



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ULLENBRUCH**

GORDON

J.

Address: 2794 SENECA STREET

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: S.F. 3/C

Unit / Squadron:

28TH N.C.B. (NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION)

65TH N.C.B. (NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION)

3003RD N.C.B. (NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION)

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL
W 1/ BRONZE STAR

2 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NAVY EXPERT RIFLEMAN MEDAL

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON W/ 1 BRONZE STAR

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

ATLANTIC THEATER / PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Shipfitter Third-Class Gordon J. Ullenbruch joined the Navy on 6 October 1943 / After construction training, Shipfitter Ullenbruch served in the Normandy invasion (Atlantic Theater) and the Okinawa invasion (Pacific Theater) / Shipfitter Ullenbruch earned 2 Battle Stars for combat action in both theaters / Shipfitter Third-Class Gordon J. Ullenbruch was Honorably Discharged on 10 February 1946

Base Assignments:

Camp Peary (Williamsburg, Virginia) - Named for Arctic explorer Rear Admiral Robert E. Peary, the camp was used in 1942 as a Seabee training base / 100,000 men would go through the camp before training there ceased in June of 1944 / Camp Peary's mission changed when a portion of the camp became a detention center for German Kriegsmarine prisoners-of-war (POWs) / Many of them were crewmen from captured German U-boats and from ships the Germans thought lost at sea with crews presumed dead / It was important to keep the German authorities unaware of their capture, since knowledge that they had survived would mean that secret code books and Enigma machines thought lost at sea could also have been compromised / Learning that these men were being held as POWs, would almost certainly have caused the Germans to change the secret codes that had been broken by Allied code breakers

Camp Endicott (North Kingstown, Rhode Island) - Named in honor of Rear Admiral Mordecai T. Endicott, the first Civil Engineer Corps Officer to be appointed Chief of the former Bureau of Yards and Docks, Camp Endicott (later established as the U.S. Naval Construction Battalion Center, Davisville) was also the birthplace of the Quonset



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Town of West Seneca, New York

hut / The Davisville Center provided more than 100,000 men of the U.S. Navy's Construction Battalions, better known as "Seabees," with construction training during World War II

Miscellaneous:

A Shipfitter worked on materials such as high-tensile steel and high yield strength steel / Shipfitters fabricated, assembled and erected all structural parts of a ship, coordinated all fixed tank work performed on submarines and ships, and coordinated all sonar dome work / Shipfitters also used heavy machinery, such as plate planners, shears, punches, drill presses, bending rolls, bending slabs, plate bevelers, saws, presses up to 750 tons, angle rolls (vertical and horizontal), dogs and wedges / Shipfitters were responsible for hydro and air testing of tanks and compartments, as well as performing grinding, drilling and fit-up operations on submarines and surface crafts

Seabees: After the attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941, 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 / During the Second World War, the Seabees performed in both the Atlantic and Pacific Theaters of Operation

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

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

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 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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

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 Navy Expert Rifleman Medal was designed by the U.S. Mint and was awarded to members of the U.S. Navy and Naval Reserve who qualify as Expert with a rifle on a prescribed military rifle course



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ULRICH**

ALLEN E.

Address: 45 KLAS AVENUE

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

Unit / Squadron:

2117TH A.A.F. BASE UNIT, SECTION "B-5"

Medals / Citations:

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Sergeant

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:



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ULRICH**

EDGAR

B.

Address:

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE

Rank: CPL

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS SQUADRON, 315TH SERVICE GROUP

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL
4 BATTLE STARS

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON
GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER / EUROPEAN THEATER / PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Corporal Edgar B. Ulrich served in Abu Sueur, Egypt; Gambut, Libya; Castel Benito, Tripolitania (Tripoli); San Severo, Italy; and Hsinching, China / Corporal Ulrich earned 4 battle stars for his combat participation in the campaigns for Egypt-Libya, Tunisia, Rome-Arno and Naples-Foggia / Cpl Ulrich served in both the European Theater and the Pacific Theater

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

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 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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

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: **ULRICH**

HAROLD

M.

Address:

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: T/4

Unit / Squadron:

586TH SIGNAL DEPOT COMPANY, 6TH ARMY

Medals / Citations:

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON W/3 BRONZE STARS

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

PHILIPPINE LIBERATION MEDAL W/1 BRONZE STAR

MERITORIOUS UNIT AWARD

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER - RIFLE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT - CARBINE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

PACIFIC THEATER

Service Notes:

Technician Fourth-Grade (Sergeant)

Base Assignments:

Fort Jackson, South Carolina - Created in 1917, Fort Jackson is 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 / The mission of Ft. Jackson was basic training and providing advanced individual training to soldiers / More than 500,000 men received some phase of their training at Fort Jackson

Miscellaneous:

Harold M. Ulrich passed away on 25 January 2015

The 586th Signal Depot Company was activated 29 January 1944 at Fort Jackson, South Carolina / The 586th saw action during the Luzon (Philippine Islands) Campaign

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 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



West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

A Meritorious 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

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 carbine was a lightweight, easy to use .30 carbine semi-automatic carbine that was a standard firearm for the U.S. military during World War II / The M1 carbine gained generally high praise for its small size, light weight and firepower, especially by those troops who were unable to use a full-size rifle as their primary weapon / A total of over 6.1 million M1 carbines of various models was manufactured, making it the most produced small arm for the American military during World War II

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: **ULRICH, JR.**

GEORGE L.

Address: 349 OLEAN AVENUE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Unit / Squadron:

A.G.R.F.D. #1 (ARMY GROUND FORCES REPLACEMENT DEPOT), 410TH REGIMENT, 2ND BATTALION, 103RD DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL	BRONZE STAR
PURPLE HEART	2 BATTLE STARS
PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION	MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT - M-1 CARBINE
MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT - BAYONET	2ND CLASS MACHINE GUNNER

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Private George L. Ulrich Jr. earned the Bronze Star for bravery under fire and 2 Battle Stars for combat action in Europe / Pvt Ulrich Jr. received the Purple Heart for wounds suffered on the battlefield

Base Assignments:

Ft. George G. Meade, Maryland - Fort Meade became an active Army installation in 1917 and was named in honor of Major Gen. George Gordon Meade, whose victory at the Battle of Gettysburg proved a major factor in turning the tide of the Civil War in favor of the North / Fort Meade became a training center during World War II and its ranges and other facilities were used by more than 200 units and approximately 3,500,000 Soldiers between 1942 and 1946. The wartime peak of military personnel at Fort Meade was 70,000 / In September 1943, the first shipment of 1,632 Italian and 58 German prisoners arrived at the POW facility at Fort Meade

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

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

combat zone

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

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 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

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Name: UNDERHILL

D.

B.

Address: 12 INTER DRIVE

Service Branch: ARMY - AIR FORCE

Rank: 1ST LT.

Unit / Squadron:

509TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON, 351ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

First Lieutenant

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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 351st Bombardment Group (Heavy) was based at Polebrook, Northamptonshire, England, during World War II.

During the three years at Polebrook, the 351st B.G. had a total of 279 B-17 Flying Fortresses / These planes flew 9,075 sorties with 7,945 of them dropping 20,778 tons of bombs / The gunners in the Group fired off 2,776,028 rounds of ammunition and were credited with destroying 303 enemy aircraft / The Group flew 311 credited missions and lost 124 B-17's in combat

The Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress was a four-engine heavy bomber aircraft developed in the 1930s for the United States Army Air Corps / The B-17 was primarily employed by the United States Army Air Forces (USAAF) in the daylight precision strategic bombing campaign of World War II against German industrial and military targets

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: UPHAM

EARL

T.

Address: 62 CHAMBERLIN DRIVE

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Unit / Squadron:

66TH ARMORED REGIMENT, SERVICE 6, 2ND ARMORED DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

Theater of Operations / Assignment:

EUROPEAN THEATER

Service Notes:

Private First-Class

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The 2nd Armored was organized as a "heavy" armored division, two armored regiments of four medium tank and two light tank battalions of three companies each / Elements of the division were among the first U.S. military to engage in offensive ground combat operations in the European and Mediterranean theater during World War II. The 2nd also served in North Africa / The division supported the 1st Infantry Division at the Battle of Gela, Licata and Sicily / The division landed in Normandy on 9 June 1944 and halted the German attack on Avranches / It crossed the German border near Sittard, Netherlands on 18 September 1944 to take up defensive positions near Geilenkirchen, Germany / On 3 October 1944, the division launched an attack on the Siegfried Line from Marienberg, broke through, crossed the Wurm River and seized Puffendorf, Germany on 16 November 1944 and Barmen, Germany on 28 November 1944 / The 2nd Armored Division was the first American Division to reach the Elbe at Schonebeck on 11 April 1945 / In July 1945 the division entered Berlin, as the first American unit to enter the German capital city / During World War II, the 2nd Armored Division took 94,151 prisoners-of-war, liberated 22,538 Allied prisoners of war, shot down or damaged on the ground 266 enemy aircraft, and destroyed or captured uncountable thousands of enemy tanks and other equipment and supplies / In 238 battle days, the 2nd Armored suffered 7,348 casualties, including 1,160 killed in action / The division was recognized for distinguished service and bravery with 9,369 individual awards, including two Medals of Honor, twenty-three Distinguished Service Crosses, and 2,302 Silver Stars as well as nearly 6,000 Purple Hearts

The 66th Armor Regiment is the oldest Armored unit in the United States Army, tracing its lineage to the beginning of the Tank Service in February 1918 under the command of Col. George S. Patton / In December 1942, the regiment participated in the amphibious invasion of French Morocco in North Africa and led the



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

division's entry into Casablanca / The regiment participated in the invasion of Sicily and through fierce fighting earned the unit six battle streamers during the war / In 1944, the three battalions of the regiment went into action on the European Continent, beginning landing on Omaha Beach on D+3 (9 June 1944) / Four days later the regiment fought through elements of the German 6th Fallschirmjager Regiment and elements of the 17th SS Panzergrenadier Division southwest of Carentan, France at the Battle of Bloody Gulch / The regiment fought across France to the German border with the 2nd Armored Division and the U.S. Third Army, but was diverted north to counter the German advance during the Battle of the Bulge, assisting in the destruction of the 2nd Panzer Division and capturing Houffalize, Belgium / As a result of its exemplary conduct in the liberation of Belgium, the regiment was twice cited in the Order of the Day of the Belgian Army

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