

Corporal Blochwitz Gets Three Battle Stars Award

AT A 12TH AAF B-25 BASE—Corporal Max Blochwitz, 27, sheet metal worker, son of Mrs. Catherine Blochwitz, 304 Teaneck Road, Teaneck, N. J., is a member of a Twelfth Air Force B-25 Mitchell bombardment group which has established the exceptionally low combat casualty rate of less than one-half of one percent.

Although Corporal Blochwitz's unit has been overseas two years and has fought in the most dangerous air battles over Tunisia, Sicily, Italy, and Southern France, it has made one of the safest records of any combat group in the Mediterranean theatre of operations.

Originally, this B-25 group participated in strategic operations, concentrating on enemy shipping, airbases, and similar German targets. Recently, it has become tactical, giving close support to the Allied ground troops in Italy and Southern France.

Corporal Blochwitz arrived in this theatre 22 months ago, and has been awarded the European-Middle East-African ribbon with three battle stars.

10-5-44

Miss Linton A Wave

Miss Margaret Adelaide Linton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Thomas Linton of 34 Blauvelt Street, Teaneck, today was sworn into the Women's Reserve, United States Naval Reserve, as an apprentice seaman in the enlisted grade of the Waves.

Miss Linton attended Teaneck High School and Christ Hospital School of Nursing in Jersey City before entering the service.

She will soon be ordered to the training school at Hunter College, Bronx, N. Y.

10-7-44

MAJOR WHO SAVED OFFICER HONORED

Mother Of Welsh Receives His Distinguished Flying Cross

Major Fred O. Welsh son of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Welsh, 734 Wendel Place, West Englewood, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, his mother said today. She had not known that it was awarded her son until she received it in the mail, she said.

Major Welsh, pilot of a B-25 plane, saved the life of Lieutenant Robert Wesselschmidt, Jr., when stricken by polio, by flying him 100 miles over the Himalayan Range from Tibet to Calcutta to a hospital. The pilot had to operate a hand respirator the entire time, while making the journey.

Major Welsh is now stationed with the Air Service Command and recently underwent an earthquake, but could not state the location in the letter to his mother.

10-7-44

McLaughlin Gets Staff Post

Mr. and Mrs. James McLaughlin, of 258 Esther Avenue, Teaneck, have received word that their son, First Lieutenant John F. McLaughlin, has recovered from his wounds and has been assigned to his battalion staff as acting intelligence officer, at his station in Italy. His parents have also received his Purple Heart award.

Three other service stars hang in the McLaughlin window. Second Lieutenant James H. now stationed at Lincoln Field in Nebraska and Aviation Cadet Matthew, stationed at Moody Field, Ga., will graduate soon as a Pilot. A foster brother P. P. O. Owen McGuire is serving with the Infantry in New Guinea.

10-7-44

RANGES GIVEN OAK LEAF FOR HIS AIR MEDAL

Son Of District Clerk In Teaneck Honored In England

OTHERS DECORATED

Sergeant John W. Ranges, 21, son of District Clerk and Mrs. John H. Ranges of 1295 Alice Avenue, West Englewood, has been awarded an Oak Leaf Cluster to his Air Medal at his station with the Eighth Air Force Bomber Station in England.

Sergeant Ranges was awarded the cluster for meritorious achievement while participating in bombing attacks against industrial and military targets in Germany and enemy installations in front of our advancing ground troops in Western Europe.

A waist gunner, he is a member of an Eighth Air Force B-17 group commanded by Lieutenant Colonel George Y. Junger of Natick, Calif.

He attended Teaneck High School and the New York Drafting Institute and was employed as a draftsman at Bendix Aviation Corp., in Yonkers. He entered the A. A. F. in January, 1943, and attended Armorer's School at Lowry Field, Colorado, and received his gunner's wings at Pyote, Tex., in May this year.



SGT. JOHN W. RANGES

10-9-44

Makes 5 Jumps

Private Jack Gregory of 378 Warwick Avenue, West Englewood; Sergeant Albano Joseph Poullot of 33 State Street, Hackensack; and Private Brett L. Allen of 134 Clinton Place, Hackensack, have won the right to wear wings and boots of the Army Paratroops. They have completed four weeks of jump training during which time they made five jumps.

10-9-44

Not A Scratch In Five Invasions, He's Wounded When LST Hits Mine

(Special to the Bergen Evening Record)

United States Navy Hospital, Somewhere in England — "Went through five invasions without a scratch and then got banged up riding a gravy train in the Channel . . ."

Coast Guard Gunner's Mate, third class, Kenneth O. McConney, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. McConney of 868 Easter Avenue, Teaneck was speaking.

McConney, one of 23 wounded survivors of an underwater explosion which smashed the stern of the Coast Guard LST 327, is now en route to the United States.

The accident which sent him and his mates to the hospital in England, and took the lives of 21 others, occurred in the English Channel on the thirteenth trip made by the 327 to the Normandy beachhead.

"I was below decks in the after

crew's quarters getting ready to shave when the explosion came," McConney related; "I heard a deafening roar but at the time I didn't have any idea what it was."

"When I came to I could hear men groaning and when I tried to move I found that my side was paralyzed so that I couldn't move," he continued. "I remember yelling for help twice, then I passed out again. The next thing I remember I was being carried out of the wreckage."

The Teaneck Coast Guardsman saw his first action in the Mediterranean in March of 1943 when the 327 took part in the last stages of the Allied North African campaign. He later took part in the invasions of Sicily, Salerno, Anzio, and Normandy.

As a member of the original ship's company he was on standby orders to return to the States when he suffered his wounds.

10-9-44

COAST GUARD GUNNER'S MATE

third class, Kenneth O. McConney, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. McConney of Teaneck, said, "I went through five invasions without a scratch and then got banged up riding a gravy train in the Channel." McConney, one of 23 wounded survivors of an underwater explosion which smashed the stern of the Coast Guard LST 327, is now on his way home. The accident which sent him and his mates to the hospital in England, and took the lives of 21 others, occurred in the English Channel on the thirteenth trip made by the 327 to the Normandy beachhead. "I was below decks getting ready to shave when the explosion came," McConney related. "I heard a roar, but didn't know what it was. Then I could hear men groaning. The next thing I remembered was being carried out of the wreckage."

10-9-44

KILLED IN FRANCE

Staff Sergeant Clayton, a tank commander and a platoon sergeant in charge of 26 men, with the Third Army, was killed in France on September 27. He would have been 36 years old on October 4.

A resident of Teaneck for 15 years, Sergeant Clayton entered the Army in May of 1941 and was sent overseas in December of 1943. He entered France a short time after D-Day and according to his last letter dated September 23, he had been through some tough fighting the last few days before he was killed. He was formerly employed by Kidder Peabody and Company in New York.

Besides his parents, Sergeant Clayton is survived by a twin brother, Staff Sergeant Walter A. Clayton Jr., Army Air Force, stationed at Seymour Johnson Field in N. C., and two sisters, Annie M. Clayton and Mrs. Dorothy O. Lawrence of Teaneck.

Memorial services will be held in the Community Church on Elm Avenue on Tuesday, October 17 at 8 P. M. The Rev. W. Carman Trembath will officiate.

10-9-44