

Capt. Brewster Of Teaneck Is Awarded Legion Of Merit

Reconnaissance Job At Vella Lavella Helped Make Invasion Easy, Says Army Citation

Captain Charles F. Brewster Jr., 274 Sherman Avenue, Teaneck, has been awarded the Legion of Merit for services at Vella Lavella, Solomon Islands, from August to October of 1943, the War Department announced today.

2 DAYS AHEAD OF LANDINGS

The citation accompanying the award read in part:

"He arrived at the enemy-occupied island 2 days in advance of full scale landings and, in constant danger of being discovered by Japanese troops, reconnoitered proposed objectives and planned an efficient defense system."

"While leading a patrol to intercept enemy troops approaching the advance party's hideout, he personally accounted for 3 of the 27 Japanese who were killed. As a result of his courage and superior reconnaissance, his infantry regiment made a successful landing and accomplished its mission in a minimum of time."

"After the landing operations, he organized and directed reconnaissance patrols along the beaches, established a strategic system of observation posts covering approaches to the combat team's perimeter, and shrewdly evaluated information concerning the enemy."

Captain Brewster, a graduate of Teaneck High School, Mount Herman Preparatory School, and the Packard Business School, entered the armed forces in February, 1941, and received his commission as second lieutenant at Fort Benning, Georgia, in May, 1942. He has not been home on leave since his entrance into the service.

A brother, John, serving as a midshipman cadet in the Merchant Marine, lost his life in the spring of 1942 when his ship, en route to Russia, was lost at sea.



CAPT. CHARLES F. BREWSTER

11-30-44

Parents Hold Out Hope For Missing Airman

Despite official reports that their son, Sergeant Robert T. Finn, was killed in action over Norway on September 9, the parents of the 23-year-old airman, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Finn of 540 Cumberland Avenue, Teaneck, are still holding out hope that he may be alive.

Upon receiving notification of her son's death, Mrs. Finn wrote for details to his Army chaplain, who answered that his plane had not returned to base, and it was assumed that he and his crew had been killed. No details of the mission or of his death were given.

Sergeant Finn was the aerial mechanic on the Liberator, The Jig's Up, whose insignia had been painted by George McManus, the cartoonist.

Entering the Army in March, 1942, Sergeant Finn completed his training at Keesler Field, Miss. He was home on a 21-day leave last January, and went overseas in June. Before entering service he was employed by the New York Central Railroad.

Now Lieut. Bolinder

Robert G. Bolinder, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Harry Bolinder, of 123 Evergreen Place, West Englewood, has been advanced to the rank of first lieutenant at his station in France with a night fighter squadron of the Ninth Tactical Air Force.

11-30-44

SCROLLS GIVEN KIN OF HEROES

Memorial Resolutions Passed By Council

Formal memorial resolutions, in the form of hand illuminated parchment scrolls, were distributed to the families of men of Teaneck who have died in service, over the week-end. The scrolls have a blue backing, hand printed on white parchment, with the Township seal of gold, backed with red, white and blue ribbons. A sample scroll reads:

"Whereas, during faithful and honorable conduct of duty in the armed forces of our beloved country, our friend and neighbor, Warren Harold Sheets has made the supreme sacrifice and departed this life a glorious American hero who died that our nation might live,

And Whereas the Township of Teaneck has been truly honored by an outstanding citizen who made no noble a sacrifice;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of the Township of Teaneck on behalf of the people of the Township hereby express their sincere sorrow at the demise of our friend and neighbor and extend to the surviving relatives this evidence of their deep sympathy, and be it further resolved that an attested copy of this resolution be delivered by the Township Clerk to the next of kin as an expression of the condolence and sympathy of the people of Teaneck in recognition of the greatest sacrifice that can be made so that our great country may continue to be the home of a free and independent people."

The scrolls were delivered to the families of the following men:

John Lewis Becker, John P. Brewster, Donald A. Chambers, Robert W. Cummings, Charles L. Dunne, Irvin D. Gross, Bruno W. Rice, William J. Gensling, Arthur J. Grosse Jr., William S. W. Ham, Ned H. Howell, MacDonnell, John F. McLaughlin, Elmer M. Mendenhall, Leonard P. Miller, Jerry King, Elmer, William W. Platt, Robert Paul Hanger, Joseph C. Roberts Jr., Robert Alan Rockafellow, Paul R. Smith, Robert J. Schaefer, Warren Harold Sheets, Ned Thomas Tixell, Richard E. Varian, Walter Gordon Webb, and Kenneth A. Williams.

The Township will also send official Christmas greetings to all its service men and women. This practice has been followed for the past three years and this year's greeting is a double fold card, printed in green, with a picture of the Teaneck Library on the front and the greetings of the Township Council for the people of Teaneck on the inside fold.

11-30-44

Legion Fetes Lieut. Uhl

A dinner was tendered by the American Legion Post last Saturday night to Lieutenant (Jg) Otto U. Uhl, U. S. Navy, 62 Washington Place, Teaneck.

Lieutenant Uhl, home on a 80-day leave, served in the First World War and as a warrant officer was awarded the Victory Medal, Mexico-Vera Cruz Campaign Medal and Yangtze Patrol Medal of 1915-17. He also has the Asiatic Pacific and American Theater medals for this war, and was in action at Guadalcanal, Saipan, and the Marianas.

Garrett Hallenbeck, chairman of the House Committee, was in charge of the supper.

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Air Cadet Albert Fernandez has completed his course at Yale University and has been commissioned a second lieutenant. He was graduated from Teaneck High School and attended Bergen Junior College. He received a B.S. from Columbia University and a Master's degree in chemistry this fall from Yale University. He enlisted in the Army Air Force Ground Crew in a photographer's unit is stationed in Florida.

11-30-44

Q/M Shakerley Is Killed In Action

Chief Quartermaster William Shakerley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Shakerley, 460 Teaneck Road, Teaneck, who was previously listed as missing, is now reported by the Government as having died in action. Shakerley, a member of the Navy, was aboard the U. S. S. Borie which was lost last November in the North Atlantic. He was last seen by his commanding officer boarding a raft.

According to a letter his family had received from his commanding officer, Shakerley had been the last man to go through the ship to see that all the men had abandoned her and had climbed over the side of the ship onto a raft when his commanding officer last saw him.

Shakerley, formerly of North Bergen, was graduated from Emerson High School in Union City and had won the American Legion award for the most outstanding pupil. He was employed by the Baker and Taylor Company in New York and at night attended New York University where he was constantly on the dean's list. He was a member of the Naval Reserve 4 years prior to entering active service in November of 1940. He served in the Caribbean area for 3 years and then went into the North Atlantic area.

Before the Borie was sunk, Shakerley was among the crew which had been awarded the Presidential Citation for the sinking of a German submarine.

Besides his parents he is survived by a brother, Private Richard Shakerley, serving with the Army engineers in the European area and a sister, Mrs. Joseph McCann of Teaneck.

11-30-44

Lt. Maupai Comes Home

First Lieutenant Eugene Maupai, son of Mrs. Carl Maupai of West Englewood, was injured while in action in France, August 17 and was hospitalized in England until just last week when he was sent back to this country. Now receiving treatment in the Halloran General Hospital in Staten Island, Lieutenant Maupai will be able to come on week-ends.

Although the War Department listed him as wounded, what actually happened was that while out on patrol somewhere in France the traversing mechanism on a tank gun caught his hand and smashed it. He has been awarded the Purple Heart.

Lieutenant Maupai, a native of North Bergen, was graduated from the Memorial High School in West New York. He was graduated from Rutgers University in 1940 with a Bachelor of Science degree and also as a second lieutenant in the Army Reserve. He entered active service in December of 1941 and went overseas last June.

Mr. and Mrs. Maupai have a two-and-a-half year old son, Eugene Jr.

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