,



CADET PRESIDES AT PINNING

Present at the presentation of the American Theater wings to Movie Actress Greer Garson for performance in Stage Door Canteens and service organizations was Aviation Cadet Richard K. Armstrong, '43, McAlester, who had the honor of pinning the wings on Miss Garson. The event took place at the Stage Door Canteen in San Francisco. After the pinning, the star presented Cadet Armstrong with an autographed book shown above.

Ada, member of a Bombardment squadron, was killed in an airplane crash in England on August 25. No details were given, so it was not known if he crashed while taking off for a mission or returning from one.

Lieutenant Haney received training at Santa Ana and Hemet in California, and at Charlotte, North Carolina, after completing a C.P.T. course at Muskogee. At the University he was a prominent athlete, particularly in polo and boxing, and was a member of Phi Delta Phi legal fraternity and Sigma Nu fraternity.

Survivors include his wife, a three-year-old daughter, and his mother, Mrs. J. A. Walker, all of Ada.

► Collins L. Laws, Jr., '42, Skiatook, Marine Corps veteran of Tulagi, Tarawa, Saipan and Guam, was killed in action on Guam on an undisclosed date. He was standing guard when a Japanese sniper shot him.

At the University Mr. Laws was an arts and science student. Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Laws, two brothers and two sisters, all of Skiatook.

► Cpl. Robert McNally, '34, Tulsa, mechanic with the Army Air Forces, was killed in action in Italy on August 23. He had been in the Army for two and a half years and overseas for two.

Before entering service, Corporal McNally was employed with the Stanolind Oil and Gas Company in Tulsa. Survivors include his mother, Mrs. J. M. McNally, Tulsa, two sisters and a brother.

► Lt. Leslie P. Brasel, '38pharm, Drumright, died on March 15, 1943, in North Africa and was buried in an American cemetery there, the Alumni Office has learned. He entered the Army in January, 1942.

At the University Lieutenant Brasel was a member of the R.O.T.C. pistol team, Galen leadership society for pharmacy students and the University Pharmaceutical Association.

Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Brasel, Drumright, and a brother, Charles B. Brasel, '37pharm.

► The Alumni Office has just learned of the death on February 2, 1943, of Lt. Lucian F. Harris, '39-'41, Ada, of the Army Air Force, who was killed in an airplane crash near Brooks Field, San Antonio, Texas.

Former engineering student in the University, Lieutenant Harris entered the Army on March 23, 1942. He also attended East Central State College at Ada. Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Harris, Ada.

► Ensign Gerald Gault, '40bus, Sentinel, who has been missing in action since November 13, 1942, is presumed to have been killed by enemy action, the Navy Department has announced.

Holder of the Purple Heart, Ensign Gault was disbursing officer on board the U. S. S. *Barton*, which was sunk by enemy



HEROISM REWARDED
Sgt. Alan Cameron, '40letters, of the 15th Air Force, receives the Soldiers Medal for saving a gunner's life at his base in Italy.

action off Savu Island in the Solomons. He attended the Naval Supply Corps School at Harvard University before going to sea.

In civilian life, Ensign Gault was an accountant with the Louisiana Ice and Electric Company in Alexandria, Louisiana. At the University he was a member of Phi Eta Sigma, Beta Gamma Sigma honorary business fraternity and the Accounting Club. Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Gault, Asher, formerly of Sentinel.

► Lt. Albert E. Pierce, '36-'39, Oklahoma City, who has been overseas since last spring, first in Hawaii and later in the Southwest Pacific, was killed in action on Guam on August 14. He entered the Army early in 1941.

At the University Lieutenant Pierce was a business student and a lieutenant in the R.O.T.C. Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pierce, Oklahoma City, and two brothers, Tech. Sgt. Paul H. Pierce, '38-'39, in England, and J. H. Pierce, a student in the University.

► Sgt. Gordon Kinney, '38-'39, Tipton, aerial gunner with the Eighth Air Force, was killed in an airplane crash near Freckleton, England, on August 23 during a severe storm. He had been overseas for more than two years.

Sergeant Kinney also attended Altus Junior College. Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Kinney, southwest of Tipton, and a brother in the service.

► Lt. Bernard W. O'Malley, '42-'43, Little Rock, Arkansas, was killed in an airplane accident near Naper, Nebraska, on August 3 when the C-47 transport on which he was a passenger was struck by lightning and crashed.

Lieutenant O'Malley was one of 24 combat pilots being transferred aboard the transport from Bruning Field, Nebraska, to Pierre, South Dakota. All the passengers and a crew of four were killed.

Survivors include his father, B. W. O'Malley, Little Rock.

Missing in Action

Capt. Joe E. Haynes, '40eng, Silverton, Texas, has been missing in action since August 11 when he left Jorhat, India, to fly to Kunming, China, and failed to reach his destination.

► Lt. William Dan McLennan, '38-'39, Oklahoma City, a P-51 Mustang pilot attached to the 14th Air Force, has been missing in action in China since August 30. He was credited with downing one Japanese plane. Mrs. McLennan is the former Helen Petty, '38-'39.

► Lt. James A. Clark, '40-'41, Oklahoma City, pilot of a P-47 based in England, has been missing over France since July 26. He went overseas in February and received his wings at Eagle Pass, Texas.

Prisoners of War

In a recent letter to his wife, Lt. Ralph Casey, '34-'35, Guthrie, bombardier on a Flying Fortress now a prisoner of war in Germany, said that he and the other prisoners in his camp "simply went wild" when news of the Allied invasion of Europe came.

He wrote that every evening a news summary is read to the prisoners over the camp's loudspeaker. German censors permitted him to express his belief that the war will be over this year in his letter.

► Sgt. Joseph W. Duvall, Jr., '41, Oklahoma City, who has been missing in action since July 19, is a prisoner of the German government. He went overseas last spring and was reported injured in action early in July.

► Capt. Woodrow Pickhardt, '37med, Seminole, who was reported missing June 7 shortly after he landed in France as a paratrooper medical officer, is a German prisoner according to a War Department release.

► Lt. Jack T. Woodson, '41eng, Vinita, who had been reported missing in action since the fall of Corregidor and Bataan, has been reported a prisoner of the Japanese in Camp Osaka in Japan. He was transferred there after first being held captive in the Philippines.

His father, Charles Woodson, Vinita, has received four form cards from Lieutenant Woodson, saying that he was well and uninjured.

► First letters from Lt. Col. J. V. Collier, '34ba, who has been a prisoner of the Japanese since the fall of Bataan, were received recently by Mrs. Collier in Santa Barbara, California.

The letters were mailed in September, October, November and December of 1943. Colonel Collier wrote that he is

well and looking forward to the time when he can rejoin his family.

Injured in Service

Maj. John T. Cooper, Jr., '36ba, Wewoka, commanding officer of a Parachute battalion, was sent to a hospital in North Africa after receiving injuries in Southern France. His left foot was injured in a parachute jump into France August 15.

Major Cooper's battalion, which was formerly commanded by Lt. Col. Hugh A. Neal, '27bs, Bartlesville, was dropped off its course in France but succeeded in capturing 372 prisoners in two hours.

► Ensign Thomas H. Tillman, '43bs, Oklahoma City, has been wounded in action with the Navy. He received his commission last October in New York City and has been on sea duty since then.

► Capt. Francis Stewart, Jr., '41eng, Muskogee, was in an English hospital recovering from wounds received in France in August. He was hit by both shrapnel and bullets while serving with the Field Artillery.

Heads A.A.F. School

Newly assigned commandant of the Army Air Force Bombardier School at Big Spring, Texas, and the youngest commandant in the school's history is Col. Ralph C. Rockwood, '33eng, Sapulpa.

Colonel Rockwood was director of training at the Army Air Field, Liberal, Kansas before going to Big Spring. Prior to that he held high Air Force positions at Tarrant Field and Majors Field in Texas, and was at one time associated with a private flying school at Sikeston, Missouri.

Jumps to Safety

Capt. Billy E. Carson, '38-40, Jet, veteran of aerial action in the Asiatic theater, parachuted to safety when the single-engine plane he was piloting from Winston-Salem, North Carolina, to Aberdeen, Maryland, crashed in Maryland.

Captain Carson holds an Air Medal with an Oak Leaf Cluster for raids over Burma.

On Pacific Staff

Lt. Gilbert R. Dale, '10-'11, Columbia, Missouri, is on the staff of the commander in chief of the Pacific. Before entering the Navy Lieutenant Dale was an educator in several foreign countries.

His daughter, Mrs. J. Howard Hixon, the former Agnes Dale, '39ba, is working in Washington, D. C., while her husband is in the service. The rest of the family are living in Columbia.

Promotions

Two alumni serving in the European and Pacific theaters now wear colonel's eagles.

E. H. (Bud) Larecy, '26, formerly of Seminole, was promoted to the rank of colonel in France, where he is a G-4 of-

ficer with the Seventh Army. He landed on the Riviera coast on the first day of the Southern France invasion. Before entering the Army Colonel Larecy was associated with the C.C.C. in Oklahoma, first commanding a camp at Konawa and later joining the state headquarters staff.

Also promoted to colonel was Ralph B. Garretson, '29bus, Quinton, with the Air Forces in the Pacific theater. Before going overseas he was stationed at Colorado Springs, Colorado, with the Air Force.

Recently promoted to lieutenant colonel were the following: Max E. Billingsley, '39bus, Norman, in France with the Field Artillery; Roy Hickox, '35ba, formerly managing editor of the *Guthrie Leader*, in Italy with military intelligence; Joe A. Stamper, '35law, Oklahoma City, on the headquarters staff of a Corps overseas; Jay E. Warner, '36bus, Oklahoma City, on duty in Cairo, Egypt; Grady Lewis, '16-'17, former Oklahoma City attorney now with Air Force Intelligence in France.

David Brooks, '34, Oklahoma City, with the Air Force in England; Alvan Muldrow, '33law, Norman, on duty in France; George Pointer, '28 eng, Chelsea, in France; Charles Standley, '24-'27, '34-'35, Noble, with the Infantry in the Pacific; William J. Thompson, Jr., '24ba, Oklahoma City, in the Pacific theater with the Air Force; George R. Taylor, '22, Stillwater, who recently returned from service with the Judge Advocate General's Department in Africa, Sicily and Italy, and Walter R. Graalman, '28law, Oklahoma City, acting inspector general of Allied Air Forces in the Mediterranean. Before his present assignment Colonel Graalman was acting judge advocate general of the same section.

New majors among O. U. alumni are as follows: Robert Witt, '39ba, '39eng, with the Corps of Engineers at Geneva, New York; G. N. Austin, '40ba, Tulsa, on duty at the Army Air Base, Eagle Pass, Texas; Robert B. Harbison, '30law, former Altus attorney now post judge advocate at the Air Force Overseas Replacement Depot, Kearns, Utah; Jon E. Horne, '41, Chickasha, on duty at the Aviation Cadet Center, San Antonio,

Texas; Garner G. Collums, '19ba, Chickasha, with the Air Force in China.

Steve M. Elam, '35-'39, Pryor, with the Air Force in England; H. Barney Crawford, '32law, former Oklahoma City attorney now post claims officer at Truax Field, Madison, Wisconsin; Burt Barr, '33law, former Dallas attorney on duty with the Air Force in Kansas City, Missouri; Eugene T. White, Jr., '35ba, Sulphur, with the Field Artillery at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and Giraldu M. Fuller, '42, Oklahoma City, with a Bombardment squadron overseas. Major Fuller is executive officer of a squadron commanded by Maj. John T. Snyder, '40, Enid.

Promoted to the rank of captain were the following: I. F. Haxel, '32, Purcell, photographic officer with the Tenth Air Force in India; John L. Cravens, '40law, Tulsa, G-4 officer on duty in the Pacific area; Robert J. Sivalls, '29bus, Oklahoma City, in England with the Air Force; Richard D. Jones, '40bus, Oklahoma City, on duty at Laurinburg-Maxton Army Air Field, North Carolina; Jack McWilliams, '42eng, Wichita, Kansas, with the Air Force in England; J. B. Sanders, '41bus, Oklahoma City, with the Field Artillery in New Guinea; Carl L. Mayhall, '35bus, Oklahoma City, on duty in the fuels and lubrications division of the Office of the Quartermaster General in Washington, D. C., and Mary Frank Helms, '38-'41, Norman, member of the Women's Army Corps at Fort Hamilton, New York. In private life Captain Helms is Mrs. Victor Bistany.

Harvey E. Austin, '39-'40, Wynnewood, bombardier with the 15th Air Force in Italy, has been promoted to first lieutenant.

L. Wilson Hervey, '37-'40, Norman, on his third tour of duty in the Pacific with the Marine Corps, has been advanced to staff sergeant. Promoted to sergeant in the Army were Robert Cohlma, '44, Waynoka, with a Bombardment group in Italy, Jack P. Drake, '43bus, Wagoner, with a financial detachment in Australia, and Vernon Steffen, '42-'43, Calumet, visual aids artist at the Fort Sill Field Artillery School.

Sidney Metcalf, '36bus, Purcell, has been promoted to the rank of full lieutenant in the Navy at his foreign post. Promoted to lieutenant junior grade were Paul G. Rafferty, '37bus, on duty at the Mine Warfare School, Yorktown, Virginia, and R. R. Eckart, '41eng, Dallas, John Evinger, '41eng, Grove, Charles B. Titus, '43bus, Cherokee, and John H. Fezler, '43ba, Oklahoma City, all on overseas duty or aboard ship.

New Officers

Charlotte Haulsee, '41ba, Wewoka, has been commissioned an ensign in the WAVES at Northampton, Massachusetts, and assigned to further training there in communications.

George V. Rollow, '39-'41, Wynnewood, was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Air Force at the Army Air Field, LaJunta, Colorado.

Laverne A. Yarbrough, '38-'41, Norman, was commissioned a second lieutenant at the Army Air Force Technical Training School, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, and ordered to Boca Raton, Florida, for further training.

Overseas

Lt. Charles P. Gotwals, '40law, Muskogee, now in France, recently wrote the Alumni Office that before he left England for the continent he spent a week in London where he ran into Capt. H. K. (Tony) Calvert, '40law, Saginaw, Michigan. The two of them spent one night on the roof of Captain Calvert's apartment house, watching the robot bombs come over, but luckily didn't have to duck any of them.

Maj. James D. Fellers, '36law, in Belgium with the Air Force, wrote that he has seen Maj. Harry Alley, '36law, Capt. Byron Jones, '39law, Lt. Col. James Hopkins, '34eng, and Maj. R. F. Thweatt, '39eng, since the invasion of Europe.

Taking part in the Allied drive through France are Lt. Linton Smith, '36-'41, Norman, and Capt. K. K. Carpenter, '39eng, Ponca City.



SOONER IS YOUNGEST

New commandant of the Bombardier School at Big Spring, Texas, is Col. Ralph Rockwood, '33, youngest in the school's history.