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LT. ALLEN WELCH MISSING

President's Ball Here

PARENTS NOTIFIED YESTERDAY

Mrs. Ethel Caudle Welch, mother of Lt. Allen Welch, Roanoke Rapids High School graduate of the class of 1940, and his father J. F. Welch, 225 Hamilton Street, received this telegram yesterday:

"The Secretary of War desires me to express his deep regret that your son, Second Lieutenant Rudolph Allen Welch has been reported missing in action—date unreported, in China. If further details or other information are received you will be promptly notified."

The telegram was signed by General Ulio, the Adjutant General, and came from Washington by Western Union.

21 year old Rudolph Allen Welch graduated from Roanoke Rapids High School in the class of 1940, entered the Air Corps in 1941 and was commissioned in June 1943, a 2nd Lieutenant at Randolph Field, Texas. He was stationed then in Clovis, New Mexico, visited his folks here in July and September of last year before leaving on a Bomber B-24 for the battle area.

It is now known that he was in Africa, flew from there to India and this Christmas was somewhere in China. He is reported to have been in raids over Rangoon and in several flights in China, taking the air route instead of the Burma Road. There is no indication where he might have (See MISSING Page. 6-Sec. A)

VFW - LIONS CO-SPONSOR BIG DANCE

President Roosevelt's birthday of Jan. 30th will be celebrated in Roanoke Rapids on Saturday night, January 29th. It will be celebrated on the 30th by American men and women in the armed forces all over the world.

Infantile paralysis took a toll of 12,000 victims in 1943. March of Dimes and such celebrations as to be held in Roanoke Rapids will help find the solution and cut that rate of those who are caught by this mysterious malady.

Those who dance at the VFW-Lions Club dance on the 29th from 8 sharp to midnight will enjoy four hours of combined round and square dancing knowing that the entire proceeds will go to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, Inc.

The popular Johnston County String Band will be there; a \$25. Fourth War Bond will be given; Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs will be asked to co-operate and the Armory is expected to be the gathering place for the community on the 29th.

The Lions Committees are: Claude Cannon, general chairman; Reese Welch, chairman distribution and collection of banks; Morris S. Clary, and Edward Knott, advertising; L. H. Sandlin, chairman March of Dimes at the schools; Rev. Berkeley, chairman Tag Day by Boy and Girl Scouts; Bernard Allsbrook, chairman Dance Committee; Carl Thompson, chairman special contributions.

Graham Lynch of Roanoke Rapids is Halifax County chairman and Dr. Ralph McDonald is North Carolina chairman of the drive.

WILL HELP EMPLOYEES INCOME TAX

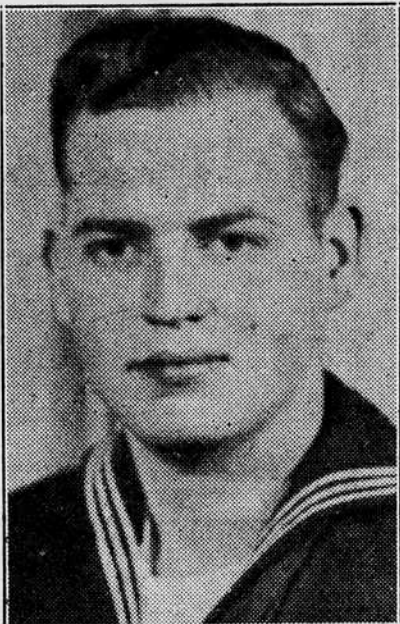
According to notices posted in Roanoke Mills Co. and Patterson Mills Co. this week, employees of those mills will be furnished assistance in filling out their income tax returns for 1943. The notices are as follows:

"The Company has arranged to furnish accounting assistance to employees in the preparation and filing of income tax returns for 1943.

The Company will arrange to furnish employees with statement of earnings and taxes withheld by the end of January.

Notice will be given later as to the exact dates on which the accountants will be here to furnish this business without cost to you."

In Casablanca



John Thomas Clary, F 1/C, volunteer in Navy Nov. 10, 1942, is temporarily stationed at Casablanca. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Clary, 752 A Charlotte Street.

STATE GUARD

Roanoke Rapids won a game over other towns and won a State Guard unit. That was fine; we had won—what? A chance to have one—That's all.

Hundreds of towns would like to have one but they just did not happen to be located in the right section of the State and Roanoke Rapids put up a good story and won a temporary victory.

There have been many to volunteer as could be expected from this section but the disappointment has come from the fact that those who had experience in army and civilian life in leadership have failed to show interest.

Maybe they feel they should have a Commission because of what they had done in the last forgotten War; maybe they feel they should have been chosen for a big job because of their training in a military school since the last war; maybe there is some justice to what they think.

But the big thing is that we have the chance here to have a State Guard which will be a source of protection in case it is needed and much more will be a leveling force to keep us all straight.

Just like when we see a State Highway Patrol car on the highway our foot automatic-like goes off the accelerator and we slow down to a safer speed.

Just so, the knowing we had a State Guard would keep us from taking too many liberties. After all, they would not only have certain authorities, come the time, but they would also be properly disciplined and trained. Capt. Graves is a little worried because the men he wants in certain key positions have not come forward. We can understand his worries but we still believe that he will get what he needs by the volunteering of men who are men who can see in this a chance to really serve on the home front.

CAPTAIN GRAVES MAKES FRANK STATEMENT ABOUT STATE GUARD UNIT HERE

By Captain Ed. H. Graves

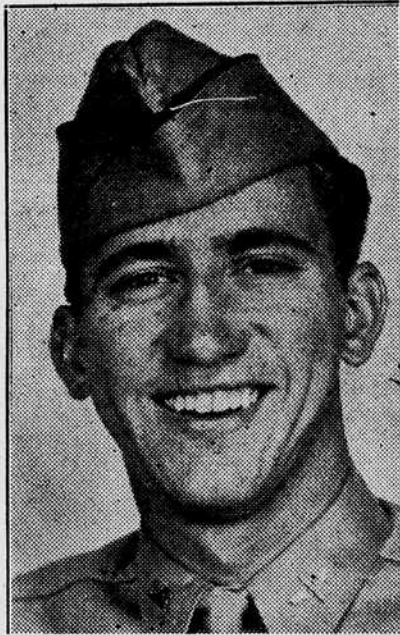
The present plan for mustering the State Guard Unit for Roanoke Rapids make it necessary to complete our enlistment by the first of February. Considerable progress has been made toward this end with a large group of men interested in becoming members of the State Guard.

The organization of the company requires three officers, ten sergeants, four corporals and thirty-six privates. It is known as the 14th Infantry Company North Carolina State Guard.

The enlistment period is for one year, and at the end of the year a member of the State Guard would have the privilege of not re-enlisting. The physical requirements are not rigid, and the age limits are from 18 to 45.

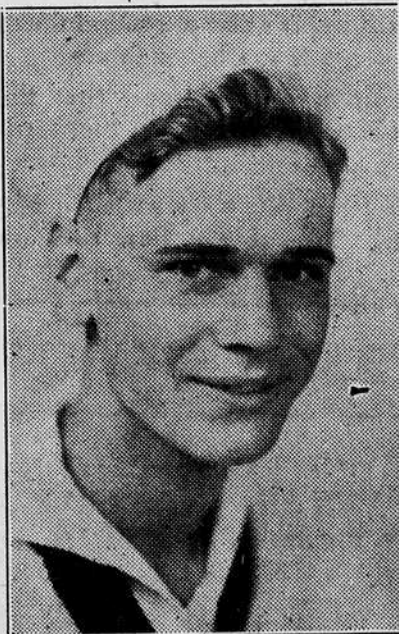
There would seem to be a considerable attraction to the men of Roanoke Rapids to join such an organization. The drilling is scheduled for one night per week from 8:00 to 10:00 P. M., and the night has been tentatively selected as Tuesday night. The work is in (See STATE GUARD Pg. 6-Sec. A)

MISSING



LT. R. A. WELCH

Overseas



Lenwood H. Tudor, Sea 2/C volunteered for service in the U. S. Coast Guard, March, 1943. He received training at the St. Augustine, Fla. Training Station until early in July, and has been overseas since that time.

He was born in Roanoke Rapids and his father, A. B. Tudor, lives at 218 Madison St. He also has a sister and two brother, live here. Prior to November, 1942, when he moved to Miami, Fla., he was employed as a machinist helper by Roanoke Mill Co. No. 1.

BOTH ABC STORES WILL STAY OPEN IN CITY AND BOARD SATISFIES GROUP

War Prisoner Of Germans Is Chance For You

Would you like to write a letter to a local boy who is a prisoner of the Germans?

All right—here is his name and address: Sgt. Leroy W. Morris, 335 Bomb. Squad., 95th Bomb Group. APO 634, care Postmaster, New York. 38 314 924.

And here is a letter received by his mother recently, written several months ago: Preigsgefangerpost.

Dear Mother: Just a card to let you know that I am well. I am going to school and taking Spanish and German. I miss my cigars very much. I grew a long beard and mustache but cut it off. I will be all skin and bones by the time I get out of here.

ABC Store No. 2 in the North End of Roanoke Rapids will continue operation, according to a statement made by ABC Board members David L. Suiter of Weldon and Sam Pierson of Enfield to a delegation of 30 Roanoke Rapids citizens yesterday at Halifax.

G. H. Johnson, chairman, was absent because of illness, but it is understood he agreed with this decision and with the further statement that should the ABC Board, because of liquor shortage or for other reasons decide any store in the county should be closed, the citizens of that section served would be given 30 days notice in which to lodge a complaint against the decision.

J. T. Chase and Mayor Kelly Jenkins spoke for the group and Henry Fitts presented petitions signed by hundreds of Roanoke Rapids citizens protesting against the closing of the store.

Mr. Suiter, who acted as chairman in the absence of Mr. Johnson, told the delegation that any reports that Roanoke Rapids citizens (See ABC STORES Pg. 12-Sec. A)