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County Young Man Tells Experiences In The U. S. Army

Mack Ange, Jamesville Native, Has Seen Much Action in The Front Lines

Writing to relatives back home, Mack Ange, young son of Mr. and Mrs. Levin Ange, of Jamesville Township, relates the experiences of his first eighteen months in the Army of the United States. The first class private has seen much action in the front lines. His letter, written to a relative, Thomas P. Sanderson, follows, in part:

"Beginning to end of my 18 months of Army life: Was drafted May 14, 1942, received basic training for eight weeks, then to Belvoir, Va., for five more weeks. Went back to Fort Bragg until about August, when I was transferred to a line outfit at Camp A. P. Hill, Va., for a few weeks; then assigned to field artillery, self-propelled, about the last of August. Then went to an embarkation port for overseas duty. There about a month, and on first of November loaded on a large transport. On the second day woke up far at sea, out of sight of land when I walked out on deck.

"We floated and zig-zagged for 18 days; and on the eighteenth day a sunny land came into sight—the harbor at Casablanca, French West Africa. It was a sight to see the ships sunk and scuttled in the harbor. The large French warship, Jean Bart, was there, but useless, due to dive bombing.

"The first people we saw were Arabs, scrambling for anything you threw towards them; and fighting like you see kids when you pitch a quarter in a ring and say, 'Best man gets it.' It was fun, especially the noise they made, sounded like a flock of ducks.

"Next, unloading, with two barracks bags full of gear as we scrambled over a British vessel, and off for a five-mile walk, our eyes popping at the sights in front of us. Mostly debris and very filthy Arabs begging. Remained there until February, and then on flat cars to Rebot, in a large cork forest. Was a little hard going, we thought, for a while anyway. Received a few very short passes and went on some sight-seeing tours, while studying firing problems.

"Was there until March, when we loaded on flat cars again for a thousand-mile trip, over mountains and through tunnels. What a ride! What was to be seen was almost unbelievable. Destruction, fire, hungry and unclothed people, weary and fatigued, were about all left. Have forgotten name of place where we unloaded, but it was not far from the front. French and British soldiers, by the trainloads, came and went; also tanks, planes, guns, auto trucks by trainloads—all shot up and burned out.

"Had one close-up look at a truck very close. An armor piercing shell had gone through it, and the driver's helmet was still in there, full of flesh—and what a scent. What a feeling we had; our guns there, all shelling, and knowing that we were next.

"Next we unloaded and were off looking for Jerries for a few miles. Can't say how worn out and hungry you get. More sights and then we met up with Jerry March 22. At 7:10 on Saturday morning, the No. 1 gun registered the first shot and an observation post far up in the hills could see very plain that the second one went home. So the battery drove its first mark home.

"Advanced to another position around 4 in the afternoon, and some prisoners were brought past. Around dark to another place, but fired no shots there during the night, although we were all nervous thinking about what was next. Next day, off again to another position. Fired quite a few rounds, with more guns knocked out, and tanks, too.

"Then off again, advancing to other places over rough country to

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Price Average Is

Holding Up Well

Despite a declining price for the better types of tobacco, the general average is holding to a fairly high level on the local market today. A conservative estimate placed the average at between 43 and 44 cents.

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Approximately 200,000 pounds of tobacco are being offered for sale here today, and most, if not all the selling time will be used in clearing the floors.

Prices for the inferior grades continue to soar, but the top is holding to around 47 cents for the better types. Wrappers are selling higher, but very few tobaccos of that type are seen on the floors.

It is estimated that the sales today will carry the total for the season to a point in excess of seven and one-half million pounds.

Peanut Digging in the County Being Completed This Week

Getting off to an unusually early start, peanut digging is now just about complete in the county. Ninety-nine per cent of the crop will have been dug by late tomorrow, according to reports. Even before the preliminary harvest task was completed, picking operations were started and the crop is moving to market in fair quantity at this time. The enlarged plant of the Williamston Peanut Company started full-time operations this week, and a double shift is being considered. It is reported that the plant handled well over 1,000 bags during an eight-hour shift one day this week.

The crop this season, according to reports, is possibly one-fourth under the production figures of a year ago. However, the crop is spotted, some farmers reporting as many as

PFC. MACK ANGE



W. Herbert Lilley Died Suddenly At His Home Tuesday

Funeral Services Will Be Held Saturday Afternoon in Jamesville

W. Herbert Lilley, retired traveling salesman and for several years operator of a tailoring shop, died suddenly at his home here on Smithwick Street last Tuesday afternoon at 3:50 o'clock, the victim of a heart attack. He had not been feeling well for several days and spent Monday and part of Tuesday in bed. Getting up that afternoon he was shaving himself when he was stricken. Walking across the hall to the living room he fell. Mrs. Lilley and her sister, Miss Mayo Lamb, rushed to his side and placed a pillow under his head. He told them he was dying, and when asked if he was in pain he placed his hand over his heart, death following a very short time later.

The son of the late William B. and Lenora Jones Lilley, he was born in the Jamesville community 55 years ago. Completing his schooling there, he entered the mercantile field and later traveled for several nationally-known firms in many of the Southern states. He retired from the road about twelve or fifteen years ago. On March 8, 1918, he was married to Miss Kathleen Wallace who died about nine years ago. One son, Arthur Wallace Lilley, a member of the armed forces stationed in Texas, survives the union. Returning to the armed service soon after he was married, Mr. Lilley joined the 81st Division and saw service overseas as a sergeant.

On November 24, 1936, he was married to Miss Annie Lamb of Williamson and since that time he made his home here. He was a member of the First Baptist Church here for a number of years.

Mr. Lilley was an unpretentious (Continued on page six)

Post Observers Receive Awards

Well earned, special awards were made to about fifty airplane post observers at a meeting held in the Bear Grass School auditorium last Tuesday evening. Sgt. Lehner, of the Norfolk Fighter Wing, briefly addressed the faithful little band who had devoted its time and means in carrying out the expressed wishes of the Army command. The awards, a special wing emblem of the air warning system, were made by the Army sergeant.

The curtailment of the post observation schedule brings much relief, but the faithful spotters were willing and ready to carry on, Chief Observer Rossel Rogers declared.

Former Member Of Royal Air Force Makes Visit Here

Lieutenant in Action Months Without Accident, But Injured in Blackout

Lieutenant E. E. Edwards, a former member of the Royal Air Force, recalled the unusual story that attracted the attention of radio commentators and broke into the headlines in many papers here and in England while visiting his friend, Lt. Russell Roe buck, here last night.

The young man, an interesting and entertaining talker but a bit reluctant to point out any of his many accomplishments as a member of the RAF, went into detail about the story. After flying for eighteen months over enemy territory and encountering anti-aircraft fire and opposition from the best fighters, Germany had to offer without even a scratch, young Edwards fell and broke his leg in a London hotel during a blackout. To have lived eighteen months as a pilot in the RAF without an accident or even a slight injury and then to suffer a compound leg fracture during a blackout was recognized as an unusual story, and the broadcast telling it is remembered here by a number of people.

The lieutenant explained that an air raid was in progress over London just about a year ago, that he was running down the hotel stairs in the dark and missed a step. He was removed to a hospital in London and was later returned to this country and was in the same hospital with Russell Roe buck who was undergoing treatment there at that time. They became friends and when Lt. Roe buck arrived here this week, his friend came over to see him. His leave was a short one and he returned late last night for his station in Norfolk.

A native of Globe, Arizona, young Edwards with a bit of private flying experience to his credit, was anxious to get into the fight. That was before this country went to war, so he volunteered for service in the RAF. His training schedule was crowded into a very short period, and it wasn't so very long before he was on patrol over and along the English Channel. He became a master behind the wheel in all types of ships, and his crew downed a number of German planes. He participated in the Dieppe raid, knocking out two gun nests before he shot up all his ammunition and was forced to return to his base. His plane was

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Name Leaders For War Fund Canvass

Leaders for the United War Fund canvass in District No. 1 were named yesterday, and plans are going forward rapidly for handling the drive to raise approximately \$10,500 beginning Monday, October 25.

V. J. Spivey and J. C. Manning, directors of the canvass, announced the names of the following leaders: Mrs. H. U. Peel, Bear Grass; Mrs. J. Eason Lilley, Griffins; Mrs. Walter Brown and Mrs. Camille Fleming Turner, Jamesville, and Mrs. R. J. Hardison, Williams Township. These township leaders will name their assistants, and it is now certain that the appeal of the United War Fund will be carried into every nook and corner of the district and county.

Rev. J. M. Perry, District No. 2 chairman, is going forward with his plans, and his line-up will be announced shortly.

Members of the District No. 1 executive committee, canvass leaders and others interested in the all-important task are to meet in the courthouse here next Tuesday night at 8 o'clock. Township quotas will be determined at that time and all members of the executive committee and canvass leaders and others are asked to attend.

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Sunday Services At The Local Holiness Church

Enters Richmond Hospital Yesterday For Treatment

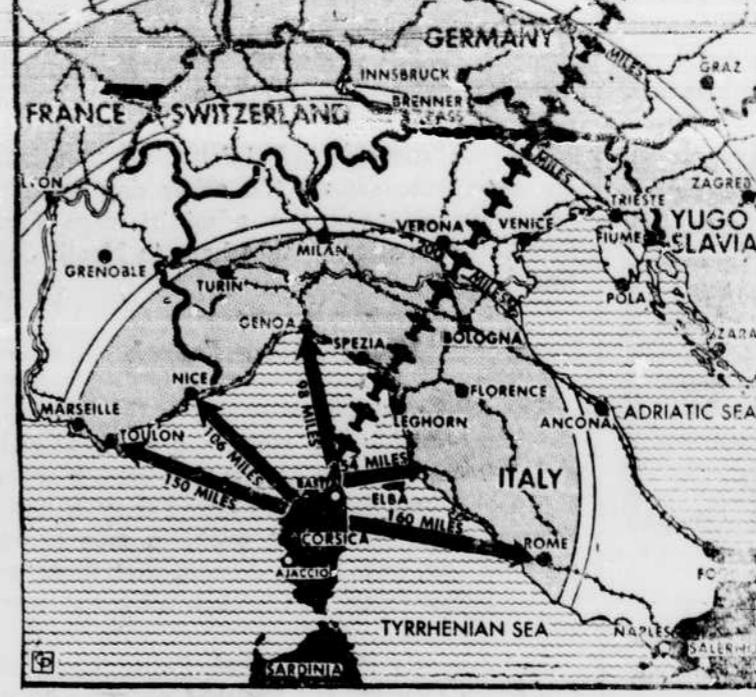
Services will be held in the local Holiness Church Saturday night at eight o'clock. Sunday school will convene at 9:30 a.m. Sunday services will be held at 6 p.m. Sunday followed by preaching services at 8 o'clock, it was announced by the pastor, Rev. H. M. Pope.

INCREASE

The acute stove shortage existing in this county was relieved, partly at least, this week when the allotment was materially increased. The original quota of 48 coal and wood-burning stoves was increased by 98, a member of the rationing board stating that the total of 138 will possibly care for the most urgent needs. Applications for nearly 200 stoves of this type are now before the board.

In addition to the 138 coal and wood-burning heaters, the October allotment includes two oil heating stoves, fifteen coal and wood stoves for cooking and eight oil cook stoves.

CORSICA—ALLIED SPRINGBOARD



WITH THE WITHDRAWAL OF Nazi forces from Corsica, the Allies now possess an excellent springboard for landings in France and northern and central Italy. In addition, bombers operating from airfields on the strategic Mediterranean island are within effective flying range of many vital enemy targets. Black arrows show distances that would have to be covered to various invasion points; circular lines, the varied ranges for light, medium and heavy bombers. (International)

Local Young Officer Was On Ship Firing First Invasion Shot

Lt. Russell Roe buck Tells of Action in Sicilian Campaign

There were many exciting hours in the Sicilian and Salerno campaigns. Lt. Russell Roe buck declared last night while on a two-day leave here with his parents, Sheriff and Mrs. C. B. Roe buck.

"It is no need for one to say he isn't afraid when the bombs start falling close enough to spatter your ship with water and shrapnel," the young man admitted when he was asked about the two campaigns. He explained that he was not at liberty to go into detail, but it was learned from him that his ship was the first one to fire a shell on the Sicilian coast when the Allies moved in at Scoglitti, about fifteen miles west of Gela. According to the young officer, they were assigned to a portion of the beach that was defended by Italians. "They turned their search lights on us and one could read a newspaper on our ship with the light, but they never offered to fire on us," the officer declared. The Germans came after daylight and dropped bombs all around us, but we were not hit," he said. The landing was effected at that point apparently without great difficulty, and once the infantry was entrenched, the naval units withdrew for other duties.

The young man did not draw a direct assignment in the Salerno invasion, but "we had a grandstand seat where we could see the fierce anti-aircraft units in action and the big fires ashore," he said. His ship drew an important assignment, but one that proved to be enjoyable rather than dangerous.

"We were busy clearing the nearby islands, including Capri, of Germans. We missed Mussolini by less than twelve hours on one of the group," he said.

When they reached the Isle of Capri, about fifteen miles from Naples, the Germans had withdrawn, leaving the property and civilians unmolested for the most part. There was enough food on that particular island to last for two weeks, but on others, the officer said, the population

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Two Cases Are Heard By Justice J. L. Hassell

Louis Eborn Wrecks Car Near Everett

Following several weeks of considerable activity, Justice J. L. Hassell's court was unusually quiet this week. Only two cases were docketed.

Heber Congleton, drunk and disorderly on the highways, was taxed.

Holmes, beggar character, was required to pay \$9.50 costs for being drunk and down.

RATION PLANS

Plans for handling the distribution of gasoline and Book No. 4 for food rations in this county will be completed at a meeting of all white and colored school principals to be held in the courthouse here next Thursday afternoon, October 21, at 3:30 o'clock. A member of the rationing board will explain the procedure.

The schools will handle the distribution of the two ration books during the week beginning Monday, October 25. Ration Book No. 4 will be available at both the colored and white schools, but A gas rations will be distributed only by the white schools.

CHRISTMAS MAILING

A last-minute rush to get Christmas packages in the mails for armymen serving overseas was reported by the local post office today as the deadline for such mailings approaches.

A new mailing record was recorded yesterday when approximately 65 packages addressed to young men in all corners of the world were received by the local office. The rush early this morning was even greater.

It is now fairly certain that nearly every man in the service will be remembered, that some will receive several packages.

Relatives and friends have until October 31 to mail packages to men in the Navy.

Plan To Open Hotel Dining Room Soon

Plans are almost complete for reopening the Hotel George Reynolds dining room, Mr. and Mrs. K. A. White, the new operators, said this morning. Equipment for operating the room has been ordered for several weeks and much of it has arrived, and it is planned now to open the dining room next Monday. However, a definite date for offering the service depends on the receipt of a few items, it was explained.

Aside from rationing problems, the food situation has been next to critical for a good number of persons who patronized cafés. Mr. and Mrs. White closed their café and expected to open the hotel dining room but they were delayed because equipment could not be had immediately. Another café was closed when sufficient help could not be had to operate it, forcing quite a few persons to turn to drug store lunch counters and hot dog stands. The hotel management is making extensive preparations for the operation of the dining room, and with the reopening of two cafés, the food problem for many, no doubt, will be relieved.

Leasing the property the first of this month, Mr. and Mrs. White have already made many improvements to the George Reynolds Hotel, and the improvement program is being advanced as rapidly as possible.

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First Fathers From County Enter Navy

The first Martin County fathers called under the Selective Service Act, entered the armed services yesterday. Included in the group were William Patterson, father of four children, and Vernon D. Godwin, Jr., father of one child. Both of the young men are from Williamson. They reported to Raleigh where their immediate transfers to some naval training station are expected.

It is possible that other fathers were included in the group, but no official audit of the group reporting to the induction center about a week ago could be had here immediately. Carl Mobley, Williamson married man, reported to the Navy at the same time.

Reporting to the induction center last week, about forty-one Martin County white men were either drawn for duty with the Navy or Army or were rejected. The men selected for the Navy had only one week to return home and arrange their private affairs. Those selected for army service have about two more weeks before reporting for service.