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WOUNDED VETS HERE 4 DAYS

Pfc. John Thomas Killed In Action

First Reported As Missing In Action July 4 Last Year

Pfc. John Wayne Thomas, 21-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Davis Franklin Thomas, 1005 Cedar St., Roanoke Rapids, was killed in action in Germany July 4, 1944, according to a telegram received by the parents last Tuesday from the War Department. He had been previously reported as missing in action on that date.

Young Thomas was born and reared in this city. He attended Roanoke Rapids High School. At the age of 18 he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and received his basic training at Parris Island, South Carolina, and later trained in California.

A brother, Pfc. Edward Thomas, also in the service, is believed to be "somewhere" in the South Pacific theatre of operations.

Prior to entering the Marine Corps young Thomas was employed at Roanoke Mill No. 1.

Pvt. Garner Is Killed On Luzon Island

Pvt. Leslie Glenn Garner, 25, of Newport, N. C., was killed in action on Luzon Island, The Philippines, on May 12th, 1945. He entered the army in September, 1944, and was sent overseas in February, 1945. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Estelle Edwards Garner, Assistant Home Demonstration Agent of Halifax County, his mother, one sister and one brother who reside at Newport, N. C., and one brother serving in the U. S. Navy. His wife, editor of "The Home Sphere" published in The Herald, is now spending some time with her mother, Mrs. Arlene Edwards, at Newport, N. C.

Cooke Is Out On 89 Points

Pvt. Louie Davis Cooke, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Cooke, Jackson Street, arrived here Sunday from Fort Bragg with his medical discharge from the U. S. armed service. He had 89 points. Pvt. Cooke has been in service since 1941. He served in the Pacific, Pre-Pearl Harbor and American Theatre of Operations. He arrived back in the states in the fall of 1944. He came home for a furlough and upon his return he has been in Arizona. He served as a cook in the air corps. In less than thirty minutes after he received his discharge he was in civilian clothes and on his way home. All he says is "It is good to be home for keeps."

Doing MP Duty



Above is Sergt. Larry C. Rayner, son of J. W. Rayner of this city. Larry went into service late in 1943 and overseas in February, 1944. He is now doing MP duty, according to a message received from him this week.

Playgrounds Open Monday

The playgrounds in Roanoke Rapids will open next Monday, according to plans made last week at a meeting of various officials and committees.

Rockefeller Venters, connected with the athletic department of the local high school, will be director of all activities. The swimming pool will be open to the children under supervision of efficient personnel and hours for using the pool will be announced at a later date. The pool was to be opened next Monday, but owing to certain repairs having to be made, a postponement will probably be necessary.

The recreational program for the playground is sponsored by a committee composed of one member from each civic club and contributing organization, including the city, the schools and the Community Chest. This committee is headed by McRae Faison.

Richard Wilson Now In Pacific

Richard K. "Dickie" Wilson, SM 2/c, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. O. Wilson of Roanoke Ave., is now in the Pacific. Dickie entered service in 1942 and was in the invasion of Southern France. He was home this past January and left for overseas duty again in February.

Shipment Of Jewelry Lost Year and Half Is Recovered

A shipment of valuable jewelry, consisting of 60 loose diamonds, 45 gold and platinum mountings, solid gold watch set with diamonds and other pieces of jewelry, mailed by Lynch's Jewelry Store on Saturday, November 13, 1943, never reached its destination. The package was addressed to Kimberly Diamond Works, Atlanta, Ga. It was sent fourth class mail and only a 3-cent postage stamp was required. That was 18 months ago.

After much correspondence between the shipper and the addressee, a tracer was put out for the package. Nothing more was heard in a long time, that is until a postal inspector a few weeks ago came to Roanoke Rapids, looked Mr. Lynch up, and placed before him one of the rarest pieces of the jewelry and asked: "Ever see this before?"

Mr. Lynch immediately recognized it, and said yes. The inspector kept pulling out piece after piece of the jewelry and Mr. Lynch continued to recognize them.

Finally, he asked the inspector where he got them, and he was told that a negro who handled the mail bags in Seaboard had been arrested, tried and convicted for the theft of the package.

Neither Mr. Lynch nor Postmaster Shell knew anything about it until the inspector came to Roanoke Rapids with the stolen articles taken from the mails.

Beale Jailed On Assault Charges

Stanley Beale, white, was placed in the city jail yesterday on charges of assaulting his wife, Daisy Beale, and his step-daughter, Francine Park. Beale is also charged with burning all the clothes of the two women at his home. Bond for both offenses has been set at \$1000. The accused had been unable to get his release Thursday noon.

In Hospital

Dick Smith, employe of one of the local mills, is in Roanoke Rapids Hospital suffering from a severe injury to his hand.

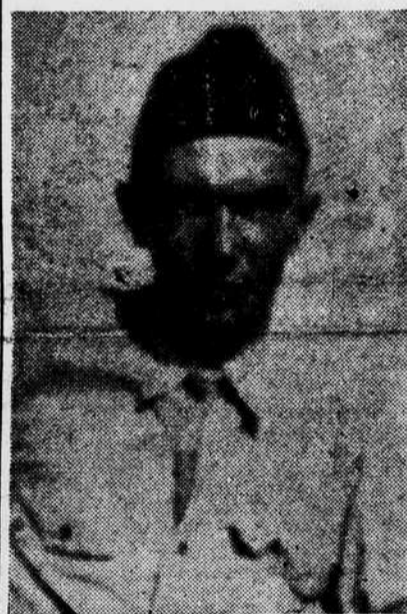
Hides Key; Tells Man Where It Is

Robert Boone, negro man, charged with breaking and entering the bedroom of a female, Cleo Mills, negro woman, had the charge reduced to forcible trespass and was fined \$10 and costs in Mayor's Court Monday.

It was brought out during the trial that the woman had hidden the key to her bedroom and then told Boone where it could be found.

ARMY TEAM TO VISIT LOCAL MILLS DURING TEXTILE WAR WEEK; RALLIES ON PROGRAM

Believed First



Shown here is Sergt. Jack Gilliam, who is believed to be the first Roanoke Rapids soldier to be honorably discharged from the service. Jack had 99 points to his credit.

Pfc. Hawkins Still Talking About Escape

Private First Class Richard M. Hawkins, whose wife, Mrs. Mary B. Hawkins, resides at Route No. 1, Roanoke Rapids, is still talking about his narrow escape during the bitterly contested battle for Davao.

Private Hawkins, a scout with Company "G" of this Victory Division's veteran 34th Infantry Regiment, was out in front of a patrol which contacted a Jap pill-box, defended with two machine guns.

"The pill-box was so well camouflaged that we almost walked into it," said Hawkins. "They opened up on us at a short range and drove us back, but no one was wounded. We formed a skirmish line to attack again and we were driven back again. It was really hot up there, but we tried again. This time a shot from one of the guns ripped through my first aid kit and blew a hole in my canteen right at my side.

"I was afraid to look down, because water was running down my leg and it stung pretty hard and I was sure it was blood and I was hit. But old lady luck was with me and I got out O. K. It was too strong a defense for our small patrols so we had artillery fire directed on the position."

A team of wounded war veterans from Moore General Hospital, Asheville, will be visitors in Roanoke Rapids four days of next week during the Roanoke Rapids Textile War Week when the importance of textiles to the war effort will be stressed by the visitors.

The program is sponsored by the Army and the local textile mills with the cooperation of the War Manpower Commission.

Colonel J. Tracy Hale, just back from the Pacific war zone, will be the principal speaker. Lt. T. J. Barzil, Public Relations Officer from the 4th Service Command in Atlanta, will be in charge of the team of three wounded enlisted men. They are as follows:

Private David W. Koehl, Mobile, Ala., veteran of the campaign in Africa, Sicily, Normandy; holds Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, Purple Heart with cluster.

Corporal Carl M. Bester, St. Paul, Minn., who saw action in the European theatre with Troop Car-

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Butts Injured On Thursday

J. G. Butts, Mail Messenger of Halifax was injured last Thursday, May 31, while unloading mail from Atlantic Coast Line train No. 89, southbound. Mr. Butts was standing at the door of the mail car receiving a bag of mail when he heard a yell from Joe Shaw, a station hand, who was working express to car south of Mr. Butts. Shaw jumped from his two wheel cart to safety. It was then that Mr. Butts saw the north-bound freight within two car lengths of him coming at a rapid rate of speed. It was too late to cross in front of the on-coming train. Being trapped between the two trains he darted under the one that was standing still. The freight train hit the cart which was left by Shaw and a piece of flying timber hit Mr. Butts, breaking his right arm just above the wrist. He was taken to the Atlantic Coast Line Hospital in Rocky Mount for treatment and returned home that night. He is reported resting comfortably.

Colonel Sears Is Given Promotion

News of the promotion of James White Sears of Roanoke Rapids to the rank of lieutenant colonel has been received here. Colonel Sears is with General Hodges First Army now in Europe and in the process of being transferred to the Pacific theatre. When he left here, the Colonel was assistant superintendent of Roanoke Mills Co., No. 1.