



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KAMMERER**

RICHARD

Address: 3507 SENECA STREET

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE

Rank: PVT

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS AND BASE SQUADRON, 89TH SERVICE GROUP

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Private Richard Kammerer enlisted in the Army-Air Force as an Air Cadet in December 1943 / Private Kammerer was stationed at a B-29 Superfortress airfield in the Marianas Islands in May 1945

Base Assignments:

Barksdale Army Air Field, Louisiana - Barksdale was established in 1932 and named for World War I aviator and test pilot Lieutenant Eugene Hoy Barksdale (1896–1926) / Barksdale was developed as an Air Corps flying school November 1940 / Barksdale Field was host to the Army's "complete military maneuvers" simulating European combat operations / Some 320 aircraft from throughout the Army Air Corps participated, as Major General Dwight D. Eisenhower watched

McCook Air Field, Nebraska - McCook Army Airfield was activated on 1 April 1943 and is located southwest of Lincoln, Nebraska / McCook provided final training of heavy bomber crews for the B-17 Flying Fortress, Consolidated B-24 Liberator and Boeing B-29 Super Fortress / 15,000 servicemen and 500 civilians were stationed at McCook / Bomber crew members received final proficiency training at the field before deployment in North Africa, Europe, and Pacific Theater of Operations

Miscellaneous:

Richard Kammerer was a graduate of Ebenezer High School

The B-29 Superfortress was a four-engine propeller-driven heavy bomber designed by Boeing / It was one of the largest aircraft to have seen service during World War II and a very advanced bomber for its time, with features such as a pressurized cabin, an electronic fire-control system, and remote-controlled machine-gun turrets / The name "Superfortress" was derived from that of its well-known predecessor, the B-17 Flying Fortress / The B-29 became the primary aircraft used in the American firebombing campaign, and was used extensively in low-



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altitude night-time incendiary bombing missions / One of the B-29's final roles during World War II was carrying out the atomic bomb attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki

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

Name: **KANTON**

WILLIAM

S.

Address: 67 BURCH AVENUE

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: A.S.

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY 465 - F11

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Apprentice Seaman

Base Assignments:

Sampson, New York - In the three-and-a-half years of its operation during World War II, the Sampson Naval Training Station 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

Miscellaneous:

Seamen served as members of damage control or emergency and security alert teams / They participated in Navy ceremonies and took part in underway replenishment (transferring supplies from ship to ship at sea), and they worked with qualified personnel to gain job training and experience / A Seaman was knowledgeable in naval drill duties, knots, steering and signaling / Also stood watch and handled gunnery duties



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Name: **KARG**

JAMES

F.

Address:

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: COX

Unit / Squadron:

USS BELLEAU WOOD (CVL-24)

USS IOWA (BB-61)

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

12 BATTLE STARS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

COMMENDATION LETTER

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Coxswain James Frank F. Karg received 2 Battle Stars for combat action in the Philippine Islands / Coxswain James F. Karg also earned 10 Battle Stars during combat action throughout the Pacific Theater

Base Assignments:

Newport, Rhode Island - The U.S. Naval Base at Newport served as a PT-Boat (Patrol Torpedo) training center, a torpedo training school, gunnery school and a Naval Air Training Center

Miscellaneous:

The Coxswain is the person in charge of a boat, particularly its navigation and steering / The etymology of the word gives a literal meaning of "boat servant" since it comes from cock, a cockboat or other small vessel kept aboard a ship, and swain, an Old English term derived from the Old Norse sveinn meaning boy or servant / The coxswain has the authority to direct all boat and crew activities during the mission and modify planned missions to provide for the safety of the boat and the crew

USS Belleau Wood was a Independence-class aircraft carrier active in the Pacific Theater, from 1943 to 1945 / Originally laid down as the Cleveland-class light cruiser New Haven (CL-76), she was refitted as an aircraft carrier and renamed Belleau Wood on 31 March 1942 in memory of the World War I Battle of Belleau Wood, in which United States soldiers and Marines of the American Expeditionary Forces, defeated the German troops after nearly four weeks of intense fighting / Belleau Wood participated in the battles of Kwajalein and Majuro Atolls, Marshall Islands, Truk, Saipan-Tinian-Rota-Guam, Palau-Yap-Ulithi-Woleai, Sawar, Wakde Island, New Guinea and the Battle of the Philippine Sea / She also took part in the raids on Honshū Island, Japan, and the Nansei Shoto, and other strikes against Japan as well as supporting the landings on Iwo Jima / The Belleau Wood received the Presidential Unit Citation and twelve battle stars during World War II / Decommissioned 13 January



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1947

USS Iowa (BB-61) was the fourth in the United States Navy to be named after the state of Iowa and was the only ship of the Montana-class to have served in the Atlantic Ocean during World War II / Commissioned on 22 February 1943, Iowa carried President Roosevelt, Secretary of State Cordell Hull, Chief of Staff Admiral William D. Leahy, Chief of Staff of the Army General George C. Marshall, Chief of Naval Operations Ernest King, Commanding General of the U.S. Army Air Forces Henry "Hap" Arnold, Harry Hopkins, and other military leaders to Mers El Kébir, Algeria, on the first leg of the journey to the Tehran Conference / As flagship of Battleship Division 7 (BatDiv 7), Iowa departed the United States on 2 January 1944 for the Pacific Ocean and conducted the first strikes against Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and Guam in the Mariana Islands. During this action, Iowa, along with her sister New Jersey, sank the Japanese light cruiser Katori / From 22–28 April 1944, Iowa supported air raids on Hollandia (now known as Jayapura), Aitape, and Wake Islands to support Army forces on Aitape and at Tanahmerah and Humboldt Bays in New Guinea / She then joined the Task Force's second strike on Truk, on 29 and 30 April, and bombarded Japanese facilities on Ponape in the Carolines on 1 May 1944 / In the opening phases of the Mariana and Palau Islands campaign, Iowa protected the American carriers during air strikes on the islands of Saipan, Tinian, Guam, Rota, and Pagan Island on 12 June 1944 / On 10 October, Iowa arrived off Okinawa for a series of air strikes on the Ryukyu Islands and Formosa / She then supported air strikes against Luzon on 18 October and continued this duty during General Douglas MacArthur's landing on Leyte on 20 October 1944 / From 24 April 1945, Iowa supported carrier operations which aimed to establish and maintain air superiority for ground forces during their struggle for the island / She then supported air strikes off southern Kyūshū from 25 May to 13 June 1945 / Afterward, she sailed toward northern Honshū and Hokkaidō, and participated in strikes on the Japanese home islands on 14–15 July 1945 by bombarding Muroran, Hokkaidō, destroying steel mills and other targets / On 27 August 1945, the USS Iowa and her sister ship Missouri entered Sagami Bay to oversee the surrender of the Yokosuka Naval Arsenal / After serving as Admiral Halsey's flagship for the Japanese surrender ceremony on 2 September 1945, Iowa remained in the bay as part of the occupying force / She received homeward bound GIs and liberated US prisoners of war before departing Tokyo Bay on 20 September 1945, bound for the United States / The USS Iowa was decommissioned on 24 March 1949, earning 11 battle stars / The Iowa was recommissioned on 25 August 1951 and reactivated due to the Korean War / The USS Iowa was finally decommissioned on 26 October 1990 and is on display at the Pacific Battleship Center at the Port of Los Angeles

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

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: **KARG**

RICHARD J.

Address: 87 INNES ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** CPL

Unit / Squadron:

610TH A.A.F. BASE, PROOFREADING SECTION, PHOTO DIVISION

1074TH A.A.F BASE UNIT, SQUADRON A

Medals / Citations:

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER - CARBINE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

PHOTO TECHNICIAN BADGE

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Corporal

Base Assignments:

Elgin Field, Florida - Elgin Army Air Field was located approximately 3 miles southwest of Valparaiso, Florida and was established in 1935 as the Valparaiso Bombing and Gunnery Base / Field is named in honor of Lieutenant Colonel Frederick I. Eglin (1891–1937), who was killed in a crash of his Northrop A-17 pursuit aircraft on a flight from Langley to Maxwell Field, Alabama / During World War II, Elgin remained a proving ground for aircraft armament

Fort George Wright, Washington - Construction of the fort began in 1897, officially opened in 1899 and named after General George Wright, who had been stationed in the area / In 1909-1910 the fort was used to imprison members of the Industrial Workers of the World arrested during the Spokane Free Speech Fight / Between 1899 and 1940, it primarily housed mounted infantry units such as the 24th and 25th "Buffalo soldier" regiments, and the 4th Infantry Division which served during the massive St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne Offensives in WWI and would go on to land on the beaches of Normandy in WWII / Fort George Wright became headquarters for the Northwest Air District on 9 January 1941, responsible for air defense and antisubmarine patrols for the Pacific northwest of the United States / On 28 February 1941, the headquarters staff of the Northwest Air District moved from Felts Field to new headquarters offices at Fort George Wright / From there the air activities of eleven northwest states would be directed and the District was redesignated 2d Air Force on 26 March 1941 / Fort Wright was used for military purposes until 1957, when the government declared the fort surplus and gave educational facilities priority to purchase the property

Miscellaneous:

610th Army Air Forces Base Unit, 1 April 1944 – 30 June 1947 / The 1st Proving Ground Group was a disbanded



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United States Army Air Forces unit / It was last active with the Army Air Forces Proving Ground Command, based at Eglin Field, Florida, where it was disbanded on 1 April 1944 / The unit's personnel/equipment/mission was taken over by the 610th Army Air Forces Base Unit (AAF Base Unit) and 611th AAF Base Unit / The group was originally established as the 23d Composite Group and was part of the Air Corps Tactical School with a mission that focused on developing and demonstrating tactics and doctrine / After moving to Eglin it also conducted testing of experimental weapons

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

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 offense



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Name: **KAROLEWSKI**

FLOYD

V.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KAROLEWSKI**

FRANCIS C.

Address: 2105 CLINTON STREET

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Unit / Squadron:

111ND O.M. BAKING CO

Medals / Citations:

C.B.I. RIBBON (CHINA-BURMA-INDIA)

2 BATTLE STARS

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: MARKSMAN

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

CHINA-BURMA-INDIA (CBI) THEATER

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Francis C. Karolewski earned 2 Battle Stars for combat action in the C.B.I. Theater

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The China-Burma-India (C.B.I.) Medal honors the brave men that drove the trucks and flew supplies across the mountains from India and China / The dangerous 530-mile long passage over the Himalayan Mountains took its toll. Nearly 1,000 men and 600 Air Transport Command (ATC) planes were lost over the hump by the end of China-Burma-India Theater (CBI) operations / The ribbon incorporates the colors of China, Burma and India

Battle 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 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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KASK

ARNOLD

D.

Address: 36 OSCHAWA AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE

Rank: CPL

Unit / Squadron:

3506TH BASE UNIT, SECTION 2

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Corporal

Base Assignments:

Sioux Falls, South Dakota - During World War II, the United States Army Air Forces (USAAF) established numerous airfields in South Dakota for training pilots and aircrews of USAAF fighters and bombers

Miscellaneous:



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KAUDERER

CLIFFORD J.

Address: 1877 UNION ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Unit / Squadron:

3475TH ORDNANCE M.A.M. COMPANY (MEDIUM AUTOMOTIVE MAINTENANCE)
6TH ARMY

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON W/1 STAR

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

PHILIPPINE LIBERATION MEDAL W/1 BRONZE STAR

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Corporal (Technician Fifth Grade) Clifford J. Kauderer saw combat action in New Caledonia, New Hebrides and the Solomon Islands

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 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 Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal awarded Bronze service stars to all services for participation in designated campaigns

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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 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 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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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KAUHL**

MAYNARD A.

Address: 523 CENTER ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Unit / Squadron:

580TH S.A.W. BATTALION (SIGNAL AIRCRAFT WARNING), COMPANY "E", 2ND PLATOON

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Sergeant Maynard A. Kauhl served in the Army for 3 years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Some of the largest and most important Army units were the Signal Aircraft Warning (SAW) battalions, which used the new technology of radar to provide early warning and air defense / These battalions served in all theaters

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Name: **KAUHL**

RICHARD

A.

Address:

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: T/SGT

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS, 101ST AIRBORNE (A.B.) DIVISION

HEADQUARTERS, 17TH AIRBORNE (A.B.) DIVISION

HEADQUARTERS, 82ND AIRBORNE (A.B.) DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

BRONZE STAR

3 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PARACHUTIST BADGE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Technical Sergeant Richard A. Kauhl earned 3 Battle Stars for combat action on the European continent / TSgt Kauhl was also awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroism

Base Assignments:

Fort Benning, Georgia - Established in October 1909 , the fort was named after Henry L. Benning, a brigadier general in the Confederate States Army during the Civil War / During World War II Fort Benning had 197,159 acres with billeting space for 3,970 officers and 94,873 enlisted persons / Among many other units, Fort Benning was the home of the 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion / Fort Benning was also the home of the Airborne School and had three 249-foot drop towers called "Free Towers" to train paratroopers

Miscellaneous:

Airborne forces are military units moved by aircraft and "dropped" into battle, typically by parachute, almost anywhere with little warning / Formations are limited only by the number and size of their aircraft; a huge force can appear "out of nowhere" behind enemy lines in minutes / The U.S. Airborne Divisions were the 11th, 13th, 17th, 82nd, and 101st / The U.S. 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions saw the most action in the European Theater, with the former in Sicily and Italy in 1943, and both in Normandy and the Netherlands in 1944 / The U.S. 11th and 13th Airborne Divisions were held in reserve in the United States until 1944 when the 11th Airborne Division was deployed to the Pacific, but mostly used as ground troops or for smaller airborne operations / The 13th Airborne Division was deployed to France in January 1945 but never saw combat as a unit

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 Bronze Star Medal is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order of precedence in the US Military / It may be awarded for acts of heroism, acts of merit, or meritorious service in a combat zone

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

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The Parachutist Badge, also commonly referred to as "Jump Wings" or "Silver Wings" is a military badge of the United States Armed Forces awarded to members of the United States Army, Air Force, Marine Corps and Navy/ The original Army Parachutist Badge was designed in 1941 by Captain (later Lieutenant General) William P. Yarborough and approved by the Department of War in March of that year / To be eligible for award of the basic Parachutist Badge, an individual must have completed the Basic Airborne Course of the Airborne School of the United States Army Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia / To graduate, a student must complete the three-phase course consisting of a ground phase, a tower phase, and a jump phase / By the end of the course, a student will have completed five jumps in varying jump configurations, from a "no load" jump all the way to a full combat load jump at night / Receiving the Parachutist Badge signifies that the soldier is a trained military parachutist, and is qualified to participate in airborne operations

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Name: KAUSNER

KENNETH

W.

Address: 1505 UNION ROAD

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: M.M. 1/C

Unit / Squadron:

14TH SPECIAL N.C.B. COMPANY (NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION), COMPANY C-3

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON W/ 2 STARS

AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Machinists Mate First-Class Kenneth Kausner joined the "Seabees" in June 1943 and trained at Camp Peary in Virginia / Besides regular naval training, Kausner also underwent Marine training and after a few months in California, he was transferred to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, before moving onto other Pacific Islands formerly held by Japanese forces

Base Assignments:

Camp Peary, Virginia - The camp's initial mission was as a base to train Navy Seabees / 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

Pearl Harbor, Hawaii - Established in 1900, Naval Station Pearl Harbor was a U.S. naval base adjacent to Honolulu and was the headquarters of the United States Pacific Fleet / Naval Station Pearl Harbor provided berthing and shore side support to surface ships and submarines, as well as maintenance and training / On Sunday, December 7, 1941, aircraft and midget submarines of the Imperial Japanese Navy under the command of Admiral Chuichi Nagumo began an attack on the U.S. naval base / The Japanese struck American ships and military installations at 07:51 with the first wave attacking airfields of Ford Island / At 08:30, a second wave of 170 Japanese aircraft, mostly torpedo bombers, attacked the fleet anchored in Pearl Harbor / The American death toll was 2,403 American citizens—2,335 members of the U.S. military and 68 civilians / Five U.S. battleships were sunk and the other remaining three were badly damaged / Overall, nine ships of the U.S. fleet were sunk and 21 ships were severely damaged / The attack on Pearl Harbor plunged the United States into World War II

Camp Parks, California - Located in the eastern reaches of the San Francisco Bay Area near the City of Livermore, California, the Camp was built during World War II, and commissioned 19 January 1943 as Camp Parks /



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Originally, it was home to the Navy Seabees then transferred to the Air Force who establishing a basic training center during the Korean War, and renamed the facility Parks Air Force Base / In July 1959, the installation was transferred to the United States Army and in 1973, the Army determined that Camp Parks was needed as a mobilization and training center for Reserve Components in the event of war or natural disaster / Thousands of National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers and 94 Naval Reserve Seabees' trained for war at Camp Parks

Port Hueneme, California - Built as a temporary depot to train, stage, and supply the newly created Seabees, the base was officially established and began operating May 18, 1942 as an Advance Base Depot (ABD) / In 1945 the Advance Base Depot was renamed as a Naval Construction Battalion Center (CBC) / During the Korean War, almost all Navy construction equipment and supplies for the war were routed through CBC Port Hueneme

Funafuti, Ellice Islands - Used as a base to prepare for the subsequent seaborne attacks on the Gilbert Islands (Kiribati) that were occupied by Japanese forces / American forces built an airfield, a 76-bed hospital and naval bases and port facilities on Fongafale islet / The first offensive operation was launched from the airfield at Funafuti on 20 April 1943 when twenty-two B-24 Liberator bombers from 371 and 372 Bombardment Squadrons struck Nauru (formerly known as Pleasant Island, is an island country in Micronesia, a sub region of Oceania, in the Central Pacific) / During the 13 months ending in November 1943, Japanese bombers struck Funafuti nine times / The 90mm anti-aircraft guns manned by Marines were credited with shooting down four enemy aircraft.

Gilbert Islands- Formerly Kingsmill Islands, are a chain of sixteen atolls and coral islands in the western Pacific Ocean that are recognized as part of the Micronesia sub region of Oceania / The naval forces assigned to capture the Gilberts formed the largest armada yet assembled by either side in the Pacific, considerably larger than the Allied force that mounted the invasion of Guadalcanal and dwarfing the Japanese force that attacked Pearl Harbor / They fought between November 20 and November 23, 1943 / Ending the Japanese resistance in November 1943, airfields were built to support the battle for the Marshall Islands

Eniwetok and Kwajalein, Marshall Islands - On 17 February 1944, a naval bombardment of Eniwetok Atoll began, with the island and the entire atoll captured by American forces on 23 February 1944 / Eniwetok's islands and islets housed airfields used for the invasion of the Marianas

Miscellaneous:

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

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 awarded to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945 / The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal awarded Bronze service stars to all services for participation in designated campaigns



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

Name: KAUSNER

WILBERT

L.

Address: 1505 UNION ROAD

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E.M. 3/C

Unit / Squadron:

SUBMARINE DIVISION 161

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

ASIATIC -PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

ATLANTIC THEATER / PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Electrician's Mate Second-Class Wilbert Kausner enlisted in June 1942 and stationed in Newport, Rhode Island for training in the Submarine Service / Further training took place in New London, Connecticut aboard a submarine / He was stationed in New London for approximately one year before being transferred to Australia / Kausner also served in submarine duties in North Africa and England

Base Assignments:

Newport, Rhode Island - The U.S. Naval Base at Newport served as a PT-Boat (Patrol Torpedo) training center, a torpedo training school and a Naval Air Training Center

New London, Connecticut - Naval Submarine Base New London was the United States Navy's primary submarine base, also known as the "Home of the Submarine Force"

Miscellaneous:

An Electrician's Mate used electrical tools and repaired electrical equipment / Charged storage batteries and wind armatures / Stood watch on main gyrocompass and in main control room of electrically driven ships / Repaired telephone circuits / Applied first aid in case of electrical shock

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 Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military awarded to any member of the United States Military



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

Name: **KAYE**

VICTOR

J.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KAYSER JR.**

WILLIAM

B.

Address:

SENECA STREET

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Unit / Squadron:

460TH ENGINEER DEPOT COMPANY, 1ST PLATOON

710TH ENGINEER BASE DEPOT COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL 2 BATTLE STARS

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Corporal William B. Kayser Jr., earned 2 Battle Stars for combat action in Europe

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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 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

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 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,



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

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 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: **KAZLOWSKI**
FLORIAN

Address:

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: G.M. 3/C

Unit / Squadron:

SS ROBERT MORRIS (HULL #0070)

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

ATLANTIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Gunners Mate Third-Class Florian Kazlowski served as an armed guard aboard the SS Robert Morris , a Liberty Ship

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gunner's Mates were responsible for the operation and maintenance of torpedo systems, gun mounts, and other ordnance equipment, as well as small arms and magazines / Gunner's Mates worked with electrical and electronic circuitry; mechanical, hydraulic and pneumatic systems

The SS Robert Morris was named after Robert Morris, (20 January 1734 - 8 May 1806) who was a an American merchant, and signer of the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the United States Constitution / Liberty ships were named after prominent (deceased) Americans, starting with Patrick Henry and the signers of the Declaration of Independence

The Liberty ships, a vast new fleet for the war effort, were built in a national "Virtual Shipyard" that harnessed skills, resources, and facilities all across America. From 1941 to 1945, the United States increased its shipbuilding capacity by more than 1,200% and produced over 2,700 Liberty Ships, 800 Victory Vessels, 320 T-2 Tankers, and various other commercial and naval auxiliary vessels for a total of 5,200 ships constructed for the period / A Liberty ship was designed to carry about 10,000 tons of cargo, but in wartime conditions often carried much more. Liberty ships were nicknamed "ugly ducklings" by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

(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

Name: KEANE

JOHN

T.

Address: 132 BURCH AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Unit / Squadron:

862ND QUARTERMASTER F.B., 5TH ZONE

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Corporal

Base Assignments:

Fort Francis E. Warren, Wyoming - The fort had been established in 1867 to protect workers for the Union Pacific Railroad and was originally named to honor of David Allen Russell, a Civil War general killed at the Battle of Opequon / By 1900, Fort D. A. Russell was one of the largest cavalry bases in the United States / In 1930, the fort's name was changed to Fort Francis E. Warren / During World War II, Fort Francis E. Warren served as a training facility for the US Army Quartermaster Corps / A camp was constructed within the fort to house Prisoners of War

Miscellaneous:

The U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps was responsible for procuring and delivering various supplies to units in all theaters of war during World War II / Quartermaster units were charged with providing food (steady supply of food and rations), clothing, petroleum products (gasoline, kerosene, aviation fuel, diesel oil, fuel oil and petroleum-based lubricants) and general supplies (diverse items as rope, soap, candles, knives, forks and spoons, etc.) to troops stationed in the United States and to the far-flung armed forces around the world



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KEANE

ROGER

J.

Address: 43 WICHITA ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CAPT

Unit / Squadron:

59TH QUARTERMASTER SALES COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Captain

Base Assignments:

Fort Polk, Louisiana - Fort Polk was located approximately ten miles east of Leesville, Louisiana and was named in honor of the Right Reverend Leonidas Polk, the first Episcopal Bishop of the Diocese of Louisiana, and a distinguished Confederate general in the American Civil War / While primarily a training facility, Camp Polk also served as a military prison for Germans captured during World War II. The first prisoners of war (POWs), who began arriving in Louisiana in July 1943, were from the Afrika Korps, Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's troops who fought in North Africa

Miscellaneous:

The U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps was responsible for procuring and delivering various supplies to units in all theaters of war during World War II / Quartermaster units were charged with providing food (steady supply of food and rations), clothing, petroleum products (gasoline, kerosene, aviation fuel, diesel oil, fuel oil and petroleum-based lubricants) and general supplies (diverse items as rope, soap, candles, knives, forks and spoons, etc.) to troops stationed in the United States and to the far-flung armed forces around the world



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KEANE**

WILLIAM

R.

Address: 43 WICHITA ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "B", 261ST INFANTRY, 65TH DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL PURPLE HEART

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Corporal William R. Keane was wounded in combat action

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.

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 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

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

Name: **KEGLER**

RAYMOND P.

Address:

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** PFC

Unit / Squadron:

57TH A.E.G. (AIR EXPEDITIONARY GROUP), 7TH FERRYING GROUP

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Raymond P. Kegler helped fly four different U.S. bombers as a flight engineer on transports, including the Consolidated B-24 Liberator, B-25 medium bomber, Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress bomber and took part in the testing of the B-29 Superfortress bomber / Kegler's missions took him to Casablanca, Morocco; the Azores; Newfoundland; Lisbon, Portugal; and Marseilles and Paris, France / PFC Kegler was also a boxer in the service and was undefeated in the flyweight and featherweight classes

Base Assignments:

Gore Field (Great Lakes, Montana) - The 7th Ferrying Group of the Air Transport Command at Gore Army Air Field transported aircraft to Russia and other locations around the world / The Gore Army Air Field now is the home of the Great Falls International Airport

Miscellaneous:

Raymond P. Kegler was born 5 March 1924 in West Seneca and enlisted in the Army-Air Force as a teenager during World War II / After his Honorable Discharge from military service, Kegler trained and worked as a tool and die maker / In 1946, Raymond Kegler and an associate opened the G&R Tackle Store on Seneca Street, specializing in hunting and fishing sporting goods / Later, Kegler opened the Heritage Knife Company in Eden, producing high quality hunting knives / The G&R Tackle Store remained open until 2001 / Raymond P. Kegler passed away at the age of 96 years old on 6 May 2020



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KEHRER

JOSEPH F.

Address: 219 MAIN STREET

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

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS SQUADRON, 315TH SERVICE GROUP

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL PURPLE HEART

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Sergeant Joseph F. Kehrer was Killed in Action (KIA) on 4 February 1945 when the C-46 Commando Transport he was on, which departed Chabua, India for Karachi, India, developed mechanical problems and caught on fire crashing near the summit ridge of a jungle-covered hill in Arunachal Pradesh, India and burned

Originally interred overseas, Sergeant Joseph F. Kehrer was later reinterred at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery (Lemay, Missouri) on 6 February 1950

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph F. Kohrer enlisted in the Army on 7 April 1942

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 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: **KEICHER**

ALBERT

A.

Address: 170 WILDWOOD AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Unit / Squadron:

208TH A.A. COMPANY (ANTI-AIRCRAFT)

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Corporal Albert A. Keicher was a Cook and spent 13 months overseas in New Guinea and / Cpl Keicher was Honorably Discharged on 19 May 1943

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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 antiaircraft gunners by providing accurate information about the range, speed, and altitude of incoming enemy planes

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KEICHER**

DENNIS

A.

Address: 126 CHAMBERLIN DRIVE

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: CPL

Unit / Squadron:

456TH AMPHIBIAN TRUCK COMPANY, 1ST MARINE DIVISION

3RD AMPHIBIOUS CORPS

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

2 BATTLE STARS

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Corporal Dennis A. Keicher received 2 Battle Stars for combat action in the Pacific Theater

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The 1st Marine Division is the oldest and largest active duty division in the United States Marine Corps / The division's regiments were in existence as early as 8 March 1911, when the 1st Marine Regiment was formed at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba / The 1st Marine Division participated in the battles for Guadalcanal (650 killed - 1,278 wounded), Cape Gloucester (310 killed - 1,083 wounded), Peleliu (1,252 Killed - 5,274 wounded) and Okinawa (2,938 killed in action)

The 456th Amphibian Truck Company participated in the Iwo Jima, Okinawa and Ryukyus Kingdom assaults

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

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

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



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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: KEICHER

MYRON

Address:

FRENCH ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Unit / Squadron:

BATTERY "B", 899TH F.A. BATTALION (FIELD ARTILLERY)

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Private

Base Assignments:

Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky - 250,000 soldiers trained at Camp Breckenridge during World War II / Camp also served as a Prisoner-of-War camp, where 3,500 German prisoners were housed

Miscellaneous:

The Field Artillery is the branch of the army whose mission is to support the infantry by artillery fire, destroying, neutralizing or suppressing the enemy elements that threaten land forces / Increased mobility; fire direction centers, which enhanced their firepower; aerial observation; and radio communications increased the efficiency and accuracy to support ground forces



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KELCEY**

BENTON

M.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KELLER**

CLETUS

A.

Address: 15 WICHITA ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE

Rank: CPL

Unit / Squadron:

SECTION "O"

460TH AAF BASE UNIT

Medals / Citations:

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Corporal

Base Assignments:

Lowry Field (Denver, Colorado) - Lowry Field was commissioned in March 1938 and named to honor 2d Lt Francis Lowry, the only Colorado pilot killed in WWI combat / The field was the home of the Air Corps Technical School, a school for Air Corps Clerks / The first class of the AAF bombardier schools was at Lowry and later the base was used for training in communications, engineering, armament and aviation photography

Hamilton Field (Hamilton AFB), California - Constructed in 1932, Hamilton Field was named after First Lieutenant Lloyd Andrews Hamilton of the 17th Aero Squadron / Hamilton was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for "extraordinary heroism in action" in Varsenare, Belgium, where he led a low level bombing attack on a German airdrome 30 miles behind enemy lines on August 13, 1918 / Thirteen days later, Hamilton died in action near Lagnicourt, France / Hamilton Field was originally designed to accommodate four bomb squadrons and their personnel / By 1939 the field could no longer handle the larger bombers and in December 1940, Hamilton became a fighter base under the USAAC Air Force Combat Command / During World War II, Hamilton was an important West Coast air training facility / Its mission was that of an initial training base for newly formed fighter groups / The airfield was rapidly expanded to a wartime status, with construction of additional barracks, mess halls, administration buildings, warehouses, Link trainer buildings, schools, hospital and other structures / The Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission closed Hamilton Field in January 1976, with the last Navy units vacating the field in 1995

Miscellaneous:

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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: **KELLER**

GRANT

R.

Address: 65 LUDWIG AVENUE

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: W.T. 2/C

Unit / Squadron:

USS DALY (DD-519)

USS GLEAVES (DD-423)

SS HUMBOLDT (AVP 21)

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

3 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

PHILIPPINE LIBERATION MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

ATLANTIC THEATER / PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Watertender Second-Class Grant R. Keller served in the Atlantic and the Pacific Theaters / Keller participated in the liberation of the Philippine Islands / Watertender Grant Keller earned 3 Battle Stars for combat action

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

A Watertender is a crewman aboard a steam-powered ship who is responsible for tending to the fires and boilers in the ship's engine room / Maintained, repaired, and overhauled boiler system

The USS Daly was a Fletcher-class destroyer named for Marine Sergeant Major Daniel Daly, (1873–1937), one of the very few people to be twice awarded the Medal of Honor / Participated in the invasion of Leyte, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa / Outside of Okinawa, the ship was hit by a bomb, killing three and injuring 16 of the Daly's crew / The Daly received eight battle stars for World War II service / Commissioned 10 March 1943 and decommissioned 2 May 1960

USS Gleaves (DD-423) was the lead ship of the Gleaves class of destroyers / She is the only ship of the United States Navy to be named for Admiral Albert Gleaves, who is credited with improving the accuracy and precision of torpedoes and other naval arms / The Gleaves was commissioned on 14 June 1940 and saw convoy duty in the Atlantic / In May 1942, the Greaves participated in support and convoy operations during the Allied landings in Sicily / In September 1943 she helped clear the way for the Salerno landing forces / In December 1944,



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

Gleaves was assigned as fire support ship near Allied positions on the Franco-Italian frontier, and performed this duty until sailing for the United States in February 1945 / The Greaves was decommissioned on 8 May 1946 and sold as scrap on 29 June 1972

USS Humboldt (AVP-21) was a United States Navy Barnegat-class small seaplane tender in commission from 1941 to 1947 that served in the Atlantic during World War II / She was briefly reclassified as a miscellaneous auxiliary and redesignated AG-121 during 1945 / Commissioned on 7 October 1941, the Humboldt, along with ships of the Brazilian Navy and U.S. Navy, patrolled the South Atlantic Ocean sea lanes and hunted Axis submarines / Humboldt supplied and repaired seaplanes and, in addition, carried aviation gasoline to outlying air bases along the Brazilian coast while engaging in antisubmarine patrols herself / While at Natal, Brazil, on 28 January 1943, Humboldt was the site of a conference between President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who was returning from the Casablanca Conference, and President Getúlio Vargas of Brazil / This meeting helped to achieve even closer cooperation between the naval units of the two countries / In July 1943, the Humboldt took up new duties in the North Atlantic Ocean carrying supplies and parts to U.S. Navy fleet air wings in Newfoundland, Iceland, and the United Kingdom / The Humboldt continued to bring supplies to aviation squadrons in the Azores and North Africa until 22 March 1945 / Reclassified as a miscellaneous auxiliary and redesignated AG-121 on 30 July 1945, Humboldt was to serve as a broadcast and teletype center for correspondents during the planned invasion of Japan in 1945–1946 / Hostilities with Japan ended on 15 August 1945, making the invasion unnecessary before her conversion was completed / Humboldt was loaned to the Coast Guard at 24 January 1949 and after undergoing conversion for use as a weather-reporting ship, she was commissioned into Coast Guard service as USCGC Humboldt (WAVP-372) on 29 March 1949 / She was reclassified as a high endurance cutter and redesignated WHEC-372 on 1 May 1966 / On 26 September 1966, her long-term loan from the Navy to the Coast Guard came to an end when she was transferred outright to the Coast Guard / The Coast Guard decommissioned Humboldt on 30 September 1969 and transferred her to the U.S. Navy / The Navy struck her from the Naval Vessel Register in 1970 and sold her for scrap

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

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

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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

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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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KELLER**

WARREN

D.

Address: 65 LUDWIG AVENUE

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: G.M. 2/C

Unit / Squadron:

USS BALTIMORE (CA-68), DIVISION 2

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN MEDAL

11 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

PHILIPPINE LIBERATION MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Gunner's Mate Second-Class Warren D. Keller earned 11 Battle Stars for combat action onboard the USS Baltimore in the Pacific Theater

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gunner's Mates were responsible for the operation and maintenance of torpedo systems, gun mounts, and other ordnance equipment, as well as small arms and magazines / Gunner's Mates worked with electrical and electronic circuitry; mechanical, hydraulic and pneumatic systems

The USS Baltimore was a heavy cruiser named after the capital of Maryland / Between November 1943 and June 1944, the Baltimore was a unit of the fire support and covering forces at the Makin Islands landings, Kwajalein invasion and the Truk raid / In 1944 she participated in the attacks on Luzon, Formosa, the China coast and Okinawa / The Baltimore received nine battle stars for her service in the Pacific / Commissioned 15 April 1943 and decommissioned 31 May 1956

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Town of West Seneca, New York

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KELLERMAN**

WILLIAM J.

Address: 416 INDIAN CHURCH ROAD

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: ABM 3/C

Unit / Squadron:

U.S.N.A.S. (UNITED STATES NAVAL AIR STATION)

USS PRINCETON (CV-37)

FLEET AIR WING 12 AND 5-1 / COMBAT AIRCRAFT SERVICE UNIT CASU-21

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Aviation Boatswain's Mate Third-Class

Base Assignments:

Key West, Florida - Base was used for submarine training, air operations and Naval intelligence

NPSC (NPSC, Naval Personnel Separation Center) (Lido Beach, New York) - When the Navy occupied Long Beach Island during World War II, the Lido Beach Towers Hotel became an amphibious base and discharge center

Naval Receiving Center (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

Miscellaneous:

Aviation Boatswain's Mates played a major part in launching and recovering naval aircraft quickly and safely from land or ships / Duties included aircraft preparation and fueling prior to takeoff and after landing, as well as fire-fighting and salvage and rescue operations / Used tow tractors to position planes and operate support equipment used to start aircraft

USS Princeton (CV/CVA/CVS-37, LPH-5) was one of 24 Essex-class aircraft carriers built during and shortly after World War II for the United States Navy / The ship was the fifth US Navy ship to bear the name, and was named for the Revolutionary War Battle of Princeton / The Princeton was commissioned on 18 November 1945 and was placed into service too late to serve in World War II, but saw extensive service in the Korean War, in which she earned eight battle stars, and the Vietnam War / Decommissioned on 30 January 1970, the Princeton was sold as scrap in 1971



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Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

The Combat Aircraft Service Unit provided an extremely mobile organization to keep land-based Navy planes repaired / It is the function of a CASU to service, rearm, and make minor repair on land planes or seaplanes, large or small / It maintains facilities and equipment in its charge, including personnel facilities / The CASU also may furnish berthing, messing and service to personnel of air units, both flight and ground personnel / As a self-contained unit, a CASU has a complete inner organization of its own, consisting of an engineering division, operations division, ordnance, radio and radar, supply, personnel and medical / Engineering division looks after aircraft repairs, the main function of a CASU / Operations handles all matters concerning operation of planes attached to or visiting the CASU / Ordnance handles rearming and guns / Radio and radar division repairs electronics gear / Supply division looks after supplies and disbursing / Personnel is assigned the job of handling officers and men of the CASU, including physical education and recreation

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KELLOGG**

C.

E.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KELLY

MARVIN

S.

Address: 24 BURCH AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 541ST PARACHUTE INFANTRY

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Sergeant

Base Assignments:

Camp Mackall, North Carolina - Originally named Camp Hoffman, the facility was renamed on 8 February 1943 Camp Mackall in honor of Private John Thomas (Tommy) Mackall who was mortally wounded in an attack by French Vichy aircraft on his aircraft as the aircraft landed near Oran, Algeria / Camp Mackall was the primary training site for U. S. Army Airborne troops

Miscellaneous:

The parachute infantry regiments were among the most highly decorated US Army units of World War II / The parachute infantry regiments were the first U.S. troops to liberate a town in France; spearhead the invasion of Sicily in the first American mass combat jump to fight at the forefront of six major campaigns (Sicily, Naples-Foggia, Normandy, Rhineland, Ardennes, and Central Germany); and to jump into Normandy during the invasion of France by Allied troops



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KELM**

F.

R.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KELM**

R.

W.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KELSEY**

EUGENE

Address:

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Unit / Squadron:

722ND ENGINEER DEPOT, COMPANY 4

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Private

Base Assignments:

Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky - 250,000 soldiers trained at Camp Breckenridge during World War II / Camp also served as a Prisoner-of-War camp, where 3,500 German prisoners were housed

Miscellaneous:

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KELSEY**

FREDERICK

H.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KELSEY**

RICHARD

H.

Address: 1175 UNION ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY, 915TH F.A. BATTALION (FIELD ARTILLERY)

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Private First-Class

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The Field Artillery is the branch of the army whose mission is to support the infantry by artillery fire, destroying, neutralizing or suppressing the enemy elements that threaten land forces / Increased mobility; fire direction centers, which enhanced their firepower; aerial observation; and radio communications increased the efficiency and accuracy to support ground forces

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KEMMERER**

RICHARD

J.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KENNICK**

PAUL

L.

Address: 175 INDIAN CHURCH ROAD

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: S. 1/C

Unit / Squadron:

C.B.M.U. 543 (CONSTRUCTION BATTALION MAINTENANCE UNIT)

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Seaman First-Class

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Seamen served as members of damage control or emergency and security alert teams / They participated in Navy ceremonies and took part in underway replenishment (transferring supplies from ship to ship at sea), and they worked with qualified personnel to gain job training and experience / A Seaman was knowledgeable in naval drill duties, knots, steering and signaling / Also stood watch and handled gunnery duties

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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KENYA**

JOHN

E.

Address: 72 LENOX ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: T/5

Unit / Squadron:

831ST C.A. BATTERY (COASTAL ARTILLERY)

881ST AAA (ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY) GUN BATTERY CAC (COAST ARTILLERY CORPS)

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Technician Fifth-Grade (Corporal)

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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

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

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



Town of West Seneca, New York



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KERN

FREDERICK E.

Address:

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: AM 3/C

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY 1863, U.S.N.T.S. (UNITED STATES NAVAL TRAINING STATION)

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Aviation Metalsmith Petty Officer Third-Class

Base Assignments:

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

V-12 Unit, University of Rochester (Rochester, New York) - During World War II, Rochester was one of 131 colleges and universities nationally that took part in the V-12 Navy College Training Program which offered students a path to a Navy commission / The V-12 Navy College Training Program was designed to supplement the force of commissioned officers in the United States Navy during World War II / Between July 1, 1943, and June 30, 1946, more than 125,000 participants were enrolled in 131 colleges and universities in the United States / Numerous participants attended classes and lectures at the respective colleges and earned completion degrees for their studies / Some even returned from their naval obligations to earn a degree from the colleges where they were previously stationed / The V-12 program's goal was to train personnel in such fields as engineering, foreign languages, and medicine

Naval Air Technical Training Center (NATTC) (Norman, Oklahoma) - Established in March 1942, the mission of NATTC was to educate young men and women in skills that helped maintain naval aircraft and ground equipment / By August 1945, 74,322 men and women graduated from the Naval Air Technical Training Center

Amphibious Base Advanced Training Unit (ABATU) (St. Louis, Missouri) - Provided training for Navy SEALs, amphibious insertion and other small units / Base was used for reconditioning of aircraft in 1944



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

Residents in World War II



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U.S. Naval Training and Distribution Center (TADCEN) (Shoemaker, California) - Established at the outbreak of World War II, Camp Shoemaker was established to house, train, deploy and recuperate personnel who would construct, maintain and man ships, bases, depots, camps and facilities in the Pacific theatre of war / The base also housed the Naval Construction Battalions, more popularly known as the Seabees / A Naval Disciplinary Barracks at Shoemaker was commissioned in 1944 to house sailors charged with a wide range of violations of naval regulations / At its height in April 1945, there were 2,097 men in confinement, including men from the Navy, Marines and Coast Guard

USNAS, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii - Adjacent to Honolulu, Naval Station Pearl Harbor provided berthing and shore side support to surface ships and submarines, as well as maintenance and training

Miscellaneous:

An Aviation Metalsmith repaired and maintained airplanes and aircraft parts other than engines and ordnance

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KERR**

WILLIAM

Address: 115 WILDWOOD AVENUE

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: S. 2/C

Unit / Squadron:

L.S.T. 4517 (LANDING SHIP, TANK)

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Seaman Second-Class

Base Assignments:

Camp Bradford (Norfolk, Virginia) - Initially Camp Bradford was a training base for Navy Seabees, but in 1943 it was changed into a training center for the crews of LSTs (Landing Ship Tank) / The camp also provided amphibious assault training for landing large numbers of American troops on foreign shores

Miscellaneous:

Seamen served as members of damage control or emergency and security alert teams / They participated in Navy ceremonies and took part in underway replenishment (transferring supplies from ship to ship at sea), and they worked with qualified personnel to gain job training and experience / A Seaman was knowledgeable in naval drill duties, knots, steering and signaling / Also stood watch and handled gunnery duties

Landing Ship, Tank (LST) is the military designation for naval vessels created during World War II to support amphibious operations by carrying significant quantities of vehicles, cargo, and landing troops directly onto an unimproved shore / From their combat debut in the Solomon Islands in June 1943 until the end of the hostilities in August 1945, the LSTs performed a vital service in World War II / They participated in the invasions of Sicily (Operation Husky), Italy, Normandy, and southern France in the European Theater and were an essential element in the island-hopping campaigns in the Pacific that culminated in the liberation of the Philippines and the capture of Iwo Jima and Okinawa



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KESTER**

ARTHUR J.

Address: 60 EAST & WEST ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "C", 793RD MILITARY POLICE BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL 2 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Arthur J. Kester served in England, France and Belgium as a member of the Military Police and earned 2 Battle Stars in Central Europe for combat action

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The Military Police provides expertise in police, detainment and stability operations in order to enhance security and enable mobility / In World War II, Military Police soldiers moved traffic along the Burma Road, supported amphibious operations on Normandy beachheads, and managed enemy prisoners of war from Italy to the South Pacific

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KESTER**

JOHN

E.

Address: 60 EAST & WEST ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** 1ST LT.

Unit / Squadron:

338TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, 55TH FIGHTER GROUP

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL AIR MEDAL WITH BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER
PURPLE HEART

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

John E. Kester joined the Army-Air Force in February 1942 and commissioned as a Second Lieutenant on 8 February 1942 and later promoted to First Lieutenant

First Lieutenant John E. Kester was credited with shooting down one German Messerschmidt 109 aircraft near Leipzig, Germany in his P-51 Mustang while escorting B-17 Flying Fortresses over targets in Merseburg, Germany / Kester had previously listed as missing for four months over Belgium evading capture by German forces with the aid of the French Resistance / Lieutenant Kester was awarded the Air Medal with Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster for " . . . Meritorious achievement while serving as a fighter pilot during an extended period of aerial combat over Germany and German-occupied Continental Europe" / Lieutenant John Kester flew 170 combat hours

Twice listed as missing, First Lieutenant John E. Kester, piloting his P-51 Mustang, was Killed in Action (KIA) over the skies of Germany after bailing out of his aircraft on 14 January 1945

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John E. Kester was a graduate of West Seneca High School / Kester was employed by Bell Aircraft before entering the service on 9 November 1942

The 55th Fighter Group was activated on 15 Jan 1941 and transferred to England in 1943 / The 55th engaged primarily in escorting bombers that attacked such targets as industries and marshalling yards in Germany, and airfields and V-weapon sites in France / The 55th Fighter Group patrolled the air over the Channel and bombed



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

bridges in the Tours area during the invasion of Normandy

The North American Aviation P-51 Mustang was an American long-range, single-seat fighter and fighter-bomber used during World War II / The P-51 was flown with Allied air forces in the North African, Mediterranean and Italian theatres, and saw limited service against the Japanese in the Pacific War / During World War II, Mustang pilots claimed 4,950 enemy aircraft shot down

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

An oak leaf cluster is a miniature metal device worn by members of the uniformed services of the United States on medals and ribbons issued by the United States Army, Air Force, and Department of Defense to denote subsequent decorations and awards. It is bronze or silver in appearance, formed as a twig of four oak leaves with three acorns on the stem. The bronze oak leaf cluster represents one additional award, while the silver oak leaf cluster is worn in lieu of five bronze oak leaf clusters

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KESTER**

RAYMOND

E.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KESTER**

ROBERT

W.

Address: 60 EAST & WEST ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 877TH AIRBORNE ENGINEER BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Corporal Robert W. Kester served in Germany as an Aviation Engineer

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The 877th Airborne Engineer Battalion arrived in the United Kingdom in March 1944, and landed at Omaha Beach in Normandy in July 1944 / The 877th engaged in construction and maintenance of 66 air fields in France and Germany

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KESTER**

WILLIAM J.

Address: 60 EAST & WEST ROAD

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: G.M. 2/C

Unit / Squadron:

M.F.D. SQUADRON

MOTOR TORPEDO BOAT SQUADRON 13

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON W/5 STARS

PURPLE HEART

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

PHILIPPINE LIBERATION MEDAL W/1 BRONZE STAR

NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Gunner's Mate Second-Class William J. Kester was wounded in the Philippines in 4 January 1945 while serving on a Torpedo Boat (PT-81)

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gunner's Mates were responsible for the operation and maintenance of torpedo systems, gun mounts, and other ordnance equipment, as well as small arms and magazines / Gunner's Mates worked with electrical and electronic circuitry; mechanical, hydraulic and pneumatic systems

Motor Torpedo Boat (MTB) was the name given to fast torpedo boats / The 'motor' in the formal designation, referring to the use of gasoline engines, was to distinguish them from the majority of other naval craft that used steam turbines or reciprocating steam engines / MTBs were designed for high speed, operating at night, low speed ambush (to keep noise low and to produce no wake) and manoeuvrability on the water; this was to enable them to get close enough to launch their torpedoes at enemy vessels / With no significant armor, the boats relied upon surprise and their agility at high speed to avoid being hit by gunfire from bigger ships

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 Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal awarded Bronze service stars to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

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

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 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KIEFHABER

M.

G.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KILBURN**

DONALD

R.

Address: 3200 SENECA STREET

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: T/3

Unit / Squadron:

3456TH ORDNANCE M.A.M. COMPANY (MEDIUM AUTOMOTIVE MAINTENANCE)

1ST ARMY VII CORPS

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL 5 BATTLE STARS

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL AWARD OF MERIT

GOOD CONDUCT

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Technician Third-Grade (Staff Sergeant) Donald R. Kilburn was awarded 5 Battle Stars for combat on the European Front

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

VII Corps was organized at the end of World War I on 19 August 1918, at Remiremont, France and was inactivated on 11 July 1919 / VII Corps was reactivated on 25 November 1940 and participated in the Louisiana Maneuvers staged as the US Army prepared for World War II / The VII Corps participated in the European invasion on D-Day in June 1944, as one of the two assault corps for the U.S. First Army during Operation Overlord, targeting Utah Beach via amphibious assault / For Overlord, the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions were attached to VII Corps / After the Battle of Normandy the airborne units were assigned to the newly created XVIII Airborne Corps / Subsequently, VII Corps participated in many battles during the advance across France and then invaded Germany until the surrender of the Third Reich in May 1945 / The corps was inactivated in 1946

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

(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 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 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: **KILBURN**

GORDON

E.

Address: 3200 SENECA STREET

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "A", 661ST T.D. BATTALION (TANK DESTROYER)

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL
W/2 BRONZE STARS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Private First-Class

Base Assignments:

Camp Swift, Texas - The base was constructed in 1942 and was located outside of Austin, Texas / Camp Swift was an Infantry training facility / Camp Swift was also a training base for combat nurses / German soldiers from Rommel's elite Afrika Corp were housed at Camp Swift as Prisoners of War / The camp also held 300 Russians who were forced to fight on the German side

Miscellaneous:

A tank destroyer is a type of armored fighting vehicle armed with a gun or missile launcher, and is designed specifically to engage enemy armored vehicles / Tanks are generally armored fighting vehicles designed for front-line combat which combines operational mobility and tactical offensive and defensive capabilities and perform all primary tasks of the armored troops on the battlefield; whereas the tank destroyer is specifically designed for taking on and destroying enemy armor

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

Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KILBURN**

KENNETH

K.

Address: 373 INDIAN CHURCH ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Unit / Squadron:

1ST QUARTERMASTER BASE DEPOT COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Private

Base Assignments:

San Bernardino, California - Before World War II, the Municipal Airport at San Bernardino was under Army Air Corps jurisdiction / In December 1941, within days after the attack on Pearl Harbor, combat-ready fighter planes arrived to protect the Los Angeles area from enemy attack / During 1941, the airport became a training base to for the Pilot Training Program / On 1 March 1942, the airport was renamed San Bernardino Army Air Field and the San Bernardino Air Depot was established / During the war, the field's primary function was the repair and maintenance of aircraft / The base was later renamed Norton Air Force Base, named for San Bernardino native Captain Leland Francis Norton (1920–1944) / While attacking a marshaling yard on his 16th combat mission, Captain Norton's Douglas A-20 Havoc was struck by anti-aircraft fire on 27 May 1944 near Amiens, France. After ordering his crew to bail out, Captain Norton perished with his aircraft

Camp Tracy, California - Camp became a secret Prisoner of War (POW) interrogation center during World War II, when roughly 3,500 Japanese and German prisoners of war were questioned about military operations in the Pacific and Europe. Information gleaned from Japanese prisoners proved especially important to the U.S. war effort

Miscellaneous:

The U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps was responsible for procuring and delivering various supplies to units in all theaters of war during World War II / Quartermaster units were charged with providing food (steady supply of food and rations), clothing, petroleum products (gasoline, kerosene, aviation fuel, diesel oil, fuel oil and petroleum-based lubricants) and general supplies (diverse items as rope, soap, candles, knives, forks and spoons, etc.) to troops stationed in the United States and to the far-flung armed forces around the world



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KILCOYNE**

PAUL

A.

Address: 27 ORCHARD AVENUE

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: LT. (J.G)

Unit / Squadron:

FINANCE DIVISION, NAVY PERSONNEL

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Lieutenant (junior grade) Paul A. Kilcoyne was assigned to the Bureau of Personnel in Washington, D.C.

Base Assignments:

Washington, D.C.

Miscellaneous:

Lieutenant (junior grade), commonly abbreviated as Lt. (j.g.), was a junior commissioned officer rank of the United States Navy and the United States Coast Guard / Lieutenant, junior grade, ranks above ensign and below lieutenant and is equivalent to a first lieutenant in the other uniformed services (the Army, Marine Corps and Air Force)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KILCOYNE**

WILLIAM

J.

Address:

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

William J. Kilcoyne served in the European Theater

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KILPER**

M.

J.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KING

JAMES

D.

Address: 169 EDSON STREET

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE

Rank: LT.

Unit / Squadron:

510TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON, 351 BOMBARDMENT GROUP

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Lieutenant

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

In March of 1944, the 510th Bombardment Squadron moved to Christchurch, England, and began combat operations / During WWII, the 510th moved to mainland Europe with the advance of Allied troops, flying from Picauville and St Dizier, France; Ophoven, Belgium; and Kitzingen, Germany / The unit was credited with 39 kills and saw combat in the European Theater of Operations (ETO) from 11 April 1944 thru 1 May 1945

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KIPLER**

B.

A.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KIPLER**

F.

J.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KIPLER**

JAMES

Address:

EMPORIUM AVENUE

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: F. 1/C

Unit / Squadron:

USS LST (LANDING SHIP, TANK) NUMBER 1

USS LST (LANDING SHIP, TANK) NUMBER 2

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL 4 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

ATLANTIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Fireman First-Class (Non Petty Officer) James Kipler earned 4 Battle Stars for combat action in the Atlantic

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

A Fireman was responsible for keeping the fires burning in the ship's boilers which were used to make steam / A Fireman would work on the ship's engines and their auxiliary machinery, ensuring they ran correctly and performed maintenance / Operated, adjusted and repaired pumps

Landing Ship, Tank (LST), or tank landing ship, is the naval designation for ships first developed during World War II (1939-1945) to support amphibious operations by carrying tanks, vehicles, cargo, and landing troops directly onto shore with no docks or piers allowing amphibious assaults on 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 in the Pacific War and in the European theater

USS LST-1 was an LST-1-class tank landing ship of the United States Navy built during World War II / Commissioned on 14 December 1942, she was the lead ship in her class of 390 and like many of her class, was not named and is properly referred to by her hull designation / During World War II, LST-1 was assigned to the European Theater and participated in the following operations: Allied invasion of Sicily in July 1943; Salerno Landings in September 1943; Anzio-Nettuno advanced landings on the west coast of Italy from January to March 1944; and the Invasion of Normandy in June 1944 / LST-1 was decommissioned on 21 May 1946 and on 5 December 1947, she was sold to the Ships Power and Equipment Company of Barber, New Jersey, for scrap / LST-



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

1 earned four battle star for World War II service.

USS LST-2 was an LST-1-class tank landing ship of the United States Navy built during World War II and was transferred to the Royal Navy in November 1944 / Like many of her class, she was not named and is properly referred to by her hull designation / Commissioned on 9 February 1943, LST-2 was assigned to the European Theater and participated in the following operations: North African occupation prior to July 1943; Allied invasion of Sicily in July 1943; Salerno Landings in September 1943; and the Invasion of Normandy in June 1944 / LST-2 was decommissioned from the USN and commissioned into the Royal Navy on 29 November 1944, as HM LST-2 / She was returned to the US Navy in Subic Bay on 13 April 1946, decommissioned on 11 April 1946 and sold to the Philippines / LST-2 earned four battle stars for World War II service

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

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 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: **KIPLER**

L.

R.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KIPLER**

M.

J.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KIPLER**

MICHAEL

J.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KIRBY**

THOMAS

L.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KIRKLAND**

ROBERT

E.

Address: 1365 INDIAN CHURCH ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Unit / Squadron:

285TH PORT COMPANY, 507TH PORT BATTALION, 5TH ARMY

601ST T.D. RECON COMPANY (TANK DESTROYER)

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PURPLE HEART

1 BATTLE STAR

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT - RIFLE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Private Robert E. Kirkland was injured in a bomb explosion in September 1944 and evacuated to England General Hospital in Atlantic City, New Jersey / Pvt. Robert Kirkland earned 1 Battle Star for action in combat / Private Kirkland went overseas on the USS Explorer and returned by plane

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The 601st Tank Destroyer Battalion was a battalion of the United States Army active during World War II / It was the first of the newly formed tank destroyer battalions to see combat, and the only one to fight as a "pure" tank destroyer force / The battalion has the unusual distinction of being one of the few American units to fight in all three major campaigns against Nazi Germany (North Africa, Italy and Northern Europe) and to have participated in four assault landings (Torch, Avalanche, Shingle and Dragoon)

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 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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

case posthumously

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

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: **KIRSCHBERGER**

EARL

J.

Address: 175 INDIAN CHURCH ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE

Rank: PFC

Unit / Squadron:

402ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON, 502ND BOMBARDMENT GROUP

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

2 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY RIBBON

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Earl J. Kirschberger fought in the Eastern Mandates (better known as the Marshall Islands) earning 2 Battle Stars and took part in the air invasion of Japan

Base Assignments:

Las Vegas Army Air Field (Las Vegas, Nevada) - The facility, which opened in 1942, provided training to pilots and instruction on handling machine guns mounted on the B-17 Flying Fortress, the B-24 Liberator and, later, the B-29 Super Fortress

Camp Barkeley, Texas - Camp Barkeley was a large United States Army training installation located eleven miles southwest of Abilene, Texas / The base was named after David B. Barkley, a Medal of Honor recipient during World War I (a clerical error is believed to have caused the spelling discrepancy) / At its peak, in March 1945, the POW camp housed 840 German prisoners / Camp Barkeley was officially closed in September 1945 and dismantled

Fort McClellan, Alabama - Fort McClellan, originally Camp McClellan, was a United States Army post located adjacent to the city of Anniston, Alabama. During World War II, it was one of the largest U.S. Army installations, training an estimated half-million troops / Camp was named in honor of Major General George B. McClellan, General-in-Chief of the United States Army 1861-1862, and Governor of New Jersey 1878-1881

Sheppard Field, Texas - Sheppard Air Force Base is named in honor of Senator John Morris Sheppard of Texas (1875-1941), chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee from 1933 until his death on 9 April 1941. Senator Sheppard helped lead the fight for military preparedness before the attack on Pearl Harbor / During World War II, Sheppard Field conducted basic training, and it also trained glider mechanics, advanced pilot



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

training, technical and flying training instructors and B-29 Superfortress flight engineers

Scott Field (Belleville, Illinois) - Scott Field was established after the United States entered World War I in April 1917 and named in honor of Corporal Frank S. Scott, the first enlisted person to be killed in an aviation crash / The primary wartime mission of Scott was to train skilled radio operators and radio maintainers; to produce, as the Radio School's slogan proclaimed, "the best damned radio operators in the world!" / Scott's graduates flew in aircraft and operated command and control communications in every Theater of the War, and were often referred to as the "Eyes and Ears of the Army Air Forces".

Lincoln, Nebraska - The Lincoln Army Air Field was used for B-29 Bomber training

McCarren Field, Nevada - Field used for advanced training school for pilots and bombardiers on the B-10 bombers

Dalhart Army Airfield , Texas - Dalhart Army Airfield opened in May 1942 with the mission to perform glider training / In 1943, The base mission was changed to B-17 Flying Fortress and B-24 Liberator Heavy Bomber aircrew replacement training / In 1944, the mission of Dalhart was again changed to B-29 Superfortress training as crews were needed in the Pacific Theater for the strategic bombardment of Japan

Miscellaneous:

The 502nd Bombardment Group was established in early 1944 and served primarily in the Pacific Ocean theater of World War II as part of Twentieth Air Force / The 502d Bomb Group's aircraft engaged in very heavy bombardment B-29 Superfortress operations against Japan

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

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) is 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 commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military,



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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 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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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KIRSTEN**

HART

Address:

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY, 142ND A.A.A. BATTALION (ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY)

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Corporal

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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 antiaircraft gunners by providing accurate information about the range, speed, and altitude of incoming enemy planes

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KIWFHABER**

M.

G.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KLAS

L.

J.

Address: 2573 SENECA STREET

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "O", 12TH QUARTERMASTER TRAINING REGIMENT, 4TH P.T.

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Private

Base Assignments:

Camp Lee, Virginia - The camp was named for Confederate General Robert E. Lee / The camp was designated as the Quartermaster Replacement Training Center (QMRTC) / A full program of courses was conducted, including Officer Candidate School. By the end of 1941, Camp Lee was the center of both basic and advanced training of Quartermaster personnel and held this position throughout the war

Miscellaneous:

The U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps was responsible for procuring and delivering various supplies to units in all theaters of war during World War II / Quartermaster units were charged with providing food (steady supply of food and rations), clothing, petroleum products (gasoline, kerosene, aviation fuel, diesel oil, fuel oil and petroleum-based lubricants) and general supplies (diverse items as rope, soap, candles, knives, forks and spoons, etc.) to troops stationed in the United States and to the far-flung armed forces around the world



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KLEE

JOHN

Address:

FISHER ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

1853RD SERVICE COMMAND UNIT

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KLEE

LORETTA

M.

Address:

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: CPL

Unit / Squadron:

AVIATION W.R. SQUADRON, 125 MCAS (MARINE CORPS AIR STATION)

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Corporal

Base Assignments:

Miramar (San Diego, California) - Marine Corps Air Station Miramar was named Mitscher Field after Admiral M.A. Mitscher who was the commander of Task Force 58 during World War II / During the 1940s, both the Navy and the Marine Corps occupied Miramar / East Miramar (Camp Elliott) was used to train Marine artillery and armored personnel, while Navy and Marine Corps pilots trained on the western side / The bases were combined and designated Marine Corps Air Station Miramar in 1946

Miscellaneous:



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KLEIN

ROMON

J.

Address: 28 LUDWIG AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: S/SGT

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "F", 350TH INFANTRY

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KLINKO

EDWARD J.

Address: 587 MILL ROAD

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: CPL

Unit / Squadron:

25TH MARINE REGIMENT, 4TH MARINE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Corporal

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After intensive training at Camp Pendleton, California and Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, the 4th Marine Division shipped out on 13 January 1944, and in 13 months made four major amphibious assaults, in the battles of Kwajalein (Roi-Namur), Saipan, Tinian, and Iwo Jima, suffering more than 17,000 casualties / The 4th Marine Division was awarded two Presidential Unit Citations and a Navy Unit Commendation, and deactivated 28 November 1945

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

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

competition / The U.S. Military's Marksmanship Qualification Badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): Expert, Sharpshooter, and Marksman

Name: **KNAUS**

CHARLES

F.

Address:

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Charles F. Knaus served as a rifleman in Italy, where he was wounded in both legs in February 1944 / PFC Knaus was captured a few days later by German forces and held as a Prisoner of War (POW) in seven different POW camps for eighteen months before he was liberated by American forces on 7 May 1945 / Private First-Class Charles F. Knaus received the Purple Heart for wounds received in battle

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles F. Knaus attended school in West Seneca and began working as a boy with his father and uncle, who trucked produce to New York City / Knaus enlisted in the Army in 1943 / After receiving an Honorable Discharge, Charles Knaus worked as a truck driver and joined with his brother, William, to establish Knaus Brothers Trucking / In the mid-1960s, Knaus began working with Riverside Service Corp. as a truck owner and operator, hauling steel from the Bethlehem Steel Corp. plant in Lackawanna / Charles F. Knaus passed away at the age of 88 on 6 September 2013

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: **KNAUS**

CLARENCE L.

Address: 491 HARLEM ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "L", 347TH INFANTRY

"C" COMPANY, 333RD INFANTRY REGIMENT, 84TH DIVISION, 9TH ARMY

Medals / Citations:

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL | 3 BATTLE STARS |
| AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL | WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL |
| COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE | EXPERT INFANTRYMAN BADGE |
| MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT - M1 RIFLE | MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT - B.A.R. |
| MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT - 45 CALIBER PISTOL | GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL |

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Clarence L. Knaus earned 3 Battle Stars for combat action in the European Theater

Base Assignments:

Fort Jackson, South Carolina - Fort Jackson was named for Andrew Jackson, a United States Army General and President of the United States of America who was born in the border region of North and South Carolina / Throughout World War II, the post was used to train new recruits / It also provided lodging for units awaiting overseas shipment, participating in maneuvers, conducting planning, coordinating draftees, and providing support / Additionally, it served as headquarters for the state's prisoner-of-war camps

Miscellaneous:

Brothers, Peter J. and Howard F. Knaus both served in the Army during World War II

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

The Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR) was a 30 caliber weapon designed to be carried by infantrymen during an assault advance while supported by the sling over the shoulder, or to be fired from the hip / The BAR was used as a light machine gun, often fired from a bipod / The BAR saw extensive service in both World War II and the Korean War



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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

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 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

The Combat Infantryman Badge is awarded to infantrymen and Special Forces Soldiers in the rank of Colonel and below, who personally fought in active ground combat while assigned as members of an infantry, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, any time after 6 December 1941

The Expert Infantryman Badge was created during World War II to enhance the morale and prestige of service in the infantry / Specifically, it recognizes the inherent sacrifices of all infantrymen, and that, in comparison to all other military occupational specialties, infantrymen face the greatest risk of being wounded or killed in action

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KNAUS**

HOWARD

F.

Address: 491 HARLEM ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Unit / Squadron:

84TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 113TH INFANTRY, COMPANY "L"

87TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

BRONZE STAR

PURPLE HEART

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Howard "Fred" Knaus participated in the Battle of the Bulge, earning a Bronze Star for bravery and a Purple Heart for wounds received on the battlefield

Base Assignments:

Camp Pickett, Virginia - Located near the town of Blackstone, the camp is named for the United States Army officer and Confederate General George Pickett / A total of approximately 6,000 German prisoners were sent to Camp Pickett beginning in January 1944

Miscellaneous:

Brothers, Peter J. and Clarence L. Knaus, both served in the Army during World War II

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

The 84th Infantry Division was ordered into active military service on 15 October 1942 and landed at Omaha Beach on 1–4 November 1944, and moved to the vicinity of Gulpen, the Netherlands, 5–12 November / The division entered combat on 18 November 1944 with an attack on Geilenkirchen, Germany / Taking Geilenkirchen on 19 November, the division pushed forward to take Beek and Lindern in the face of heavy enemy resistance, 29 November 1944 / After a short rest, the division returned to the fight, taking Wurm and Würm, Mullendorf on 18 December 1944, before moving to Belgium to help stem the German winter offensive (Battle of the Bulge) / Battling in snow, sleet, and rain, the division threw off German attacks, recaptured Verdenne, 24–28 December, took Beffe and Devantave, 4–6 January 1945, and seized La Roche, 11 January / By 16 January 1945,



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the Bulge had been reduced / After crossing the Rhine River, 1 April 1945, the division fought from Lembeck toward Bielefeld in conjunction with the 5th Armored Division, crossing the Weser River to capture Hanover, Germany on 10 April / By 13 April 1945, it had reached the Elbe, and halted its advance, patrolling along the river / The division remained on occupation duty in Germany after VE-day, returning to the United States on 19 January 1946 for demobilization

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

The Bronze Star Medal is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order of precedence in the US Military / It may be awarded for acts of heroism, acts of merit, or meritorious service in a combat zone

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

The Combat Infantryman Badge is awarded to infantrymen and Special Forces Soldiers in the rank of Colonel and below, who personally fought in active ground combat while assigned as members of an infantry, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, any time after 6 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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KNAUS**

KATHY

M.

Address: 491 HARLEM ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY-AIR FORCE

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

801ST SPECIALIZED DEPOT

Medals / Citations:

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Kathy M. Knaus delivered supplies to troops overseas for three years / Knaus was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kathy M. Knaus was married to Private First-Class Peter J. Knaus who served in the Pacific Theater / Brother-In-Laws, Clarence and Howard Knaus, served in the Army during World War II

The Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) is a military award of the United States Army that is presented to any person who, while serving in any capacity with the United States military, has distinguished himself or herself by exceptionally meritorious service to the Government in a duty of great responsibility / The performance must be such as to merit recognition for service that is clearly exceptional



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KNAUS**

PETER J.

Address: 491 HARLEM ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Unit / Squadron:

1811TH ORDNANCE COMPANY, S&M AVIATION

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

BRONZE STAR

AIR MEDAL

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

PHILIPPINE LIBERATION MEDAL

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Peter J. Knaus flew with a troop carrier squadron in C-47's and drove truckloads of bombs and other supplies for two years in New Guinea and six months in the Philippines

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The wife of Peter J. Knaus, Kathy M. Knaus, served in the Army-Air Force during World War II / Brothers, Clarence L. and Howard F. Knaus, both served in the Army during World War II

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 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 Bronze Star Medal is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order of precedence in the US Military / It may be awarded for acts of heroism, acts of merit, or meritorious service in a combat zone

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



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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

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

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 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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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KNAVEL**

WILLIAM R.

Address: 181 PEARL STREET

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** F/O

Unit / Squadron:

528TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

Medals / Citations:

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

AIR MEDAL

CHINA WAR MEMORIAL MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

CHINA-BURMA-INDIA (CBI) THEATER

Service Notes:

Flight Officer William R. Knavel entered the Army - Air Force on 2 November 1942 / Upon the completion of his aviation cadet training he received his wings and commission as a pilot on 1 October 1943 in Victoria, Texas

Lieutenant Knavel served in the China-Burma-India Theater with the 528th Fighter Squadron flying P-51 Mustangs and flew 52 missions

In April 1948, Lt. Knavel was assigned to France Air Force Base in Panama, an installation of the Caribbean Air Command

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Prior to military service, William R. Knavel attended Gardenville High School and was a member of the Class of 1942

The North American Aviation P-51 Mustang was a long-range single-seat World War II fighter aircraft / Designed, built and airborne in just 117 days, the Mustang first flew in RAF service as a fighter-bomber and reconnaissance aircraft before conversion to a bomber escort, employed in raids over Germany, helping ensure Allied air superiority from early 1944 / The P-51 was in service with Allied air forces in Europe and also saw limited service against the Japanese in the Pacific War

The Distinguished Flying Cross is a military decoration awarded to any officer or enlisted member of the United States Armed Forces who distinguishes himself or herself in support of operations by "heroism or extraordinary achievement" while participating in an aerial flight, subsequent to November 11, 1918



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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 China War Memorial Medal was authorized by the Chinese Nationalist Government for issue to all servicemen and others who assisted the Chinese in their fight against Japan during the Second World War / It was awarded to both military and civilian personnel who were directly involved in the war effort / Perhaps the largest single group of Americans to receive this medal were members of the 14th Air Force, the famed "Flying Tigers" / This medal was established as the Medal in Commemoration of Victory in the Resistance Against Aggression, but is more commonly known as the China War Memorial Medal / It was established by the Republic of China in 1944 and issued October of 1946



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KNUTH**

PAUL

C.

Address:

HIGHLAND AVENUE

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: M.M. 3/C

Unit / Squadron:

AREA D-9, FLEET 153

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Machinist's Mate Third-Class

Base Assignments:

Camp Peary, Virginia - During World War II, beginning in 1942, the United States Navy took over a large area on the north side of the Virginia Peninsula in York County, Virginia which became known as Camp Peary, initially for use as a Seabee training base

Miscellaneous:

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KOBLER**

ROBERT

N.

Address: 318 UNION ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Unit / Squadron:

BATTERY "A", 102ND C.A. (COASTAL ARTILLERY), BATTALION, A.A. (ANTI-AIRCRAFT)

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Sergeant

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert N. Kobler worked for Bethlehem Steel in Lackawanna and was a history buff who gave tours of Forest Lawn and the City of Buffalo

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KOCH

ARTHUR

F.

Address: 164 WILDWOOD AVENUE

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY 118, U.S.N.T.C (UNITED STATES NAVY TRAINING CENTER)

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Sampson, New York - In the three-and-a-half years of its operation during World War II, the Sampson Naval Training Station 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

Miscellaneous:

Naval Training Centers introduced recruits to "boot camp" training and indoctrination / The recruits were given a battery of tests to determine their educational and skill levels, then trained in indoctrination, ordnance and gunnery, seamanship, fire fighting, physical training, military drill and shipboard duties



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KOCH

CARL

H.

Address: 19 WINEGAR PLACE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: S/SGT

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS & SERVICE COMPANY, 142ND ENGINEER BATTALION, 42ND DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

2 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE - SHARPSHOOTER - RIFLE

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Carl H. Koch was awarded two Battle Stars for combat action

Base Assignments:

Camp Gruber, Oklahoma - The base is named after Brigadier General Edmund L. Gruber, a long-time artillery officer at Fort Sill, Oklahoma / During the course of World War II Camp Gruber provided training to infantry, field artillery, and tank destroyer units that went on to fight in Europe

Miscellaneous:

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 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

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

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

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: **KOCH**

CLIFFORD

W.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KOCH

FREDERICK H.

Address:

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

Unit / Squadron:

338TH AIR SERVICE SQUADRON

315TH AIR SERVICE GROUP

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL W/4 STARS ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN MEDAL W/1 STAR

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER / PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Staff-Sergeant Frederick H. Koch served in Africa, Sicily, Italy and China

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

American strategic bombing of Japan from Chinese bases began in 1944, using B-29s under the command of General Curtis Lemay

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 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 Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal awarded Bronze service stars to all services for participation in designated campaigns

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

Name: KOCH

MELVIN

G.

Address:

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: M.M. 3/C

Unit / Squadron:

35TH NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Machinist's Mate Third-Class

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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 awarded to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KOCH

NELSON

N.

Address: 19 WINEGAR PLACE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Unit / Squadron:

"M" COMPANY, 253RD INFANTRY REGIMENT, 63RD INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Sergeant

Base Assignments:

Camp Van Dorn, Mississippi - Opened in 1942, the camp was named after Major General Earl Van Dorn, who took part in the Mexican War and later, as a General in the Confederate Army / Camp Van Dorn was established as an emergency, temporary camp to quickly train soldiers for war in the European Theater / The camp closed in 1945

Miscellaneous:

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

The 63rd Infantry Division was activated on 15 June 1943, at Camp Blanding, Florida and later moved to Camp Van Dorn, Mississippi to prepare for deployment to Europe / The first elements of the division arrived in Europe in December 1944



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KOCH**

ROY

W.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KOCHER**

FRANKLIN

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KOEHLER**

RICHARD

H.

Address: 15 FAIRFAX DRIVE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Unit / Squadron:

8TH PHOTO RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Private First-Class

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The 8th Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron (8PR) was organized at Peterson Field, Colorado in October 1943, then trained to provide photographic intelligence for air and ground forces at Gainesville AAF, Texas / Conducted photographic reconnaissance, photographic, mapping, and visual reconnaissance missions / Products created ranged from maps, mosaics, terrain models, to target charts of areas in Burma, China, French Indochina, and Thailand / Returned to the US, October–November 1945 and inactivated on 5 November 1945

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KOENIG**

JOHN

A.

Address: 99 BARNSDALE AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "D", 16TH COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION
1ST ARMORED DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

| | |
|--|---------------------------|
| EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL | BRONZE STAR |
| PURPLE HEART MEDAL | 5 BATTLE STARS |
| AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL | GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL W/KNOT |

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER / EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Corporal John A. Koenig took part in the African and Anzio beach head campaign, earning 5 Battle Stars and a Bronze Star Medal for combat action / Cpl. Koenig received a citation for remaining on duty during the heaviest fighting in Anzio, Italy / Despite being wounded in action, Koenig remained on active duty for two years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

The 1st Armored Division, nicknamed "Old Ironsides", trained at Fort Knox in July 1940 and was the first armored division of the U.S. Army to enter battle in World War II / During the war, the 1st Armored Division captured 41 towns and cities and 108,740 prisoners / 722 division soldiers were awarded the Silver Star, 908 received the Bronze Star / The division received 5,478 Purple Hearts and two division soldiers were awarded the Medal of Honor during World War II / The 1st Armored Division was inactivated at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey on 25 April 1946

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

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 Bronze Star Medal is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order of precedence in the US Military / It may be awarded for acts of heroism, acts of merit, or meritorious service in a combat zone

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

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

Good Conduct Knots (Loops) are awarded by the U.S. Army to indicate multiple decorations of the Army Good Conduct Medal and are worn as attachments to the medal and ribbon / Good Conduct Knots are bronze, silver or gold clasps with knot emblems to indicate the number of awards received / A bronze clasp with two knots is given upon the recipient's second award and an additional knot is added for each consecutive award / At six awards, a silver clasp with one knot replaces the bronze clasp and at 11 awards a gold clasp with one knot replaces the silver



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KOHL

GEORGE

J.

Address:

HILDALE AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: M/SGT

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Master Sergeant

Base Assignments:

Fort Devens, Massachusetts - Fort was named after jurist and Civil War general Charles Devens / At the onset of World War II, Fort Devens was designated a reception center for all men in New England who would serve one year as draftees / Devens also housed a Prisoner of War camp for German and Italian prisoners from 1944 to 1946

Miscellaneous:

George J. Kohl attended Fourteen Helpers Elementary School and West Seneca Senior High School prior to entering the Army / Kohl's brother Justin E. served in the Army and brother Paul B. served in the Navy during World War II / After the war, Kohl became a lawyer for the Gordon Brown law firm on Seneca Street in West Seneca / Kohl married and lived on East & West Road in West Seneca until he passed away



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KOHL

HOWARD G.

Address: 27 GREYMONT AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: T/SGT

Unit / Squadron:

35TH EVACUATION HOSPITAL

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:

Technical Sergeant Howard G. Kohl earned 5 Battle Stars for combat action in Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes, Rhineland and Central Europe / Kohl was stationed overseas from February 12, 1944 through December 16, 1945

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The 35th Evacuation Hospital was activated at Camp Atterbury, Columbus, Indiana on 30 August 1942 / The unit was assigned to Second United States Army and attached to the 8th Detachment Special Troops for administration and training purposes / The 35th Evac Hospital was transferred to Stone, Staffordshire (England) in February 1944 / On 24 June 1944, the first group of the 35th landed at Omaha Beach in Normandy, France / The 35th Evacuation Hospital supported Seventh Corps' drive to take the strategic Port of Cherbourg and in 7 days the unit admitted 1,217 patients, performed 523 major surgical operations and took 848 radiographs / Later in the battle for Nancy, France, the 35th Evac admitted 4,899 combat casualties and performed a total of 2,479 major surgical operations and procedures, and took some 8,711 radiographs / The 35th Evacuation Hospital moved through the Maginot Line to a former German Army barracks building near Teting-sur-Nied and Saint-Avoid, France on 2 December 1944 where the unit admitted 1,462 patients / In December 1944, the hospital received a Battle Star for its effort at the Battle of the Bulge / A total of 6,505 seriously-injured battle casualties were admitted to the 35th Evacuation Hospital, and a total of 3,110 surgical operations were performed by the unit's surgical teams / On 26 April 1945, the unit moved to Schloss Scheenbrunn, Germany where the Germans surrendered unconditionally a short time later / As of 10 August 1945 the organization had processed 27,051 patients, performed 11,674 surgical operations, taken 38,012 radiographs. It had been in operation 311 days, and earned battle stars for the following Campaigns: Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace, and Central Europe / Individuals of the unit were also distinguished as there were 2



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

awards of the Legion of Merit, and 19 awards of the Bronze Star Medal

In the years from June 30, 1943 to June 30, 1945 the Medical Department trained 189 General Hospitals, 74 Field Hospitals and 61 Station Hospitals for overseas service / In 1945, when the peak of overseas shipments occurred, the War Department sent 81 General, 35 Field, and 8 Station Hospitals to the various Theaters of Operations (European, African and Asiatic-Pacific) / By May 1945, when the peak in Hospital beds overseas was reached, there were 335,000 fixed beds and about 87,000 mobile beds in all Theaters

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

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: KOHL

JUSTIN

E.

Address:

HILLDALE AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "A", ACE BATTALION, 2ND REGIMENT, I.R.T.C. (INFANTRY REPLACEMENT TRAINING CENTER)

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Private

Base Assignments:

Fort McClellan, Alabama - Fort McClellan, originally Camp McClellan, was a United States Army post located adjacent to the city of Anniston, Alabama / During World War II, it was one of the largest U.S. Army installations, training an estimated half-million troops / Camp was named in honor of Major General George B. McClellan, General-in-Chief of the United States Army 1861-1862, and Governor of New Jersey 1878-1881

Miscellaneous:

Justin E. Kohl attended Fourteen Helpers Elementary School and West Seneca Senior High School prior to entering the Army / Justin Kohl worked for the Ford Motor Company after his military service / Kohl's brother George J. served in the Army and brother Paul B. served in the Navy during World War II

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KOHL

PAUL

B.

Address:

HILLDALE AVENUE

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: MMR2

Unit / Squadron:

USS JASON (AR-8)

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Machinist's Mate (Refrigeration Mechanic) Second-Class (MMR2) Paul B. Kohl served in the Pacific

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul B. Kohl attended Fourteen Helpers Elementary School and West Seneca Senior High School prior to entering the Navy / Kohl's brother George J. and brother Justin E. both served in the Army during World War II

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

The USS Jason was a repair ship in service from 1944 to 1995 / The repair ship arrived Pearl Harbor on 6 July 1944 on the first leg of her journey to the Pacific battle area / She arrived at Purvis Bay in the Solomon Islands on 17 August 1944 to commence operations with Service Squadron 10 / Two months later she arrived at Ulithi (Caroline Islands), where she was to spend the greater part of the war, performing the task of keeping the U.S. Navy's ships at peak strength and operating efficiency / For seven months at Ulithi, as American forces captured island after island from the Japanese, the Jason, many times under enemy attack, repaired broken hulls, buckled decks and twisted bulkheads of every type of ship in the U.S. Navy / This floating shipyard turned seemingly hopeless battle wrecks into rejuvenated fighting ships again able to stand out gallantly in the final victorious months / As the action crept closer to Japan, the Jason sailed for Leyte (Philippine Islands) arriving there on 28 May 1945. She remained there for the duration of the war continuing to service ships of the Pacific Fleet / Commissioned on 19 June 1944 and decommissioned on 24 June 1995



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

Name: **KOHLER**

CHARLES

W.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KOHLER

JOSEPH

Address: 318 UNION ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: S/SGT

Unit / Squadron:

330TH HARBOR CRAFT COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The US Army created the Harbor Craft Companies for the purpose of ferrying cargo from freighters and transports arriving in theaters of operation / Cargo from ships were loaded by Transportation Corps port company personnel onto barges / Tugs, tow boats, or marine tractors then propelled the barges to the shore for unloading / Any cargo too heavy for the vessel's gear lift was handled by a 60-ton floating crane

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: KOHLER

ROBERT

N.

Address:

UNION ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: S/SGT

Unit / Squadron:

BATTERY "A", 102ND C.A. BATTALION (COASTAL ARTILLERY), A.A. (ANTI-AIRCRAFT)

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KOKOT

JOHN

J.

Address:

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E.M. 1/C

Unit / Squadron:

U.S. SUBMARINE BASE

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Electrician's Mate First-Class

Base Assignments:

New London, Connecticut - Naval Submarine Base New London was the United States Navy's primary submarine base, also known as the "Home of the Submarine Force"

Miscellaneous:

An Electrician's Mate used electrical tools and repaired electrical equipment / Charged storage batteries and wind armatures / Stood watch on main gyrocompass and in main control room of electrically driven ships / Repaired telephone circuits / Applied first aid in case of electrical shock



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KOKOT

WALTER

W.

Address:

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: MO.M.M. 2/C

Unit / Squadron:

C.B.M.U. #628 (CONSTRUCTION BATTALION MAINTENANCE UNIT)

628 CONSTRUCTION BATTALION MAINTENANCE UNITS / 97TH NAVAL CONSTRUCTION
BATTALION

1049TH COMBAT BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL
W 2/STARS

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT - RIFLE

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

ATLANTIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Motor Machinist's Mate Second-Class

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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

Many times in the Second World War the Seabees were called on to do odd jobs of an urgent and extemporaneous nature / These jobs were dictated by the demands of combat operations / When the German



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Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

lines in France were breached, the United States Army asked the Seabees to operate landing craft, pontoon causeways, and rhino ferries to help breach the Rhine River Barrier / The 628 Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit participated in the operation, building pontoon ferries to move tanks across the river in pairs / In all, the Seabees operated more than 300 craft as ferry service which shuttled thousands of troops into the heart of Germany

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KOLODZIEJ

E.

J.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KOMOROWSKI

JOHN

Address: 134 ELECTRIC AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

12TH COMPANY, 3RD FR BATTALION, COMPANY "B", 8TH BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Camp Devens , Massachusetts - Camp Devens was named after jurist and Civil War general Charles Devens / In 1940, at the onset of World War II, Fort Devens was designated a reception center for all men in New England who would serve one year as draftees / Devens also housed a prisoner of war camp for German and Italian prisoners from 1944 to 1946 / Camp Devens was designated as early as 1942 for detaining "enemy aliens" of Italian, German and Japanese birth

Miscellaneous:



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KONINGISOR

A.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KORKUS**

EDWARD

S.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KORNICHUCK**

EDWARD J.

Address: 29 EVELYN AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "B", 338TH INFANTRY

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Private First-Class

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KOSKE

CLARENCE

R.

Address:

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "C", 793RD MILITARY POLICE BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: MARKSMAN

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Private

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The Military Police provides expertise in police, detainment and stability operations in order to enhance security and enable mobility / In World War II, Military Police soldiers moved traffic along the Burma Road, supported amphibious operations on Normandy beachheads, and managed enemy prisoners of war from Italy to the South Pacific

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KOSTOWNIAK**

EDWARD

W.

Address: 37 INNES ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE

Rank: PFC

Unit / Squadron:

460TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (HEAVY)

760TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Edward W. Kostowniak served in Bari, Italy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The 760th Bombardment Squadron was deployed to Southern Italy and entered combat in January 1944; being assigned to the Fifteenth Air Force 55th Bombardment Wing / It was engaged in very long range strategic bombing missions on enemy military, industrial and transportation targets in Italy, France, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Romania and Yugoslavia / The squadron bombed railroad marshalling yards, oil refineries, airdrome installations and heavy industry / The 760th Bombardment Squadron flew its last World War II combat mission on 26 April 1945

An air raid on Bari was made by German bombers on Allied forces and shipping in Bari, Italy on 2 December 1943 during World War II / In the attack, 105 German Junkers Ju 88 bombers of Luftflotte 2 achieved surprise and bombed shipping and personnel operating in support of the Allied Italian Campaign, sinking 27 cargo and transport ships and a schooner in Bari harbor / The attack lasted a little more than one hour and put the port out of action until February 1944

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



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The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

Name: **KOWALSKI**

CONRAD

A.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRACHT**

BENJAMIN F.

Address: 76 DIRKSON AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: S/SGT

Unit / Squadron:

BASE TRANSPORTATION OFFICE, HEADQUARTERS 5TH GROUP
3RD GROUP REGULATING STATION

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL 1 BATTLE STAR
GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Staff-Sergeant Benjamin F. Kracht was stationed in England prior to shipping to France / SSGT Kracht earned a Battle Star for combat action in Northern France

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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Town of West Seneca, New York



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRACHT**

RICHARD C.

Address: 1138 CENTER ROAD

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** CPL

Unit / Squadron:

4525TH A.A.F. B. U. (BASE UNIT)

923RD SIGNAL CORPS.

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Corporal

Base Assignments:

Robbins Field, Georgia - The base was named in honor of Brig Gen Augustine Warner Robins, the Air Force's "father of logistics" / Throughout World War II (1941-45), 23,670 employees repaired almost every kind of AAF aircraft, including B-17s, C-47s, B-29s, B-24s, P-38s, P-47s, and P-51s / Its training facilities turned out nearly 60,000 field repair mechanics for every theater of war / The workforce supplied every kind of part necessary to keep AAF planes flying, especially spark plugs / It also maintained thousands of parachutes, aircraft electronic and radio systems, and AAF small arms

Bengal Air Depot (Calcutta, India) - Served as the supervising headquarters for maintenance and supplies in the Indian region

Miscellaneous:

The United States Army Signal Corps (USASC) developed, tested, provided, and managed communications and information systems support for the command and control of combined arms forces / The Signal Corps was established in 1860, and over its history, had the initial responsibility for a number of functions and new technologies such as military intelligence, weather forecasting, and aviation

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRAFT**

FRED

H.

Address: 52 HARLEM ROAD

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: SO.M. 2/C

Unit / Squadron:

U.S.S. PC #1107 (PATROL CRAFT)

U.S.S. PCS 1389 (PATROL CRAFT SWEEPER)

U.S.S. PC #1236 (PATROL CRAFT)

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Sonarman Second-Class Fred H. Kraft was stationed in the Marshall Islands, located in the northern Pacific Ocean

Base Assignments:

Sampson, New York - In the three-and-a-half years of its operation during World War II, the Sampson Naval Training Station 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

Fleet Sonar School (Key West, Florida) - Navy facility used for the training of Service personnel in Sonar techniques and equipment, and Anti-submarine warfare / Opened in 1940, the school was invaluable for training sonar operators for the country's struggle against German U-boats / The sonar school was closed in 1974

Miscellaneous:

A Sonarman was a technician responsible for underwater surveillance / They assisted in safe navigation and aid in search, rescue and attack operations / Operated and repaired sonar equipment (located enemy ships or planes at a distance by sending out invisible waves that strike the ship or plane, and bounced off and returned to a wave detector) / Tracked underwater threats and sent tracks to fire control operator for further evaluation and or destruction / Sonar technicians were separated into two categories, STG who are on surface ships and STS who operate on submarines / Sonarman were often referred to as "ping jockeys" on board vessels, after the sound of active sonar

The Patrol Craft was designed primarily for Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW), convoy escort duty and coastal



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patrol, thus releasing the fleet Destroyers for trans-Atlantic convoy duty / The PC proved exceptionally adapt as Patrol Control Craft (PCC), controlling and guiding waves of landing craft in every European amphibious landing from the invasion of Sicily in July 1943, to the combined Allied invasion of Normandy on D-Day, 6 June 1944 / In the Pacific, the PCCs were assigned to the Seventh Fleet, "MacArthur's Navy", participating in all island-hopping amphibious landings through Iwo Jima and Okinawa

U.S.S. PCS 1389 was a patrol craft sweeper and was commissioned on 10 January 1944

U.S.S. PC 1170 was a patrol craft and was commissioned on 21 February 1944 / The craft was 175 feet in length and carried a complement of 59 men / PC 1170 was decommissioned on 5 August 1955 and sold for scrap on 25 April 1961

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 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 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: **KRAFT**

ROBERT

C.

Address: 249 EMPORIUM AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Unit / Squadron:

790TH ORDNANCE LIGHT MAINTENANCE COMPANY, 90TH DIVISION
3RD ARMY, 12TH CORPS

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL 5 BATTLE STARS
MARKSMANSHIP BADGE UNIT CITATION
GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Technician Fourth-Grade (Sergeant) Robert C. Kraft earned 5 Battle Stars for combat action during the battles for Europe

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The 90th Infantry Division ("Tough 'Ombres") was a unit of the United States Army that served in World War I and World War II / 790th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company, as part of the 90th Infantry Division, landed in England, 5 April 1944, and trained from 10 April to 4 June 1944 / First elements of the division saw action on D-Day, 6 June 1944, on Utah Beach, Normandy, the remainder entering combat 10 June, cutting across the Merderet River to take Pont l'Abbe in heavy fighting / The 90th then raced across France, through Verdun, 6 September, to participate in the siege of Metz, 14 September-19 November 1944, capturing Maizières-lès-Metz, 30 October, and crossing the Moselle River at Koenigsmacker, 9 November / Elements of the 90th Infantry assaulted and captured the German-held Fort de Koenigsmacker 9-12 November 1944 / The 90th continued across the Moselle River to take Mainz, 22 March, and crossed the rivers Rhine, the Main, and the Werra in rapid succession and continued to the Czech border, 18 April 1945 / The 90th emaciated 1,500 prisoners left behind by the German SS troops at Flossenbürg concentration camp

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



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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

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

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

A Unit Citation is a formal, honorary mention by high authority of a military unit's specific and outstanding performance, notably in battle / Similar mentions can also be made for individual soldiers / Alternatively or concurrently, the unit can be awarded an honorary title, a mention on the flag or a decoration

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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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRAMER**

HOWARD

Address:

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "C", 79TH ENGINEER CONSTRUCTION BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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 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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRAMER**

ROBERT

L.

Address: 186 CLOVERSIDE DRIVE

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE

Rank: PFC

Unit / Squadron:

575TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON, 291ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (MEDIUM)

391ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (MEDIUM)

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL 5 BATTLE STARS

EUROPEAN AIR OFFENSIVE COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL DISTINGUISHED UNIT BADGE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Robert L. Kramer earned 5 Battle Stars for aerial combat action over the Ardennes, Central Europe, Normandy, Northern France and the Rhineland

Base Assignments:

White Roding Airfield, England - White Roding is a village and civil parish in the Uttlesford district of Essex, England / White Roding is 8 miles north-west from the county town of Chelmsford / Airfield used by United States aircraft during World War II

Roye-Amy Airfield A-72, France - Roye-Amy Airfield was a World War II military airfield north-northeast of Paris / Originally a 1930s airport which was seized by the Germans during the Battle of France, it was used by the Luftwaffe, then by the United States Army Air Forces during World War II / The 391st Bombardment Group used Airstrip A-72 from 19 September 1944 – 16 April 1945 / After the war, Roye-Amy Airfield was closed and turned over to the French Air Ministry on 8 August 1945 which sold the land for agricultural use

Wiemesmeer Airfield Y29, Belgium - Constructed in November 1944 by United States Army Air Forces IX Engineer Command, 852nd and 846th Engineer Aviation Battalions, Advanced Landing Ground "Y-29" airfield consisted of a single 5000 foot sod runway / The 391st Bombardment Group flew B-26 Marauder medium bombers from the airfield until 27 May 1945 / With the end of the war in Europe, the airfield was closed on 20 June 1945

Miscellaneous:

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 575th Bombardment Squadron was formed under III Bomber Command in early 1943 as a B-26 Marauder medium bomber squadron / The Squadron trained for duty in Europe with the Ninth Air Force / The 575th engaged in combat beginning in early 1944, attacked tactical targets in France, Low Countries and Germany supporting Allied ground forces advancing after D-Day in the Northern France Campaign and the Western Allied invasion of Germany, 1945

The heaviest losses sustained by the 391st Bombardment Group in a single operation occurred on 23 December 1944, after an attack on the railroad viaduct at Ahrweiler, Germany / Upon completion of the second bomb run, the formation was attacked by an estimated fifty to seventy-five German FW-19Us and ME-109's / As a result, sixteen aircraft were missing in action, and the returning planes were badly battle-damaged / Despite the morning losses, all available aircraft flew on the afternoon of the same day against the communications center at Neuerberg, Germany, which was vitally important to the German forces fighting in the Ardennes Bulge / Interpretation of the strike photos credited the Group with destruction at the road intersection and with damage to three main highways leading into the intersection / The low accident rate of the 391st Bombardment Group during the period from 15 December 1944 to 21 January 1945 won for the Group a commendation from General Hoyt Vandenberg, Commanding General of the Ninth Air Force / In the early months of 1945, disruption of the transportation and communications system of western Germany, to the extent or complete paralysis, was the goal of the Army Air Forces / During March, the 391st Bombardment Group attained its operational peak for the war period - a total of 37 missions / Attacks continued against railroad bridges and marshalling yards, highway intersections and bridges, troop concentrations, ammunition and fuel dumps, as well as against industrial areas throughout Germany / The last mission flown by the Group - the bombing of an ammunition plant at Stod (Staab) on 3 May 1945 - was the only mission to Czechoslovakia / This attack completed the combat record of the 391st Bombardment Group / During its period of operations (15 Feb 1944 - 3 May 1945) the Group had flown 294 missions and had dropped a total of 15,841.39 tons of bombs on assigned targets

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

European Air Offensive Commemorative Medal was awarded to honor military personnel participating in the European Air Offensive of World War II (1943-1945)

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United



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Town of West Seneca, New York

States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 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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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRETSCHMER**

WILLIAM

A.

Address:

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

U.S.N.A.S. (UNITED STATES NAVY AIR SHIPS), DECK 5

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Lakehurst, New Jersey - The U.S. Navy was the only military service in the world to use airships, also known as blimps, during World War II.

Miscellaneous:

Airships were produced by the Goodyear factory in Akron, Ohio and also assembled at Moffett Field in California / From 1942 until 1945, 154 airships were built for the U.S. Navy / From 1942–1944, airship military personnel grew from 430 to 12,400 and approximately 1,400 airship pilots and 3,000 support crew were formally trained in the military airship crew training programs / From 2 January 1942 till the end of war airship operations in the Atlantic, the airships of the Atlantic fleet made 37,554 flights and flew 378,237 hours



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRIEDEMAN**

EDWARD

L.

Address:

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: T/4

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "A", 3111TH S.S. BATTALION (SUPPLY AND SERVICE)

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

5 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Technician Fourth-Grade (Sergeant) Edward L. Kriedeman was awarded 5 Battle Stars for combat action on the European continent

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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,



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRIEGER**

RUSSELL

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KROHN**

FRANKLIN R.

Address: 113 KLAS AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "D", 193RD GLIDER INFANTRY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Sergeant Franklin R. Krohn was Killed in Action (KIA) as a result of wounds received on the battlefield

The remains of Corporal Franklin R. Krohn were never recovered

Base Assignments:

Camp Forrest, Tennessee - The 193rd Glider Infantry Regiment (GIR) was activated 15 April 1943 at Camp Mackall, North Carolina under the command of Colonel Maurice G. Stubbs and assigned to the 17th Airborne Division

Miscellaneous:

Franklin R. Krohn was employed as a Stock Clerk prior to enlisting in the Army on 3 April 1943

Glider infantry was a type of airborne infantry in which soldiers and their equipment were inserted into enemy controlled territory via military glider rather than parachute / Gliders could carry and deliver much bulkier and heavier equipment (such as anti-tank guns, or vehicles such as jeeps or even light tanks) that could not be parachuted from the side-loading transport aircraft normally used in World War 2 / Thus glider infantry units were usually better equipped than their parachute infantry counterparts

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KROHN**

HENRY

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KROHN

HOWARD

O.

Address: 113 KLAS AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Unit / Squadron:

BATTERY "D", 102ND BATTALION, C.A. (COASTAL ARTILLERY), A.A. (ANTI AIRCRAFT)

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Sergeant Howard O. Krohn served in the East Indies, New Guinea and Southern Philippines campaigns

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 antiaircraft gunners by providing accurate information about the range, speed, and altitude of incoming enemy planes

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KROMPARDT**

RALPH

C.

Address:

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: S/SGT

Unit / Squadron:

117TH EVACUATION HOSPITAL, 7TH ARMY

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

BRONZE STAR

2 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Ralph C, Krompardt, Chief of Medical Laboratory Technicians, aided in 50 brain operations without a single death / Sergeant Krompardt was assigned to the 117th Evacuation Hospital (Semi-Mobile) / SSgt Krompardt earned a Bronze Star and 2 Battle Stars for his service in Europe

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The 117th Evacuation Hospital served in France and Germany in 1944

In the years from June 30, 1943 to June 30, 1945 the Medical Department trained 189 General Hospitals, 74 Field Hospitals and 61 Station Hospitals for overseas service / In 1945, when the peak of overseas shipments occurred, the War Department sent 81 General, 35 Field, and 8 Station Hospitals to the various Theaters of Operations (European, African and Asiatic-Pacific) / By May 1945, when the peak in Hospital beds overseas was reached, there were 335,000 fixed beds and about 87,000 mobile beds in all Theaters

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

The Bronze Star Medal is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order of



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precedence in the US Military / It may be awarded for acts of heroism, acts of merit, or meritorious service in a combat zone

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 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 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: **KRONE**

BERT

Address: 360 NORTH AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY, 378TH A.A.A. (ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY) BATTALION, A.W. (AIR WARNING)

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Private

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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 antiaircraft gunners by providing accurate information about the range, speed, and altitude of incoming enemy planes

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRONE**

ROY

Address: 360 NORTH AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE

Rank: PVT

Unit / Squadron:

MEDICAL DETACHMENT STATION, HOSPITAL MILITARY OPERATIONS

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Private

Base Assignments:

Jackson Air Base (Jackson, Mississippi) - Originally named Hawkins Field, the Dutch government-in-exile, following the occupation of the Netherlands, established the Royal Netherlands Military Flying School at Hawkins Field in May 1941 / The school operated Lend-Lease aircraft with civilian pilots from the Mississippi Institute of Aeronautics / In June 1941 Hawkins Field was designated as Jackson Army Air Base / It activated on May 1, 1942 and was used by the United States Army Air Forces' Flying Training Command as a basic flying training airfield (Army Air Forces Pilot School, Miscellaneous Fields for Basic and Advanced Single and Twin-Engine training)

Miscellaneous:

In the years from 30 June 1943 to 30 June 1945 the Medical Department trained 189 General Hospitals, 74 Field Hospitals and 61 Station Hospitals for overseas service / In 1945, when the peak of overseas shipments occurred, the War Department sent 81 General, 35 Field, and 8 Station Hospitals to the various Theaters of Operations (European, African and Asiatic-Pacific) / By May 1945, when the peak in Hospital beds overseas was reached, there were 335,000 fixed beds and about 87,000 mobile beds in all Theaters



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRONINGESSOR**

ALBERT

Address: 97 GREENWOOD AVENUE

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KRUEGER

ARTHUR

F.

Address: 39 BENSON AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: T/4

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "D", 787TH TANK BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

1 BATTLE STAR

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Technician Fourth-Grade (Sergeant) Arthur F. Krueger earned a Battle Star for combat action in Central Europe

Base Assignments:

Camp Phillips, Kansas - Camp Phillips was established in the latter part of 1942, and was named in honor of Colonel William A. Phillips, one of the co-founders of the city of Salina, Kansas / The post was used as a training center and P.O.W. Camp until its closing in the fall of 1945

Miscellaneous:

The 787th Tank Battalion was activated on 15 July 1943 at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas / The battalion arrived in France in March 1942, returning to the United States in July 1945 and assigned to Fort Jackson, South Carolina

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

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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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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: KRUEGER

DONALD

M.

Address: 39 BENSON AVENUE

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: A.S.

Unit / Squadron:

TRAINING COLLEGE

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Apprentice Seaman

Base Assignments:

Tufts College, Massachusetts - Tufts College and the U.S. Navy had a close and productive relationship from 1941 to 1972 / The Tufts College campus was largely transformed into a Naval Training Center, altering its dormitories, dining, and athletic facilities to accommodate new recruits for the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) program

Miscellaneous:

An Apprentice Seaman was knowledgeable in naval drill duties, knots, steering and signaling / Also stood watch and handled gunnery duties



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRUEGER**

RICHARD

V.

Address:

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: T/4

Unit / Squadron:

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON W/STAR

AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL W/STAR

6 OVERSEAS SERVICE BARS

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT - M1 RIFLE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Technician Fourth-Class (Sergeant) Richard V. Krueger duties included long-range batteries and ammunition / Sgt Krueger was a Non-Commissioned Officer in the ordnance department in the Under the Hawaiian Sea Coast Artillery Brigade at Fort Kamehameha, Hawaii

Base Assignments:

Fort Kamehameha, Hawaii - Fort Kamehameha was a United States Army military base that was the site of several coastal artillery batteries to defend Pearl Harbor starting in 1907 in Honolulu, Hawaii / Originally named Fort Upton for General Emory Upton (1839–1881), on 28 January 1909 after local citizens objected, Archibald Cleghorn suggested the name be changed to honor Kamehameha I, the first king of the unified Hawaiian islands / During World War II, some of the anti-aircraft guns were used in the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 / A Japanese Mitsubishi A6M2 model 21 "Zero" was shot down and crashed near the fort / On 1 October 1992, the fort became part of Hickam Air Force Base

Miscellaneous:

The U.S. Army Coast Artillery Corps (CAC) was an administrative corps responsible for coastal, harbor, and anti-aircraft defense of the United States between 1901 and 1950 / In 1924, a regimental organization of the Coast Artillery was instituted / There were 16 regular army harbor defense regiments, and several tractor drawn, railway, and anti-aircraft regiments, along with a number of national guard and organized reserve harbor defense and anti-aircraft artillery regiments / This organizational status lasted (with the number and type of active regiments changing frequently) until the Coast Artillery regiments were broken up into separate battalions in 1943 / Nearly all Coast Artillery units were deactivated 1944-1946 / The Coast Artillery Corps was officially abolished in 1950



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 award to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

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 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

An Overseas Service Bar indicates a soldier has served six months of service in a combat zone / Service Bars are cumulative, in that each bar worn indicates another six-month period / Time spent overseas is also cumulative, meaning one bar could be earned for two separate deployments totaling six months

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 M1 Garand is a .30-06 caliber semi-automatic rifle that was the standard U.S. service rifle during World War II and the Korean War and also saw limited service during the Vietnam War / The M1 rifle was named after its Canadian-American designer, John Garand / It was the first standard-issue semi-automatic military rifle / General George S. Patton called it "the greatest battle implement ever devised" / The M1 replaced the bolt action M1903 Springfield as the standard U.S. service rifle in the mid-1930s / The M1 rifle was made in large numbers during World War II; approximately 5.4 million were made / They were used by every branch of the United States military

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KRUK

JOHN

J.

Address: 177 PLAYTER STREET

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Unit / Squadron:

BATTERY "A", 106TH FIELD ARTILLERY, 27TH DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

3 BATTLE STARS

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

NEW YORK STATE MEDAL FOR MERIT

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Private First-Class John J. Kruk earned his Battle Stars during combat action in St. Michiel, France; Verdun, Northeast France; and the Meuse-Argonne Offensive in France

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The Field Artillery is the branch of the army whose mission is to support the infantry by artillery fire, destroying, neutralizing or suppressing the enemy elements that threaten land forces / Increased mobility; fire direction centers, which enhanced their firepower; aerial observation; and radio communications increased the efficiency and accuracy to support ground forces

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

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 New York State Medal for Merit may be awarded to any current New York State citizen or person who was a New York State citizen while serving on federal active duty; or, a non-New York State citizen who is an active member in the New York State organized militia, and as an active member in the New York State organized militia, served with units of the New York State organized militia while on federal active duty for purposes other than training and/or annual training; whose entire service was honorable and who were recipients of a valor, achievement, commendation, or meritorious service decoration whose service was in direct support of combat operations while serving in the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRULL**

A.

R.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KRULL

EDWARD R.

Address: 73 KLAS AVENUE

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

Unit / Squadron:

8TH A.D.G. SUPPLY SQUADRON (AIRCRAFT DELIVERY GROUP)

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Sergeant

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:



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KRULL

H.

R.

Address: 73 KLAS AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Unit / Squadron:

1663RD SERVICE UNIT

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Sergeant

Base Assignments:

Camp Grant, Illinois - Camp Grant was a U.S. Army facility located in the southern outskirts of Rockford, Illinois named in honor of General Ulysses S. Grant. Camp Grant, which at one point consisted of over 18,000 acres, was in operation from 1917 to the late 1940s / During the war Camp Grant also served as a POW detention center

Miscellaneous:



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KRULL

RICHARD

Address: 73 KLAS AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: S/SGT

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 48TH ARMY RESERVE

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant

Base Assignments:

Camp Chaffee, Arkansas - The camp was named after Major General Adna R. Chaffee Jr., an artillery officer who, in Europe during World War I, determined that the cavalry was outmoded and, unlike other cavalry officers, advocated for the use of tanks / In addition to providing a training facility for US soldiers, Fort Chaffee served as a POW camp, housing 3000 German Prisoners of War

Miscellaneous:



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KRUSE

WILBUR

F.

Address: 347 BULLIS ROAD

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: RDM. 3/C

Unit / Squadron:

USS TETON (AGC-14)

USS WILLIAMS (DE-372)

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

1 BATTLE STAR

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

PHILIPPINE LIBERATION MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Radarman Third-Class Wilbur F. Kruse participated in the liberation of Okinawa and the Philippine Islands / Rdm. 3/C Kruse earned a Battle Star for combat action in the Pacific Theater

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The Radarman was required to operate and maintain the installed radar and electronic warfare equipment / Radarmen were specially trained in emergency repair procedures, as their assigned vessels went into combat areas

The USS Teton (AGC-14) was an amphibious force command ship in the United States Navy / In March 1945, the Teton was the flagship for the assault on Okinawa / She remained there for 72 days controlling the landing operations on the Hagushi beaches and then providing standby control of offensive and defensive air operations / The USS Teton received one battle star for World War II service / Commissioned on 18 October 1944 and decommissioned on 30 August 1946

The USS Williams (DE-372) was a destroyer escort acquired by the U.S. Navy during World War II / She was named in honor of Rear Admiral George Washington Williams, who was awarded the Navy Cross for his World War I efforts / She was commissioned on 11 November 1944 and operated around Manus Island, in the Admiralties, during World War II / The primary purpose of the destroyer escort was to escort and protect ships in convoy, in addition to other tasks as assigned, such as patrol or radar picket / The USS Williams was decommissioned on 4 June 1946 and sunk as a target ship on 9 June 1968



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

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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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KUBINA

E.

F.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KUCHARSKI**

LEO

F.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KUHN

GEORGE

Address:

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: S/SGT

Unit / Squadron:

2ND EVACUATION HOSPITAL

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

In the years from 30 June 1943 to 30 June 1945 the Medical Department trained 189 General Hospitals, 74 Field Hospitals and 61 Station Hospitals for overseas service / In 1945, when the peak of overseas shipments occurred, the War Department sent 81 General, 35 Field, and 8 Station Hospitals to the various Theaters of Operations (European, African and Asiatic-Pacific) / By May 1945, when the peak in Hospital beds overseas was reached, there were 335,000 fixed beds and about 87,000 mobile beds in all Theaters

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: KULINSKI

A.

F.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KUMRO**

KARL

W.

Address: 22 TINDLE AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Unit / Squadron:

"C" BATTERY, A.A.A.T.C. - A.W. (ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY TRAINING CENTER - AIR WARNING)

581ST A.A.A. AW. (ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY AUTOMATIC WEAPONS) BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL 2 BATTLE STARS

GOOD CONDUCT

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Karl W. Kumro earned two Battle Stars for combat action in Central Europe and the Rhineland

Base Assignments:

Camp Stewart, Georgia - During World War II, Fort Stewart was the largest Army installation east of the Mississippi River / In November 1940, the Anti-Aircraft Artillery Training Center was officially designated as Camp Stewart, in honor of General Daniel Stewart, a native of Liberty County, who had fought with Francis Marion during the American Revolution, and who became one of the county's military heroes

Miscellaneous:

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 antiaircraft gunners by providing accurate information about the range, speed, and altitude of incoming enemy planes

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

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

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: KUMRO

WILLIAM

E.

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KUSH**

LEONARD

Address:

Service Branch:

Rank:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KYSER**

WALTER A.

Address: 87 DIRKSON AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** CPL

Unit / Squadron:

2117TH A.A.F. BASE UNIT, SECTION B-3

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Corporal

Base Assignments:

Buckingham Army Airfield (Fort Myers, Florida) - The airfield was located 10 miles east of Fort Myers and its primary mission during World War II was to train the aerial gunners who would defend bombers / Besides the gunnery students, Buckingham AAF was also the primary training center for gunnery instructors at the Army's other flexible gunnery schools, the term meaning that the aerial gunner had a flexible mount at the station or in the turret of the aircraft, rather than the fixed aerial gun of fighter aircraft / During its operational lifetime, the airfield graduated almost 48,000 aerial gunners

Miscellaneous:
