



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **JACOBS**

NELSON

E.

Address:

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: MM1C

Unit / Squadron:

U.S.S. BAHAM (AK-122/AG-71)

U.S.S. HECTOR (AR-7)

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

PHILIPPINE LIBERATION MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Machinists Mate First-Class Petty Officer Nelson E. Jacobs honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

United States Naval Training Center (USNTC) (Great Lakes, Illinois) - The Great Lakes Naval Training Center, located in North Chicago, was the largest single training facility for the U.S. Navy / During the course of World War II, Great Lakes supplied about a million men, just over a third of all personnel who served in the U.S. Navy

USNRB (Naval Recruiting Bureau), Ind. Comm. (San Diego, California) - Established on 23 February 1922, the base grew rapidly as repair facilities expanded, torpedo and radio schools were established and more shops were constructed / The base then expanded heavily during World War II and by 1942, the Navy had added expanded fleet training schools, and an amphibious force training unit / After World War II, base operations were again reorganized, with a post-war mission to provide logistical support (including repair and dry-docking) to ships of the active fleet / On 15 September 1946, the Secretary of the Navy re-designated the repair base Naval Station, San Diego

Miscellaneous:

Nelson Jacobs was employed by Stelco Corp., Worthington Pump and Ford Motor Co. before he retired in 1987 after working as a Sales Representative for Emulso in Tonawanda, New York for 34 years / After his retirement, Jacobs assisted with funerals at F.E. Brown Sons Funeral Home, Orchard Park / Nelson E. Jacobs passed away on 14 April 2002 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at Woodlawn Cemetery, Orchard Park, New York

Machinist's mates were responsible for the continuous operation of the many engines, compressors, gears, refrigeration, and air-conditioning equipment along with other types of machinery onboard ships and shore



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installations / Responsible for the ship's steam propulsion and auxiliary equipment and the outside (deck) machinery

USS Baham (AK-122/AG-71) was a Basilan-class miscellaneous auxiliary ship commissioned by the U.S. Navy for service in World War II, named after Baham, the star in constellation Pegasus / Commissioned on 1 January 1944, the Baham was responsible for delivering troops, goods and equipment to locations in the war zone / The USS Baham assisted in the repairs to damaged ships during fighting in the Western Carolines and Leyte Gulf operations in the Philippine Islands / In late 1945, the USS Baham was the victim of a kamikaze attack / The attack inflicted numerous casualties to personnel on board and destroyed the ship's 5 inch (130 mm) caliber gun, which was the ship's primary armament / The USS Baham was decommissioned on 9 July 1946 and sold for scrap on 9 June 1972

The USS Hector (AR-7) was a repair ship that served in the United States Navy from 1944 to 1987 / Hector was commissioned 7 February 1944 / The Hector was assigned to duty in the Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands, to repair ships as the battle for the Philippines raged / After the war ended 1 September 1945, Hector remained in the Pacific to prepare various ships for return to the United States / Serving in the Korean War and the Vietnam War, the Hector was decommissioned on 31 March 1987 and sold for scrap in 1994

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military awarded to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946

The Philippine Liberation Medal was a military award of the Republic of the Philippines presented to any service member, of both Philippine Commonwealth and allied militaries, who participated in the liberation of the Philippine Islands between the dates of 17 October 1944 and 2 September 1945 / The Philippine Liberation Medal is intended to recognize military service in the last days of World War II when the military of Japan was driven from the Philippines and then to eventually surrender in September 1945 / To be awarded the medal, a service member must have served in the Philippines for at least thirty days during the eligible time period



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Name: **JANKOWIAK**

ROBERT

E.

Address: 110 ELECTRIC AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE

Rank: 1ST LT.

Unit / Squadron:

381ST BOMB GROUP, 533RD BOMB SQUADRON - 8TH AIR FORCE

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PURPLE HEART

AIR MEDAL

PRISONER OF WAR MEDAL

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

First Lieutenant Robert E. Jankowiak honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force / 1LT Robert Jankowiak was a Pilot stationed in England and flying B-17G missions into Germany

On 24 March 1945 aircraft from the 533rd Bombardment Squadron Second left Essex, England on a mission to bomb the Furstenuau-Vechtel Fliegerhorst (airfield) in Germany / Piloting his B-17G Flying Fortress, Lieutenant Robert E. Jankowiak was captured by German forces after his aircraft was shot down on or about 24 March 1945 / Lieutenant Jankowiak was held as a Prisoner of War at Stalag Luft I in Barth, Western Pomerania, Germany until his return to U.S. Military Control at the end of hostilities in May 1945 / LT Janowiak was awarded the Prisoner of War Medal and awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds suffered in combat

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Jankowiak was a member of the Geneseo War Plane Museum, 533rd Squadron 381st Bomb Group Memorial Association, Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Post #113, Western New York Chapter Ex-Prisoners of War and Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) Post #8113 / Robert E. Jankowiak passed away on 9 January 1995 at the age of 70 years old and is interred at Nativity Cemetery, Orchard Park, New York

The 381st Bomb Group was a B-17 Flying Fortress unit based at Ridgewell, England, Station 167, as part of the Eighth Air Force from 1943 to 1945 / The group flew in the 1st Combat Wing, First Air Division of the 8th Army Air Force

The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal (EAME) was a military award of the United States Armed



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Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first American decoration. Originally it was awarded for bravery in action, currently it is awarded to those wounded or killed in action

The Air Medal is awarded to anyone who, while serving in any capacity in or with the Armed Forces of the United States, and has distinguished themselves by meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight

The Prisoner of War Medal may be awarded to any person who was a prisoner of war after April 5, 1917 and held captive while engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States; while engaged in military operations involving conflict against an opposing foreign force; while serving with friendly forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force to which the United States is not a belligerent party / As of an amendment to Title 10 of the United States Code in 2013, the medal is also awarded for captivity under circumstances "which the Secretary concerned finds were comparable to those circumstances under which persons have generally been held captive by enemy armed forces during periods of armed conflict" / The person's conduct, while in captivity, must have been honorable / This medal may be awarded posthumously to the surviving next of kin of the recipient / No more than one Prisoner of War Medal may be awarded / For any subsequent award of the medal, service stars will be awarded

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II / The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946



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Name: JENNING

ALVIN

G.

Address: 664 BROOKSIDE DRIVE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 16TH ARMORED ENGINEER BATTALION
1ST ARMORED DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL 5 BATTLE STARS
AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Sergeant Alvin G. Jennings honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Alvin Jennings earned four of his Battle Stars during the Italian campaigns in Naples, Foggia, North Apennines, Po Valley, Rome-Arno and Tunisia / Sgt Alvin Jennings earned a Battle Star during the battle for Tunisia in the North African Campaign

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Alvin C. Jennings passed away in 2001 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Woodlawn Cemetery, Orchard Park, New York

The 16th Engineer Battalion was a Combat Engineer Battalion in the United States Army, first established in 1935 / Battalion arrived in North Africa on 21 December 1942 and participated in the Tunisia Campaign / Battalion transferred to Sicily in July 1943 and participated in the Sicily Campaign / Through 1944, the 16th Armored participated in the Naples-Foggia Campaign, Anzio Campaign, Rome-Arno Campaign and the North Apennines Campaign / In 1945, the battalion participated in the Po Valley, Italy Campaign

Engineering Battalions performed many engineering tasks, including demolitions, obstacle emplacement, fortification, and light bridge building / Engineer general service regiments and battalions performed construction, repair, and maintenance duties of all kinds behind the front lines / When needed, combat engineers also could act as infantry

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was



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intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

Battle (Combat) Stars were presented to military personnel who were engaged in specific battles in combat under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action

The American Defense Service Medal (also referred to as the Pre-Pearl Harbor Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty between 8 September 1939 and 7 December 1941

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



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Name: **JENNING**

FRANK

J.

Address: 64 BROOKSIDE DRIVE

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE

Rank: S/SGT

Unit / Squadron:

SQUADRON "T", 442ND A.A.F. BASE UNIT

453RD BOMB GROUP, 733RD BOMB SQUADRON, 8TH AIR FORCE

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

AIR MEDAL W/4 OAK LEAF CLUSTERS

4 BATTLE STARS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Staff-Sergeant Frank J. Jennings honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force / SSGT Frank Jennings earned four Battle Stars for combat action during the European campaign

Base Assignments:

Tonopah, Nevada - Through 31 November 1943, Tonopah AAF aided in the training of 8 bombardment squadrons and 12 fighter squadrons / In September 1943 the base expanded to provide training for the Consolidated B-24 Liberator aircraft

Miscellaneous:

During World War II, the 453rd Bombardment Group was an Eighth Air Force B-24 Liberator heavy bombardment group stationed in England / Its 733d Bombardment Squadron completed 82 consecutive missions without a loss, a record / James "Jimmy" Stewart, the Hollywood movie star, was Group Operations Officer from 31 March to 1 July 1944 / The group took part in the concentrated attack against the German aircraft industry during Big Week, 20–25 February 1944 / Besides strategic operations, the group bombed V-weapons sites, airfields, and gun batteries in France prior to the invasion of Normandy in June 1944; on 6 June hit shore installations between Le Havre and Cherbourg and other enemy positions farther inland / Attacked enemy troops in support of the Allied breakthrough at Saint-Lô in July / Bombed German communications during the Battle of the Bulge, December 1944 – January 1945 / Ferried cargo on two occasions: hauled gasoline, blankets, and rations to France in September 1944; dropped ammunition, fuel, and medical supplies during the airborne assault across the Rhine in March 1945.

Often compared with the better-known Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress, the B-24 Liberators were a more modern design with a higher top speed, greater range, and a heavier bomb load; it was also more difficult to fly, with



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heavy control forces and poor formation-flying characteristics / The B-24 ended World War II as the most produced heavy bomber in history / At over 18,400 units, half by the Ford Motor Company, the B-17 Flying Fortress still holds the distinction as the most-produced American military aircraft

The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal (EAME) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

The Air Medal is awarded to anyone who, while serving in any capacity in or with the Armed Forces of the United States, and has distinguished themselves by meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight / Subsequent awards are annotated with the traditional oak leaf clusters

Battle (Combat) Stars were presented to military personnel who were engaged in specific battles in combat under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



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Name: **JENNINGS**

DOUGLAS

A.

Address:

Service Branch: R.C.A.F.

Rank: CADET

Unit / Squadron:

164TH SQUADRON, R.C.A.F. (ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE)

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Douglas A. Jennings honorably served in the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) / Douglas Jennings was an American citizen who participated in the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan as an Aviation Cadet

Base Assignments:

Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada

Miscellaneous:

The Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) is the air force of Canada / During the Second World War, the RCAF was significantly expanded to become the fourth largest allied air force / During the war the RCAF was involved in operations in Great Britain, northwest Europe, the north Atlantic, Egypt, Italy, Sicily, Malta, Ceylon, India, Burma, and with Canadian home defense



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: JENNINGS

REGINALD

G.

Address:

SENECA STREET

Service Branch: R.C.A.F.

Rank: 2ND LT.

Unit / Squadron:

BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON, R.C.A.F. (ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE)

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Second Lieutenant Reginald G. Jennings honorably served in the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) / 2LT Reginald Jennings was an American citizen who participated in the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, held the rank of Pilot Officer and served as an air gunner in the Royal Canadian Air Force

Second Lieutenant Reginald G. Jennings was notified of his promotion to pilot officer (2nd Lt) in the R.C.A.F. on the day before he took off in his bomber (Number 434 "Bluenose" Squadron) as a gunner on a mission from an airbase in England / Lieutenant Reginald Jennings' bomber was hit by enemy fire from a Luftwaffe Night Fighter and crashed near Hohenhameln, Germany during a bombing raid to Leipzig, Germany on 20 February 1944 / Lieutenant Jennings was reported Missing in Action (MIA), later re-classified as Killed in Action (KIA) / Three other crew members, out of the crew of seven, were taken as Prisoners of War (POW)

Second Lieutenant Reginald G. Jennings was buried at the Hanover War Cemetery (Seelze, Germany)

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Reginald Jennings was a senior at Burgard Vocational School when he enlisted in October 1942

The Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) is the air force of Canada / During the Second World War, the RCAF was significantly expanded to become the fourth largest allied air force / During the war the RCAF was involved in operations in Great Britain, northwest Europe, the north Atlantic, Egypt, Italy, Sicily, Malta, Ceylon, India, Burma, and with Canadian home defense



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: JENSON

EDWARD R.

Address: 260 INDIAN CHURCH ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** S/SGT

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Edward R. Jenson honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miami, Florida - From 1942 to 1945 Miami Beach played a significant role in WWII. Nearly 500,000 men, including matinee-idol Clark Gable, took over 300 hotels and buildings for housing and training headquarters under the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command / By the time the war ended, one-fourth of all Army Air Force officers and one-fifth of the Air Corps' enlisted men had been trained in "the most beautiful boot camp in America" - Miami Beach

Miscellaneous:



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: JENTSCH, JR.

FREDERICK P.

Address: 36 BENSON AVENUE

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: AM3C

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY 5, J.B. 257, N.A.T.T.C. (NAVAL AIR TECHNICAL TRAINING CENTER)

Medals / Citations:

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Aviation Metalsmith Petty Officer Third-Class Frederick P. Jentsch, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Naval Training Station (Sampson, New York) - In the three-and-a-half years of its operation during World War II, the Sampson Naval Training Station (NTS) trained 411,429 naval recruits before closing in 1946 / The camp was named in honor of a local Seneca County native, Rear Admiral William T. Sampson, from Palmyra, New York, a hero of the Battle of Santiago during the Spanish-American War

Naval Training School, Navy Pier (Chicago, Illinois) - The Navy used the Pier to enroll and train sailors / By the time the Navy's usage ceased in 1946, sixty-thousand naval personnel were trained at Navy Pier

Naval Air Station (Pensacola, Florida) - Commissioned by the U.S. Navy in 1914, NTS Pensacola is best known as the initial primary training base for all U.S. Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard officers pursuing designation as Naval Aviators and Naval Flight Officers, the advanced training base for most Naval Flight Officers, and as the home base for the United States Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, the precision-flying team known as the Blue Angels / Tens of thousands Naval Aviators have received their training there including John H. Glenn, USMC who became the first American to orbit the earth in 1962 and Neil Armstrong who became the first man to set foot on the moon in 1969

Miscellaneous:

Frederick P. Jentsch, Jr. passed away on 20 June 1992 at the age of 66 years old and is interred at Saint Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

An Aviation Metalsmith repaired airplane metal parts / Knew principles and theory of flying

The Naval Air Technical Training Center provided highly classified airborne electronics maintenance training



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(radar, sonar, and other types of electronic systems) for many thousands of Navy, Marine, Coast Guard, and Royal Air Force personnel

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II / The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **JERGE**

CLARENCE F.

Address: 61 BENSON AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** 2ND LT.

Unit / Squadron:

530TH SQUADRON, 380TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

PURPLE HEART

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Second Lieutenant Clarence Francis Jerge honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force / As a cadet, 2LT Clarence F. Jerge attended the Army-Air Force pre-flight school for navigators at Selman Field, Monroe, Louisiana

Second Lieutenant Clarence F. Jerge was reported Missing in Action on 8 January 1944 during heavy fighting in the Pacific area and later classified as Killed in Action (KIA)

Second Lieutenant Clarence Francis Jerge is buried in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery (Lemay, Missouri)

Base Assignments:

Selman Field (Monroe, Louisiana) - Constructed in June 1942, the Field was active during World War II as an Army Air Forces Training Command airfield / Over 15,000 navigators were trained at Selman Field, who flew in every theater of operations during the war / Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) squadrons were assigned to Selman AAF in 1944 / WASPs flew C-45s in navigational flying to train cadet / Selman Field was closed on 1 September 1945

Miscellaneous:

Clarence F. Jerge worked as a Lineman prior to enlisting in the Army-Air Force on 8 September 1942 / Clarence Francis Jerge was 20 years old at the time of his passing

The 380th Bombardment Group (H), flew B-24 Liberator bombers in the South West and Western Pacific areas in WWII as part of the 5th Air Force / The 380th went overseas in April 1943 and assigned to the Australian Northwest Area Command operating out of Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia / The 380th made the longest bombing missions of WWII, to the oil refineries at Balikpapan, Borneo and to those at Surabaya, Java

A bombardment group or bomb group was a group of bomber aircraft the United States Army Air Forces



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(USAAF) during World War II. It was the equivalent of an infantry regiment in the Army Ground Forces / A bombardment group was the key tactical control and administrative organization for bombers in all theaters of operation / U.S. bomb groups were numbered and classified into four types: Very Heavy (VH), Heavy (H), Medium (M), and Light (L) / Groups which combined bombers of differing categories into a single administrative organization were designated "Composite" groups

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military awarded to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **JERGE**

EDWARD J.

Address: 61 BENSON AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** A/C

Unit / Squadron:

2538TH A.A.F., SECTION "H"

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Air Cadet Edward J. Jerge honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force

Base Assignments:

Maxwell Field, Alabama - Located 2 miles west of Montgomery, Maxwell Field was opened in 1918 and was named in honor of Lieutenant William C. Maxwell, an Alabamian killed in an aircraft accident in the Philippines / During World War II, Maxwell was the home of Headquarters Southeast Air Corps Training Center (SEATC), which was responsible for all U.S. Army Air Forces (AAF) operational training in the eastern United States

Midland, Texas - Midland Army Airfield operated as a Bombardier training school for the United States Army Air Forces from 1942 until 1945

Miscellaneous:

The Air Cadet Pilot Training Program was originally created by the U.S. Army to train its pilots / Graduates were usually graded as flight officers (warrant officers) / Cadets who graduated at the top of their class were graded as second lieutenants / Aviation cadets who washed out of pilot training were sent to navigator or bombardier school / Aviation cadets who washed out of navigator or bombardier training were usually sent to Flexible Gunnery School to become aerial gunners / The U.S. Army created almost 3,000 enlisted pilots from 1912 to 1942



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **JERZ**

ED

Address:

Service Branch: (UNKNOWN)

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Ed Jerz honorably served in the United States Military

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: JOHNGEN

NELSON

E.

Address: 109 WILDWOOD AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY / M.M.

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Nelson E. Johengen honorably served in the United States Army / Nelson Johengen was inducted into the Army on 8 January 1943 and received most of his training at Pine Camp in New York State / Due to illness, Nelson was Honorably Discharged from the Army / After recovering from his illness, Nelson Johengen still wanting to serve his country and enlisted in the Merchant Marine on 27 November 1943

Base Assignments:

Pine Camp, New York - The Ghost Army was a United States Army tactical deception unit during World War II, officially known as the 23rd Headquarters Special Troops, which was fully formed at Pine Camp, NY (now Fort Drum) / The 1,100-man unit was given a unique mission within the U.S Army: to impersonate other U.S. Army units to deceive the enemy / From a few weeks after D-Day, when they landed in France, until the end of the war, they put on a "traveling road show" utilizing inflatable tanks, sound trucks, fake radio transmissions and pretence / They staged more than 20 battlefield deceptions, often operating very close to the front lines / Their mission was kept secret until 1996, and elements of it remain classified

Miscellaneous:

Nelson E. Johengen passed away on 24 October 1987 at the age of 64 years old and is interred at Mount Albion Cemetery, Albion, New York

In time of war or national emergency, the U.S. Merchant Marine becomes vital to national security as a "fourth arm of defense" / Merchant ships bear the brunt of delivering military troops, supplies and equipment overseas to our forces and allies operating as an auxiliary unit to the Navy



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **JOHNSON**

DANFORD

G.

Address:

Service Branch: (UNKNOWN)

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Danford G. Johnson honorably served in the United States Military

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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Name: JOHNSON

ELDRED

L.

Address:

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Unit / Squadron:

314TH ORDNANCE DEPOT COMPANY, 260TH ORDNANCE BATTALION, 9TH US ARMY
DEPARTMENT F104

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL 3 BATTLE STARS
AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Corporal Eldred L. Johnson honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Eldred Johnson earned thee Battle Stars for combat action during the European campaign

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The U.S. Army Ordnance Corps mission was to support the development, production, acquisition, and sustainment of weapon systems, ammunition, missiles, electronics, and ground mobility material during World War II to provide combat power to the U.S. Army

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

Battle (Combat) Stars were presented to military personnel who were engaged in specific battles in combat under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action

The American Defense Service Medal (also referred to as the Pre-Pearl Harbor Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty between 8 September 1939 and 7 December 1941



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: JOHNSON

G.

Address:

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Unit / Squadron:

BATTERY "F", 213RD C.A. (COASTAL ARTILLERY), A.A.A. (ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY)

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Private First-Class G. Johnson honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Coastal artillery is the branch of armed forces concerned with operating anti-ship artillery or fixed gun batteries in coastal fortifications

With much of World War II fought in the air, anti-aircraft weapons were weapons that could specifically direct their offense against air targets / The mission of the Anti-Aircraft Artillery units were to detect hostile aircraft and destroy them / Radar aided anti-aircraft gunners by providing accurate information about the range, speed, and altitude of incoming enemy planes

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: JOHNSON

HENRY

Address:

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: S/SGT

Unit / Squadron:

BATTERY "C", 630TH A.A.A. (ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY), 40MM A.A.A.

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PURPLE HEART

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER / EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Henry Johnson honorably served in the United States Army / SSGT Henry Johnson was enroute to Europe on the USAT Alexander (ID-3006 - Troop Transport) when the boiler blew up and the ship became separated from her convoy, but made it safely into port

Staff Sergeant Johnson participated in the invasion of Italy from North Africa and later saw action in Salerno, Monte Cassino and Austria / SSgt Henry Johnson was wounded during combat action

Johnson served in the Army for 4 years and 11 1/2 months and returned back to the United States on the USAT Dublin

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The USS America (ID-3006) was a troop transport for the United States Navy during World War I / In April 1931, America ended her service but nine years later in 1940, the America was reactivated for the U.S. Army and renamed USAT Edmund B. Alexander / The Alexander was used to transfer troops between New York and European ports

With much of World War II fought in the air, anti-aircraft weapons were weapons that could specifically direct their offense against air targets / The mission of the Anti-Aircraft Artillery units were to detect hostile aircraft and destroy them / Radar aided anti-aircraft gunners by providing accurate information about the range, speed, and altitude of incoming enemy planes

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

A Marksmanship Badge is a military badge of the United States Armed Forces presented to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course or high placement in an official marksmanship competition / The U.S. Military's Marksmanship Qualification Badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): Expert, Sharpshooter, and Marksman

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: JOHNSON

RICHARD L.

Address: 103 HARLEM ROAD

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: MMG2C

Unit / Squadron:

NAVAL SUPPLY DEPOT

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN MEDAL

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Machinists Mate (Gas Generating) Petty Officer Second-Class Richard L. Johnson honorably served in the United States Navy / MMG2C Richard Johnson served with a Compressed Gas Detail in Okinawa

Base Assignments:

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Tengan Pier (Uruma, Okinawa) - Located at the western end of Kin Wan Bay, during the final months of World War II, the bay became a U.S. Navy forward base

Miscellaneous:

The job of a Machinist's Mate is to "operate, maintain, and repair (organizational and intermediate level) ship propulsion machinery, auxiliary equipment, and outside machinery, such as: steering engine, hoisting machinery, food preparation equipment, refrigeration and air conditioning equipment, windlasses, elevators, and laundry equipment / Operate and maintain (organizational and Intermediate level) marine boilers, pumps, forced draft blowers, and heat exchangers; perform tests, transfers, and inventory of lubricating oils, fuels, and water / Maintain records and reports, and may perform duties in the generation and stowage of industrial gases

The areas of present-day Uruma were affected in World War II during the initial part of the Battle of Okinawa / L-Day, the initial land invasion of Okinawa Island, occurred on 1 April 1945 / American forces swept across the island quickly, and by 5 April had secured the entirety of the Katsuren Peninsula / A smaller invasion force captured Tsuken Island on the same day, and encountered stiff resistance from the Japanese military / Tsuken Island was completely devastated by fire in the battle / After the capture of Tsuken, American forces reached Ikei Island on 9 April 1945, thus securing all the Yokatsu Islands / The area that became Ishikawa was a major refugee camp set up by the American military near the end of the battle



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military awarded to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II / The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: JOHNSON

RICHARD

Address:

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: MMG3C

Unit / Squadron:

N.T.S. COMPRESSED GASES (NAVAL TRAINING STATION)

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Machinist's Mate "G" Third-Class (Industrial Gas Generating) Richard Johnson honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Camp Peary, Virginia - During World War II the United States Navy took over a large area on the north side of the Virginia Peninsula, Virginia which became known as Camp Peary, initially for use as a Seabee training base / After completing three weeks of boot training at Camp Allen, and later its successor, Camp Peary, the Seabees were formed into construction battalions or other types of construction units. Soon, however, another mission had been identified for Camp Peary. All preliminary and advanced specialized training for Seabees was changed to be conducted at Camp Allen and Camp Bradford at Norfolk, Virginia, where both were an integral part of the Naval Operating Base / The mission of Camp Peary changed as the war progressed and a new need presented itself to the U.S. Navy / It became a stockade for special German prisoners-of-war (POWs) / The POWs kept at Camp Peary were not just an ordinary sort, but rather, many came from captured German submarine and ship crews which the Germans had thought lost at sea with crews presumed dead / It was important for Nazi authorities to be unaware of their capture, since that also meant secret code books thought lost at sea may also have been compromised

Miscellaneous:

The job of a Machinist's Mate is to "operate, maintain, and repair (organizational and intermediate level) ship propulsion machinery, auxiliary equipment, and outside machinery, such as: steering engine, hoisting machinery, food preparation equipment, refrigeration and air conditioning equipment, windlasses, elevators, and laundry equipment / Operate and maintain (organizational and Intermediate level) marine boilers, pumps, forced draft blowers, and heat exchangers; perform tests, transfers, and inventory of lubricating oils, fuels, and water / Maintain records and reports, and may perform duties in the generation and stowage of industrial gases



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: JOHNSON

STEPHEN F.

Address: 3451 CLINTON STREET

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** S/SGT

Unit / Squadron:

A.A.F. OVERSEAS REPLACEMENT DEPOT

Medals / Citations:

AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON
GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Stephen F. Johnson honorably served in the United States Army / SSGT Stephen Johnson was an expert with the M-1 carbine and the .45 caliber pistol

Base Assignments:

Camp Davis, North Carolina - Camp Davis was built by the United States Army as an anti-aircraft artillery training facility and was manned by about 20,000 officers and men

Kearns, Utah - Kearns came into existence 1 May 1942 as a World War II United States Army Air Forces training facility known as Kearns Army Air Base / Throughout World War II the Kearns Air Base served primarily as a training field for Air Corps personnel / The training facilities included a grenade-throwing ground, a gas demonstration area, beachhead maneuvers, and a mile-long obstacle course

Miscellaneous:

Overseas Replacement Depot began as the Army Air Force's (AAF) Basic Training Center No. 10 and was a facility large enough to train and mobilize the tens of thousands of crewmen needed for the air war in Europe and Asia / Trainees endured from four to eight weeks of intensive training in weapons, drill, physical fitness, and chemical warfare. Airmen then left for advanced training at other bases prior to assignment in combat theaters around the world

The American Defense Service Medal (also referred to as the Pre-Pearl Harbor Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty between 8 September 1939 and 7 December 1941

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946

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West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: JOLLS

ARTHUR

F.

Address: 99 LOUIS AVENUE

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: MOMM3C

Unit / Squadron:

A.B.C. #1 (AMERICAN, BRITISH AND CANADIAN)

U.S.N.A.T.B. (UNITED STATES NAVAL AIR TRAINING BASE)

USS LST 307 (TANK LANDING SHIP)

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Motor Machinist's Mate Third-Class Arthur F. Jolls honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Fort Pierce, Florida - This base became the school for some of the most elite teams in the armed forces, such as the scouts and raiders "commandos" and the home of the Navy Underwater Demolition Teams (UDT) and Sea, Air, Land (SEAL) teams, which became the legendary "frogmen"

Miscellaneous:

Arthur F. Jolls passed away in 2010 at the age of 95 years old and is interred at Mount Hope Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

The job of a Motor Machinist's Mate was to operate, maintain, and repair (organizational and intermediate level) ship propulsion machinery, auxiliary equipment, and outside machinery, such as: steering engine, hoisting machinery, food preparation equipment, refrigeration and air conditioning equipment, windlasses, elevators, and laundry equipment / Operated and maintained (organizational and Intermediate level) marine boilers, pumps, forced draft blowers, and heat exchangers; perform tests, transfers, and inventory of lubricating oils, fuels, and water / Maintained records and reports, and performed duties in the generation and stowage of industrial gases

The USS LST 307 (Tank Landing Ship) was commissioned on 23 December 1942 / LST 307 was assigned to Occupation service in the Far East from 20 October 1945 to 2 March 1946 / Decommissioned on 13 June 1946, at Green Cove Springs, Florida, she was sold for scrapping on 30 March 1948 / The USS LST 307 earned three battle



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

stars for World War II service

Landing Ship, Tank (LST), or tank landing ship, is the naval designation for ships built during World War II to support amphibious operations by carrying tanks, vehicles, cargo, and landing troops directly onto shore with no docks or piers / This provided amphibious assaults to almost any beach / The bow of the LST had a large door that would open with a ramp for unloading the vehicles / The LST had a special flat keel that allowed the ship to be beached and stay upright / The twin propellers and rudders had protection from grounding / The LSTs served across the globe during World War II including: Pacific War and European theatre

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The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II / The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: JOSEPH

RAYMOND V.

Address: 92 ALMONT AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "B", 38TH INFANTRY
260TH INFANTRY

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Raymond Joseph honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Raymond Joseph entered the service on 18 November 1943

Base Assignments:

Camp Shelby, Mississippi - Camp Shelby was established in 1917 and named in honor of Isaac Shelby, Indian fighter, Revolutionary War hero and 1st Governor of Kentucky / Camp also served as a holding center for German Prisoners-of-War

Miscellaneous:

Infantry refers to soldiers moving and fighting on foot, armed with hand weapons such as rifles, machine guns, grenades, mortars, etc.

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: JOYCE

PETER

G.

Address:

UNION ROAD

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: BM2C

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY B-4, 16TH CONSTRUCTION BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

2 BATTLE STARS

LETTER OF COMMENDATION

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Boatswain's Mate Second-Class Peter G. Joyce honorably served in the United States Navy / Stationed in Pearl Harbor, BM2C Peter Joyce was a diver who participated in raising the battleship USS Oklahoma (BB-37) which was sunk by several bombs and torpedoes during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941 / Boatswain's Mate Second-Class Joyce earned 2 Battle Stars for combat action

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Boatswain's Mates trained, directed and supervised personnel in ship's maintenance duties in all activities relating to marlinspike (a tool used to help tie large knots), deck, boat seamanship painting, upkeep of ship's external structure, rigging, deck equipment and boats / Boatswain's Mates took charge of working parties; performed seamanship tasks; acted as petty officer-in-charge of picketboats, self-propelled barges, tugs, and other yard and district craft / Directed salvage operations / Operated and maintained equipment used in loading and unloading cargo, ammunition, fuel, and general stores / Took charge of and supervised Underway Replenishment procedures and equipment / Were integral to ship's navigation and served as ship's Helmsman

USS Oklahoma (BB-37), the only ship of the United States Navy to ever be named for the 46th state / On 7 December 1941, Oklahoma was sunk by several bombs and torpedoes during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor / A total of 429 crew died when she capsized in Battleship Row / In 1943 Oklahoma was righted and salvaged / However, unlike most of the other battleships that were recovered following Pearl Harbor, the Oklahoma was too damaged to return to duty / She was eventually stripped of her remaining armaments and superstructure before being sold for scrap in 1946 / She sank in a storm while being towed from Oahu in Hawaii to a breakers yard in San Francisco Bay in 1947 / Commissioned on 2 May 1916 and decommissioned on 1 September 1944



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

Seabees: After the attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941, and the use of civilian labor in war zones became impractical so the Navy created Construction Battalions (from which the abbreviation "C.B." became Seabees) / The Seabees have a history of building bases, bulldozing and paving thousands of miles of roadway and airstrips, bridges, roads, gasoline storage tanks, and Quonset huts for warehouses, hospitals, and housing

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military award given to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

Battle (Combat) Stars were presented to military personnel who were engaged in specific battles in combat under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **JUERGENS**

ROBERT

O.

Address: 1475 ORCHARD PARK ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE

Rank: A/C

Unit / Squadron:

SQUADRON 1, SECTION "Q", FLIGHT 2, P.S.C.

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Aviation Cadet Robert O. Juergens honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force

Base Assignments:

Maxwell Field, Alabama - Located 2 miles west of Montgomery, Maxwell Field was opened in 1918 and was named in honor of Lieutenant William C. Maxwell, an Alabamian killed in an aircraft accident in the Philippines / During World War II, Maxwell was the home of Headquarters Southeast Air Corps Training Center (SEATC), which was responsible for all U.S. Army Air Forces (AAF) operational training in the eastern United States

Miscellaneous:

The Aviation Cadet Pilot Training Program was originally created by the U.S. Army to train its pilots / The U.S. Army Air Corps Training Center (USAACTC) was at Duncan Field, San Antonio, Texas from 1926 to 1931 and Randolph Field from 1931 to 1939 / Two more centers were activated on 8 July 1940: the West Coast Army Air Corps Training Center (WCAACTC) in Sunnyvale, California and the Southeast Army Air Corps Training Center (SAACTC) in Montgomery, Alabama / In 1939 there were only 55 enlisted pilots in the then-U.S. Army Air Corps (USAAC) / Due to the shortage of pilots in 1941, enlisted men were allowed to apply to flight training / After demand lifted in mid-1944, the requirements went back to college-educated or college graduate candidates / Enlisted pilots were called flying sergeants / Graduating enlisted pilots were graded as flight staff sergeants while pilots who graduated at the top of their class were graded as flight technical sergeants / They were usually assigned to flying transport and liaison aircraft / The U.S. Army created almost 3,000 enlisted pilots from 1912 to 1942 / Seven pre-War enlisted pilots and four World War II enlisted pilots became U.S. Air Force generals