

# REMEMBER

Vernon Edgar Whitley, Marvin William Scott, William H. Camp, Jr., Robert E. May, R. H. McCommons, James W. Whitby, Grover Woodruff, Winfield Hasty, Daniel E. Faison, Robert Lee Moore, Curtis E. West, Edgar H. King, Robert Lee Ingram, Thomas A. Cooper, Marvin F. Matkins, James G. Whitby, Thos. H. Cook, Jr., Elmer E. Chambliss, Randall White, Robert L. Harris, Joseph A. Crouch.



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## Christmas Greetings Sent To Folks Back Home



Somewhere in the Pacific four North Carolina Leathernecks with a crack Marine aviation outfit had a real Christmas celebration. When packages in gay wrappings began coming in the North Carolinians "caught the spirit." To show their appreciation for the gifts, they devised a scheme to send joint greetings to their homefolk. First they rigged up a Yule greeting on a big cardboard, then had a photographer snap their picture holding it in front of a dive bomber. "It won't be a white Christmas here," said Corp. Luther F. Thortis, 19-year-old son of Mrs. Lucy Thortis, 319 Jefferson street, Roanoke Rapids, "but tell the folks back home that we will have a happy one." Shown in the group above with Thortis (left) are: Corporal Marvin L. Short, Gastonia; First Lieutenant Royce M. Williams, LaGrange; Private First Class William P. Lawrence, Jr., Raleigh.

## Twins Covered With Mud On Battlefield Reunited Again

Two Roanoke Rapids soldiers, Marvin and Marion Taylor, 23-year old twin sons of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Taylor, of Washington street, fighting on the same battlefield in Germany, and covered with so much mud they were hardly recognizable, were reunited after almost three years' separation.

Marion has been overseas nearly three years, taking part in the invasion of Normandy on D-Day, after having seen action in the African and Sicily campaigns.

Marvin went overseas in October, 1944, as a replacement. It was not long after he was in Europe that he met several soldiers in England, France, Belgium and Germany, who said:

"Oh, I've seen you before, Taylor. Don't you remember me? We came over on D-Day. We left the states together."

To all of which Marvin replied: "My name is Taylor, but you've never seen me before. I have a twin brother over here somewhere, I haven't seen for almost three years."

And with that statement the

search for Marion—Marvin's twin—was on and he was finally found on the same battlefield with his brother. They are now together again, both with the First Army in the First Division.

## Urges Children Be Vaccinated

Dr. R. M. Bardin, city health officer, urges that all children be vaccinated against Diphtheria. Dr. Bardin stated that there were several cases of this disease in the community at this time and it is very important that the children be vaccinated as a preventive measure against it.

## Pfc. Wimbrow Is Wounded

Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Wimbrow of Weldon have been notified by the War Department that their son, Pfc. Daniel Smallwood ("Tickle") Wimbrow, was seriously wounded in action in France

## Butler Breaks His Right Arm

Dan Butler fell last Wednesday as he was coming out of the main office of the Roanoke Mills Company on Jackson Street and broke his right arm in about four places. He was taken to the Roanoke Rapids Hospital where he is still a patient.

## Sgt. Reaves In General Hospital

Sgt. James Reaves of Roanoke Rapids, arrived at Kennedy General Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, on December 27, where he is being treated for wounds received in combat against the Germans. "I was wounded once in Normandy when our company was pinned down under heavy artillery fire," said Sergeant Reaves. "I recovered from that, but in Luxembourg I was wounded again by machine gun fire during an attack. The fighting was plenty tough there, too. It was fight your way into a place, then fight your way back out." Sergeant Reaves was seven months overseas in France, England, Luxembourg and Normandy.

## Garanflo Selects Airport Runways

### Commissioned



W. H. Pruden, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Pruden of this city, has recently been commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the air corps and is winner of the silver wings of a pilot. Bill is at home now on furlough.

G. E. Garanflo, of Charlotte, representing the CAA, was in Roanoke Rapids Wednesday making an official inspection of the site for the proposed Halifax County Airport. Mr. Garanflo made a tentative selection of a site for three runways of 3,000 feet in length, but location of these runways will not be settled until Mr. Garanflo has had an opportunity to give further study to the topographical map which was recently made by Phillip D. Freeman, consulting engineer, of Norfolk, Va.

A survey of the land held under option by the Airport Committee, of which Dr. M. C. Maddrey is chairman, has been completed and as soon as Mr. Garanflo definitely names the location of these runways these options will be exercised and the actual construction of the Airport can be started as soon as preparations are made.

If and when, as Dr. Maddrey explained, the construction of the air field begins it will be financed by citizens of Halifax County with the aid of federal funds.

## STEPHENSON SAID KILLED OCTOBER 7TH

Sgt. Harold L. Stephenson, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Stephenson of Halifax, was killed in action over Germany, October 7, the War Department has notified his family.

Engineer and top turret gunner on a B-17 Flying Fortress, Sgt. Stephenson has been serving overseas since last August with the Eighth Air Force in England. Sgt. Stephenson entered the service on August 12, 1943.

He was graduated from Weldon High School and was employed by Stedman & Co., in Halifax, before going into the service.

Survivors include his parents, three brothers, Whit Stephenson, Jr., and Lonnie Stephenson of the home, and John Stephenson of Maribel; four sisters, Miss Lucile Stephenson of the home, Mrs. H. M. Nethery of Halifax, Mrs. William Mays of Washington, D. C., and Mrs. Jack Hadford of Rocky Mount.

## Pfc. Bailey Is Found Again

Mrs. Nessie Bailey, 1023 Henry Street, has received word from the War Department that her son, Pfc. Roland Bailey, is safe after being reported lost in action for a second time. The telegram Mrs. Bailey received reads as follows: "Am pleased to inform you that your son, Pfc. Roland C. Bailey, returned to duty on November 22."

## SGT. WILSON IS VISITING HIS PARENTS

Staff Sergeant James M. Wilson, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. O. Wilson of this city, is at home with his parents for 21 days. Sgt. Wilson entered the service in February, 1942, going into the Air Corps. He went overseas in June of last year and has been stationed in Italy with the 15th Air Force and has 50 completed bombing missions to his credit. Wilson was in the invasion of Southern France in August and has also seen action over Germany, Austria, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Greece and Northern Italy. He wears several ribbons and medals for meritorious achievements.

While in Italy Sgt. Wilson met his sister, Lieut. Virginia Wilson, and a brother, Lieut. C. R. Wilson. Another sister, Pvt. Elizabeth Wilson, is also somewhere in France, and another brother, Seaman 1/c R. K. Wilson, is in the Mediterranean area.

After his leave expires Sgt. Wilson will report to Miami Beach, Fla., for further orders.

## PVT. BAGGETT BADLY HURT

Mr. and Mrs. Grady Baggett received a message from the War Department last Thursday stating that their son, Pvt. James F. Baggett, had been seriously wounded on December 6, 1944, in France. Pvt. Baggett entered service in February, 1944, and went across in September. He attended the Roanoke Rapids High School and has many friends here.