



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** WAAG

LAMONTE E.

**Address:** 87 FLOHR AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "C", 728TH RAILWAY OPERATIONS BATTALION

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The 728th Railway Operating Battalion consisted of many employees from the L&N (Louisville & Nashville) Railroad, and was instrumental in supporting the Allied advance through France in the months following D-Day / The L&N helped re-open and operate the railroad from Cherbourg, France to Paris

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:** WADE

LIONEL

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* NAVY

*Rank:* SO.M. 3/C

*Unit / Squadron:*

USS PLOVER (YMS-442)

*Medals / Citations:*

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

ATLANTIC THEATER

*Service Notes:*

Sonarman Third-Class

*Base Assignments:*

*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 / 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 USS Plover (AMS-33/YMS-442) was a minesweeper / She was commissioned on 14 October 1944 / The USS Plover was struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 1 October 1968.

Minesweepers are equipped with mechanical or influence sweeps to detonate mines / Mechanical sweeps are devices designed to cut the anchoring cables of moored mines, and preferably attach a tag to help the subsequent localization and neutralization / They are towed behind the minesweeper, and use a towed body to maintain the sweep at the desired depth and position / Influence sweeps are equipment, often towed, that emulate a particular ship signature, thereby causing a mine to detonate / The most common such sweeps are magnetic and acoustic generators

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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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**Name:** WADE

RAYMOND L.

**Address:** 114 EDSON STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** CPL

**Unit / Squadron:**

DETACHMENT "C", 440TH ENGINEERING COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Raymond L. Wade served in 5 major battles: Ardennes, Central Europe, Normandy, Northern France and Rhineland

**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

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WAGNER**

**CASIMIR**

**J.**

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WAGNER**

**EDWARD**

**J.**

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "B", 1ST PROVISIONAL BATTALION, A.S.C. (AIR SERVICE COMMAND)

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The Air Service Command (A.S.C.) was formed in October, 1941 and consisted of warehouses stocked with parts needed for any and all aircraft types of the Army Air Forces / The Air Service Command prepared equipment and supplies which were moved by ship to foreign ports for American units

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:** **WAGNER**

**RAYMOND L.**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* ARMY

*Rank:* S/SGT

*Unit / Squadron:*

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY, 98TH DIVISION ARTILLERY

*Medals / Citations:*

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

PACIFIC THEATER

*Service Notes:*

Staff Sergeant

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

Artillery included, but was not limited to: cannons, mortars, anti-aircraft gun, anti-tank gun, anti-tank rocket launchers, howitzers, artillery rockets, battleship guns, grenade launchers and the (4.2 inch, 57mm, 75mm and 94mm) recoilless rifles

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WAHOWSKI**  
**THOMAS**

**Address:** 1081 ORCHARD PARK ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** CPL

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "B", 36TH TANK BATTALION

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Corporal

**Base Assignments:**

Camp Polk (Leesville, Louisiana) - Constructed in 1941, the camp 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 / Soldiers at Polk participated in the Louisiana Maneuvers, which were designed to test U.S. troops preparing for World War II / The Maneuvers involved half a million soldiers in 19 Army Divisions, and took place over 3,400 square miles in August and September 1941 / The Maneuvers gave Army leadership the chance to test a new doctrine that stressed the need for both mass and mobility / Sixteen armored divisions sprang up during World War II after the lessons learned during the Louisiana Maneuvers were considered / These divisions specialized in moving huge combined-arms mechanized units long distances in combat / 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 (POW), 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:**

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** WAITE

BURTON

E.

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** BKR. 3/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS SURPRISE

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

ATLANTIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Baker Third-Class

**Base Assignments:**

Buffalo, New York - Armed Forces Induction Station

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

United States Naval Hospital (Chelsea, Massachusetts) - The hospital served naval personnel and others during World War II

Lido Beach - Long Island, New York - Naval Personnel Redistribution Center and Receiving Barracks

**Miscellaneous:**

Bakers prepared breads, cakes and other baked goods for enlisted sailors in galleys on the ship and shore bases in the general mess

The USS Surprise (PG-63), was a British corvette loaned to and operated by the United States Navy from 1942-1945 as a patrol gunboat / Between 1942-1944, the Surprise escorted convoys across the Atlantic Ocean and between the United States, North Africa and England / The Surprise was decommissioned on 20 August 1945 at Chatham, England, returned to the Royal Navy on 26 August 1945

A corvette was a small, maneuverable, lightly armed warship, originally smaller than a frigate (2,000+ tons) and





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



Town of West Seneca, New York

larger than a coastal patrol craft or fast attack craft (500 or fewer tons) / The modern corvette appeared during World War II as an easily built patrol and convoy escort vessel

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WAITE**

**EARL**

**W.**

**Address:** 74 KNOX AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** T/SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "C", 228TH BATTALION, 70TH REGIMENT, 359TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, COMPANY "K", 90TH DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

BRONZE STAR

PURPLE HEART MEDAL

3 BATTLE STARS

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

CROIX DE GUERRE

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Technical Sergeant Earl W. Waite was awarded the Bronze Star for bravery in combat and earned 3 Battle Stars for combat action in Europe / TSgt Waite was wounded during combat operations

**Base Assignments:**

Camp Blanding (Jacksonville, Florida) - Camp named in honor of Lieutenant General Albert H. Blanding who commanded the 2nd Florida Infantry during the Mexican Border Service in 1916 and 1917 / Camp Blanding served as an infantry replacement training center, an induction center, a German prisoner-of-war (POW) compound, and a separation center

**Miscellaneous:**

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

The 359th Infantry Regiment was activated on 25 March 1942 / The 359th Infantry participated in the campaigns for Normandy, Northern France, the Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace, and Central Europe The 359th earned 2 Presidential Unit Citations and the French Croix de Guerre with Palm for their action at Moselle-Sarre Rivers

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



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

## Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

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 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 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 was 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 Croix de Guerre (Cross of War) is a military decoration of France, created in 1915 and commonly bestowed on foreign military forces allied to France / The Croix de guerre may either be awarded as an individual or unit award to those soldiers who distinguish themselves by acts of heroism involving combat with the enemy / The medal is awarded to those who have been "mentioned in despatches", meaning a heroic deed or deeds were performed meriting a citation from an individual's headquarters unit / The unit award of the Croix de guerre with palm was issued to military units whose men performed heroic deeds in combat and were subsequently recognized by headquarters

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** WAITE, JR.

BENJAMIN

**Address:** 98 FLOHR AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE

**Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

SECTION "U", R.T.U. (REINFORCEMENT TRAINING UNIT)

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class

**Base Assignments:**

Will Rogers Field (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma) - The field was named in honor of comedian and legendary cowboy Will Rogers, an Oklahoma native, and holds the distinction of being named after a person who died in an airplane crash / During World War II Will Rogers Field was a major training facility for the United States Army Air Forces; many fighter and bomber units were activated and received initial training at the field

**Miscellaneous:**

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** WALLACE

HAROLD

J.

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE

**Rank:** T/SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

107TH ARMY AIRWAYS COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Technical Sergeant

**Base Assignments:**

Drew Army Field (Tampa, Florida) - Drew Field was primarily used for advanced combat training of fighter and bomber units prior to their deployment to combat theaters overseas / In 1943, the major training mission at Drew Field became the training of ground support pilots, using the A-24 Dauntless Dive Bomber

**Miscellaneous:**

The Army Airways Communications was charged with the operation of all fixed Air Corps radio facilities to facilitate air traffic between Army Flying Fields in the Continental United States

The Douglas SBD Dauntless was a World War II American naval scout plane and dive bomber that was manufactured by Douglas Aircraft from 1940 through 1944 / The SBD ("Scout Bomber Douglas") was the U.S. Navy's main carrier-borne scout plane and dive bomber from mid-1940 through mid-1944 / The SBD was also flown by the U.S. Marine Corps, both from land air bases and aircraft carriers / The SBD Dauntless was the Navy's main carrier-based dive-bomber in World War Two and was responsible for sinking more enemy ships than any other single type of aircraft, playing a major role in the battles of Midway, the Coral Sea and the Solomons



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **WALTER**

**NORMAN**

**F.**

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WALTER**

**ROBERT**

**A.**

**Address:** 22 CHAMBERLIN DRIVE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** S/SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

SERVICE COMPANY, 259TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

**Medals / Citations:**

AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

OVERSEAS SERVICE BAR

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Staff Sergeant Robert A. Walter served in Newfoundland, Canada

**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

Camp Joseph F. Robinson, Arkansas - Camp Joseph T. Robinson, located in North Little Rock, was originally established as Camp Pike in 1917, named for General Zebulon Montgomery Pike, famed U.S. Army officer and explorer, who was killed in action 27 Apr 1813, during the War of 1812 / Renamed for U.S. Senator Joseph Taylor Robinson of Arkansas in 1937 / With the start of World War II, the post took on a new role as a replacement training center / Initially, there were two centers, one for basic training and the other for medics. In 1944, the two were combined into the Infantry Replacement Training Center (IRTC) / In addition to its role in training soldiers, Camp Robinson also housed a large German prisoner-of-war (POW) facility, with a capacity of 4,000 prisoners

**Miscellaneous:**

Robert Walter married Marguerite M. Reisdorf, formerly of Arcade, NY, and the couple moved to Little Rock, Arkansas

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

The 259th Infantry Regiment was assigned to the 65th Infantry Division and served in Europe during 1944 and 1945 / The 259th Infantry Regiment participated in the campaigns for the Rhineland (15 September 1944 - 21



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Town of West Seneca, New York

March 1945) and Central Europe 22 March 1945 - 8 May 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

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

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WALTER**

**SHIRLEY**

**J.**

**Address:** 25 TINDLE AVENUE

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** S.C. 3/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

U.S.N.A.D. (UNITED STATES NAVAL AMMUNITION DEPOT)

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Ship's Cook Third-Class

**Base Assignments:**

Crane, Indiana - Established in 1941, the depot was named the Naval Ammunition Depot, Crane, in honor of Commodore William Montgomery Crane, the Navy's first Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance / The danger of an enemy air attack on the depot was remote and was free from congested areas and the hilly terrain was ideal for magazine construction and camouflage / During World War II, civilian employment reached nearly 10,000 and more than 1,300 Navy and Marine Corps personnel were assigned to the installation

**Miscellaneous:**

Ship's Cooks prepared and served hot meals on board ship and on land / Cooks knew how to bake a variety of breads, cakes and pies, or how to cook dehydrated products / They were trained in everything from butchery to preserving meat and how to organize the serving of the food and clean utensils / Even in wartime, traditional holiday dinners, like Thanksgiving and Christmas, were served to our nation's Sailors deployed off foreign shores or in combat theaters

During World War II, the United States Navy built Naval Ammunition Depots for the storage of naval munitions

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WARD**

**ARTHUR**

**K.**

**Address:** 3912 SENECA STREET

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** A/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

U.S.N.A.T.C. (UNITED STATES NAVAL AIR TRAINING COMMAND), 8TH BATTALION

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Aviation Cadet Arthur K. Ward was a member of the United States Naval Reserve

**Base Assignments:**

Corpus Christi, Texas - In 1941, 800 instructors provided training for more than 300 cadets a month / The training rate nearly doubled after the bombing of Pearl Harbor / By the end of World War II, more than 35,000 naval aviators had earned their wings here / Corpus Christi was the only primary, basic and advanced training facility in existence in the United States / At one time it was the largest pilot training facility in the world

**Miscellaneous:**

Aviation Cadets were enrolled in training programs to learn to become aviators / While the emphasis was training cadets to be pilots, the program produced a large number of navigators and ground duty officers

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WARMINGTON**

**KEN**

**R.**

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** CPL

**Unit / Squadron:**

899TH T.D. (TANK DESTROYER), COMPANY "C"

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Corporal

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion, Heavy (Self-Propelled) was designated on 15 December 1941 / The battalion served in North Africa during January 1943 / Committed to combat in the European Theater of Operations and landed in France on 6 June 1944 / The battalion was at Venwegen, Germany at the end of World War II

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

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WARMINGTON**

**LOUIS**

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

3203RD S.C.S.U., COMPANY "B"

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private

**Base Assignments:**

Princeton University, New Jersey - During World War II, Princeton opened its doors to the United States military / The original program called for the establishment of a Naval Training School (known as the V-12) to give an intensive course of two months duration to about 750 newly commissioned officers / The primary purpose was to train officers for the moderate-sized craft of the Navy with particular emphasis on the then new amphibious force / Ultimately, thousands of trainees flooded the campus to take part in programs like the Navy's V-1, V-5, and V-7 ventures, the Army Specialized Training program embracing engineering and languages, the Marine V-12 program, the Naval School of Military Government, and the Navy Pre-Radar School / By July 1943, the total number of individuals who received training in the various military units on the Princeton campus was nearly 20,000

**Miscellaneous:**

The purpose of the V-12 Navy College Training Program was to grant bachelor's degrees to future officers drawn from both the U.S. Navy and the Marine Corps / Once they completed their baccalaureate program, the next step toward obtaining a Navy commission was to attend a U.S. Naval Reserve Midshipmen's School where the future officer was required to complete the V-7 program, a short course of four months, including one month spent in indoctrination school / Graduates from the midshipmen schools were commissioned as ensigns in the U.S. Naval Reserve and the majority entered into active duty with the U.S. fleet / The V-12 Navy College Training Program was initiated in 1943 to meet both the immediate and long-range needs for commissioned officers to man ships, fly planes and command troops called to duty in World War II / Between 1 July 1943, and 30 June 1946, more than 125,000 men were enrolled in the V-12 program in 131 colleges and universities in the United States



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WASSELL**

**GEORGE H.**

**Address:** 3750 SENECA STREET

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

**Unit / Squadron:**

MAINTENANCE UNIT

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private

**Base Assignments:**

Homestead Army Air Field (Homestead, Florida) - Homestead Army Air Field trained Air Transport Command air crews, served as a jumping off point for the shuttling of aircraft to our European allies and was a maintenance and fueling stopover for aircraft headed overseas

**Miscellaneous:**

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WASSELL**

**ROBERT**

**M.**

**Address:** 48 ORCHARD AVENUE

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** CPL

**Unit / Squadron:**

M.O.T.G. 81 (MARINE OPERATIONAL TRAINING GROUP), SQUADRON 811

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Robert M. Wassell graduated from training in Memphis, Tennessee as an Aviation Machinist's Mate

**Base Assignments:**

Marine Corps Air Station (Edenton, North Carolina) - Edenton hosted Marine Operational Training Group 81 (MOTG-81) and its subordinate squadrons. MOTG-81 trained pilots, aircrewmembers and ground crews on the land-based PBJ-1 medium bomber (a U.S. Navy-U.S. Marine Corps variant of the U.S. Army Air Forces' B-25 Mitchell bomber) that was operated by Marine bombing squadrons, primarily in the Pacific theater

**Miscellaneous:**

Marine Operational Training Group 81 (MOTG-81) was a United States Marine Corps aviation training group that was established on 1 February 1943 / Marine pilots, aircrew and ground crew were trained on the PBJ-1 medium bomber

The PBJ-1 was a modified B-25 Mitchell medium bomber / In the middle 1940's, the Army Air Force transferred 50 B-25Cs and 152 B-25Ds bombers to the Navy, which were modified for use by the Marine Corps / Operational use of the Marine Corps PBJ-1s began in March 1944 / The Marine PBJs operated from the Philippines, Saipan, Iwo Jima and Okinawa during the last few months of the Pacific war / Their primary mission was the long range interdiction of enemy shipping that was trying to run the blockade which was strangling Japan



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WASSMAN**

**HOWARD**

**M.**

**Address:** 1091 ORCHARD PARK ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "I", 330TH INFANTRY

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL    PURPLE HEART

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private Howard M. Wassman enlisted in the Army on 29 October 1943 / Private Wassman was Killed in Action (KIA) on 4 December 1944 at the age of 19

Private Howard M. Wassman is buried in Woodlawn National Cemetery (Elmira, New York)

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Howard M. Wassman was employed as a filling station attendant prior to his enlistment

The 330th Infantry saw action in the battles of Normandy, Northern France, the Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace and Central Europe

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

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

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**Name:** **WASSMAN**

**RALPH T.**

**Address:** 1091 ORCHARD PARK ROAD

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

**Unit / Squadron:**

347TH BASE UNIT, SQUADRON "A"

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class

**Base Assignments:**

Key Field, Mississippi - Field was named for brothers Al and Fred Key, who in 1935, set a world record for sustained flight (653 hours and 34 minutes) using a workable method of air-to-air refueling / The initial mission of Key Field was the training of operational units for overseas combat duty / The first training unit assigned was the 50th Pursuit (later Fighter) Group, equipped with Curtiss P-40s / In 1942 Key Field became a training center for B-25 Mitchell medium bombardment units

**Miscellaneous:**

The North American B-25 Mitchell was an American twin-engine medium bomber manufactured by North American Aviation and named in honor of General Billy Mitchell, a pioneer of U.S. military aviation / A total of 6,608 B-25 aircraft were built

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WATKINS**

**BURR**

**T.**

**Address:** 43 WICHITA ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE

**Rank:** S/SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

460TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON, 333RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Staff Sergeant

**Base Assignments:**

Dalhart Army Air Field (Dalhart, Texas) - Established in 1942, the mission for Dalhart A.A.F. was to provide glider training / Cadets also were trained in infantry skills, as they were expected to serve as combat soldiers after landing / In 1943 the new mission of the base was the aircrew replacement training for the B-17 Flying Fortress and B-24 Liberator Heavy Bomber / In March 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

Harvard Army Air Field (Harvard, Nebraska) - Harvard Field was a major World War II training center for bomber crews of the 2nd Air Force / Between August 1943 and December 1945, twenty six bombardment squadrons received proficiency training at Harvard AAF / From mid-1944 until the end of World War II, the field was used for training crews to fly the Boeing B-29 Superfortress

**Miscellaneous:**

The 460th Bombardment Squadron was activated on 1 Jul 1943 and trained for combat with the B-24 Liberator bomber / The squadron was deployed to Italy in January 1944 and entered combat during March 1944 / The 460th attacked oil refineries, oil storage facilities, aircraft factories, railroad centers, industrial areas, and other objectives in Italy, France, Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Austria, Rumania, Yugoslavia, and Greece / The squadron participated in the invasion of Southern France in Aug 1944 by striking submarine pens, marshalling yards, and gun positions in the assault area / During the advance of Allied forces in northern Italy, the 460th Bombardment Squadron hit bridges, viaducts, ammunition dumps, railroads, and other targets to aid the American ground forces / The 460th earned the Distinguished Unit Citation in July 1944 for its action in Austria

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

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-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.

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

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WATKINS**

**JOSEPH**

**M.**

**Address:** 43 WICHITA ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE

**Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

SERVICE UNIT 6, SECTION "B-2", BARRACKS 658

**Medals / Citations:**

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class

**Base Assignments:**

Cochran Field (Macon, Georgia) - Cochran Field was opened in 1941 and initially used for the training of Royal Air Force flying cadets until 1943, then for USAAF pilot training using Vultee BT-13 Valiant and the AT-6 Texan aircraft / The airfield was named Cochran Army Airfield in memory of Camilla, Georgia native Lt. Robert J. Cochran of the 8th Aero Squadron, who lost his life in World War I / Cochran Field was inactivated on 15 December 1945

Buckingham Army Airfield - Ft. Myers, Florida - Buckingham Field was active during World War II as an Army Air Forces Training Command airfield / 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

Spence Army Field - Moultrie, Georgia - Spence Army Airfield was named after World War I hero Lt. Thomas Lewis Spence of Thomasville, Georgia who died in a 1918 aircraft crash in France / Spence Field used by the Army Air Forces Flying Training Command for advanced single-engine flying training / The North American AT-6 Texan was the primary aircraft operated by the school

**Miscellaneous:**

The North American Aviation T-6 Texan was a single-engine advanced trainer aircraft used to train pilots of the United States Army Air Forces and was one of the most widely used aircraft in history

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WATKINS**

**T.**

**J.**

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WATSON**

**KENNETH**

**C.**

**Address:** 47 MANHASSET STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** T/5

**Unit / Squadron:**

9TH POSTAL REGIMENT, 7TH BASE POST OFFICE

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

2 BATTLE STARS

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: MARKSMAN

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Technician Fifth-Grade (Corporal) Kenneth C. Watson earned two Battle Stars for combat action in the Pacific Theater

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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

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:** **WATSON**

**LORNE**

**C.**

**Address:** 47 MANHASSET STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** S/SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "G", 109TH INFANTRY, 28TH DIVISION, 1ST ARMY

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PURPLE HEART MEDAL

2 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

EXPERT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Staff Sergeant Lorne C. Watson had the pleasure of talking and shaking hands with General Dwight D. Eisenhower (Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe) while the General was inspecting troops in England / SSgt Watson earned 2 Battle Stars for combat action in Europe

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

During its participation in the European Theater of Operations in the Second World War, the 109th Infantry Regiment served across France and through the Hurtgen Forest of Germany; elements of the Regiment led the Division into the Rhineland to become the first troops to invade German soil since Napoleon / The 109th Infantry won battle honors at Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes-Alsace, the Rhineland and Central Europe and they were honored with the Luxemburg Croix de Guerre and the French Croix de Guerre for action at Col

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. 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 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 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 Expert Infantryman Badge was created during World War II to enhance the morale and prestige of service in the infantry / Specifically, it recognized 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

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WAYMAN**

**RITA**

**M.**

**Address:** 56 BURCH AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

W.A.C. DETACHMENT #1

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private

**Base Assignments:**

Camp Blanding (Jacksonville, Florida) - Camp named in honor of Lieutenant General Albert H. Blanding who commanded the 2nd Florida Infantry during the Mexican Border Service in 1916 and 1917 / Camp Blanding served as an infantry replacement training center, an induction center, a German prisoner-of-war compound, and a separation center

**Miscellaneous:**

The Women's Army Corps (WAC) was the women's branch of the United States Army / It was created as an auxiliary unit, the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) on 15 May 1942 and converted to full status as the WAC on 1 July 1943 / About 150,000 American women eventually served in the WAAC and WAC during World War II / They were the first women other than nurses to serve with the Army

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WAYMAN**

**ROBERT J.**

**Address:** 56 BURCH AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** CPL

**Unit / Squadron:**

BATTERY "F", 1ST C.A. (COAST ARTILLERY)

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Corporal

**Base Assignments:**

New Orleans, Louisiana

**Miscellaneous:**

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

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WEAVER**

**EDWARD**

**J.**

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** CPL

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "D", 135TH INFANTRY

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Corporal

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The 135th Infantry was involved in the following North African-European campaigns: Tunisia, Naples-Foggia, Anzio, Rome-Arno, North Apennines and Po Valley

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WEAVER**

**MILES**

**R.**

**Address:**

**SENECA STREET**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** LT.

**Unit / Squadron:**

113TH SIGNAL RADIO COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Lieutenant

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The US Army Signal Corps worked to develop rugged, simple, and reliable radios designed specifically for ground troops

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:* **WEBB**

**KENNETH**

**N.**

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WEBER**

**CHARLES**

**Address:** 3396 CLINTON STREET

**Service Branch:**

**Rank:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

V-M-I BARRACKS

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

**Base Assignments:**

Virginia Military Institute (VMI) (Lexington, Virginia) - The Army Specialized Training Program (ASTP) was established by the War Department in 1942 / Under the program, Army enlisted men were sent to various colleges and universities to take coursework in engineering and allied subjects / The first ASTP students arrived at VMI on 7 May 1943 with a total of 2,148 Army "students" having taken part in the Institute's ASTP courses / These "Army students" were typically stationed at VMI for a few weeks or months and then were sent overseas or for additional training elsewhere / The Specialized Training Program ended on 27 April 1946

**Miscellaneous:**

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **WEBER**

**G.**

**M.**

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WEBER**

**HENRY**

**R.**

**Address:**

**FRENCH ROAD**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** S/SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

HEADQUARTERS BARRACKS, SECOND ARMY

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Staff Sergeant

**Base Assignments:**

Memphis, Tennessee - The Chickasaw Ordnance Works in Memphis produced two high military explosives, TNT and DNT, in addition to smokeless powder

**Miscellaneous:**

The Second Army's mission was the training and organization of the rapidly expanding World War II army and preparing troops for overseas deployment / In 1944, the Second Army was given the primary responsibility for defense of the eastern coast of the United States



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WEBER, JR.**

**HARRY**

**C.**

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** S/SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

3RD CAVALRY RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PURPLE HEART

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Staff Sergeant Harry C. Weber, Jr. enlisted in the Army on 26 February 1943 / SSgt Weber served with the 3rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron in Europe and was Killed in Action (KIA) on 24 December 1944 and

Staff Sergeant Harry C. Weber, Jr. is buried in the Luxembourg American Cemetery (Hamm, Luxembourg)

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Prior to his Army enlistment, Harry C. Weber, Jr. was employed by a chemical products company

The 3rd Cavalry landed in Normandy on 9 August and were assigned to be the covering force of XX Corps of Patton's Third Army / While conducting screening, reconnaissance, and covering missions, the 3rd Cavalry was the first unit of the Third Army to reach the Meuse River and the Moselle River / During the Second World War, the 3rd Cavalry moved 3,000 miles in 265 days (117 days of continuous combat without rest), and accounted for 43,000 enemy killed, wounded, and captured

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 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:** WEBSTER

DONALD

D.

**Address:** 120 TAMPA DRIVE

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** A.S.

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY 5, 3RD PLATOON

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Apprentice Seaman Donald D. Webster was a member of the United States Naval Reserve

**Base Assignments:**

Central Michigan College (Mt. Pleasant, Michigan) - 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

**Miscellaneous:**

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

The purpose of the V-12 Navy College Training Program was to grant bachelor's degrees to future officers drawn from both the U.S. Navy and the Marine Corps / Once they completed their baccalaureate program, the next step toward obtaining a Navy commission was to attend a U.S. Naval Reserve Midshipmen's School where the future officer was required to complete the V-7 program, a short course of four months, including one month spent in indoctrination school / Graduates from the midshipmen schools were commissioned as ensigns in the U.S. Naval Reserve and the majority entered into active duty with the U.S. fleet / The V-12 Navy College Training Program was initiated in 1943 to meet both the immediate and long-range needs for commissioned officers to man ships, fly planes and command troops called to duty in World War II / Between 1 July 1943, and 30 June 1946, more than 125,000 men were enrolled in the V-12 program in 131 colleges and universities in the United States



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** WEBSTER

JAMES

**Address:** 120 TAMPA DRIVE

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Chaplain

**Base Assignments:**

Harvard University (Cambridge, Massachusetts) - 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

**Miscellaneous:**

The purpose of the V-12 Navy College Training Program was to grant bachelor's degrees to future officers drawn from both the U.S. Navy and the Marine Corps / Once they completed their baccalaureate program, the next step toward obtaining a Navy commission was to attend a U.S. Naval Reserve Midshipmen's School where the future officer was required to complete the V-7 program, a short course of four months, including one month spent in indoctrination school / Graduates from the midshipmen schools were commissioned as ensigns in the U.S. Naval Reserve and the majority entered into active duty with the U.S. fleet / The V-12 Navy College Training Program was initiated in 1943 to meet both the immediate and long-range needs for commissioned officers to man ships, fly planes and command troops called to duty in World War II / Between 1 July 1943, and 30 June 1946, more than 125,000 men were enrolled in the V-12 program in 131 colleges and universities in the United States

The Chaplain Corps of the United States Navy consists of clergy who are commissioned naval officers / Their principal purpose is to "promote the spiritual, religious, moral, and personal well-being of the members of the Department of the Navy," which includes the Navy and the United States Marine Corps / The Chaplain Corps consists of clergy endorsed from ecclesiastical bodies, providing assistance for all Navy, Marine Corps, Merchant Marine, and Coast Guard personnel and their families / Navy chaplains come from a variety of religious backgrounds; chaplains are Catholic, Protestant, Orthodox, Jewish, Muslim, and Buddhist / Chaplains have non-combatant status and do not have the right to participate directly in hostilities



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WEGER**

**GILBERT**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* ARMY

*Rank:* CPL

*Unit / Squadron:*

453RD ENGINEERS DEPOT COMPANY

*Medals / Citations:*

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

PACIFIC THEATER

*Service Notes:*

Corporate

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

The 453rd Engineers Depot Company participated in the Landing at Saidor, an Allied amphibious landing at Saidor, Papua New Guinea on 2 January 1944 and as part of the occupation force in Japan

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** WEIGAND

LAWRENCE E.

**Address:** 34 BURCH AVENUE

**Service Branch:** COAST GUARD

**Rank:** M.M. 2/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Machinist's Mate Second-Class

**Base Assignments:**

United States Coast Guard Station (Grand Haven, Michigan) - Grand Haven was home to a large Coast Guard base since the early 1900's and served as a lifeboat station, trained in search and rescue

**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:** WEIMER

GEORGE

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* NAVY

*Rank:* A.O.M. 3/C

*Unit / Squadron:*

HEDRON 14-2 (HEADQUARTERS SQUADRON). F.A.W. (FLEET AIR WING)

*Medals / Citations:*

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

PACIFIC THEATER

*Service Notes:*

Aviation Ordnanceman Third-Class

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

An Aviation Ordnanceman operated and handled aviation ordnance equipment / The Ordnancemen were responsible for the maintenance of guns, bombs, torpedoes, rockets, and missiles / Duties included the stowing, issuing, and loading of munitions and small arms

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **WEINAUG**

**W.**

**C.**

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** WEINREBER

CARL

J.

**Address:** 128 HARLEM ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** CPL

**Unit / Squadron:**

326TH AIRBORNE MEDICAL COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Corporal

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The 326th Airborne Medical Company was the organic medical unit that supported the 101st Airborne Division during its operations in World War II / "No mission too difficult, no sacrifice too great, duty first", read a sign on the headquarters of the 326th Airborne Medical Company of the 101st Airborne Division in World War II / The 326th Airborne Medical Company were part of the first Allied troops to set foot on the ground in Normandy on D-Day / The surgeons, aidmen, medical technicians, surgical technicians, anesthetists and other personnel of the 326th, all unarmed, accompanied combat soldiers into enemy territory

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:** WEINREBER

LAWRENCE R.

**Address:** 128 HARLEM ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

288TH MEDICAL SERVICE UNIT

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class

**Base Assignments:**

Camp Grant, Illinois - Opened in 1917 and named in honor of General Ulysses S. Grant / In 1940 Camp Grant was an induction center / Physical exams and medical training post for draftees was the main focus, although a large number of personnel went through Camp Grant for their Army basic training / It is estimated that 100,000 medical corpsmen were trained at the camp / During the war Camp Grant also served as a POW detention center

**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 U.S. military in World War II had an organized, structured system for evacuation and treatment of casualties that stretched from frontline foxholes to hospitals in the United States homeland, based on medical care echelons / Sick or wounded individuals would be transported from one echelon to another as rapidly and efficiently as possible, subject to conditions which often prevented optimal handling, to optimize their care and potential to return to duty / The ability of the American military system to provide medical aid and treatment to its personnel was a source of strength and increased morale, an important factor in ultimate victory



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** WEINREBER

RICHARD

F.

**Address:** 128 HARLEM ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

SERVICE COMPANY, 8TH BATTALION, 3RD ARMY

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL 4 BATTLE STARS

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Richard F. Weinreber served under General George S. Patton, commander of the 3rd Army, in the Tank Division / Sgt Weinreber earned 4 Battle Stars for combat action in Europe

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The 3rd Army, under the command of General George Patton, drove across France, driving through Germany and into Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia and Austria / Along the way Third Army forces entered the Battle of the Bulge, breaking the siege of Bastogne which ultimately led to the defeat of the German Army

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

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** WEISHAAR

FRANKLIN L.

**Address:** 155 BELLWOOD AVENUE

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

**Unit / Squadron:**

424TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON, 307TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Flight Officer

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

A flight officer is a member of the aircrew of an aircraft who is responsible for specific functions / The flight officer may function as the navigator, responsible for planning the journey, advising the pilot while en route, and ensuring that hazards or obstacles are avoided / The flight officer may also be responsible for operating aircraft mission/weapon systems, including mission planning, mission timing, threat reactions, aircraft communications, and hazard avoidance

The 424th Bombardment Squadron was formed as a heavy bombardment group in January 1942 and assigned to Hawaii in November 1942 where the squadron performed search and rescue and antisubmarine patrols until January 1943 while transitioning to long-range B-24 Liberator heavy bombers / Deployed to the Central Pacific from Hawaii throughout 1943 for long-range combat bombardment operations against Japanese forces in the Central Pacific; New Guinea; Northern Solomon Islands and Eastern Mandates campaigns / Deployed to the New Hebrides in Melanesia and operated from numerous temporary jungle airfields, engaging in long-range bombardment operations during the Bismarck Archipelago; Western Pacific; Leyte; Luzon and Southern Philippines campaigns until the end of the war in August 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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

organization were designated "Composite" groups

Often compared with the better-known Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress, the B-24 Liberators were a more modern design with a higher top speed, greater range, and a heavier bomb load; it was also more difficult to fly, with heavy control forces and poor formation-flying characteristics / The B-24 ended World War II as the most produced heavy bomber in history. At over 18,400 units, half by the Ford Motor Company, the B-24 still holds the distinction as the most-produced American military aircraft

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** WEISHAAR

JACK

**Address:** 155 BELLWOOD AVENUE

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** A.S

**Unit / Squadron:**

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

**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:**

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

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:** WEISS

HAROLD

**Address:**

UNION ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

735TH AIRCRAFT WARNING COMPANY (RADAR)

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON W/1 BRONZE STAR

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Harold Weiss served in Alaska at bases in Dutch Harbor and Nome / Sergeant Weiss returned to the United States on the SS Baranov

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The basic technology of radio-based detection and tracking evolved independently and with great secrecy in a number of nations during the second half of the 1930s / Although the technology was first demonstrated in the United States during December 1934, it was only when war clouds loomed that the U.S. military authorities recognized the great potential of radio-based detection and tracking, and began the development of ship-and land-based systems / The first of these were fielded by the U.S. Navy in early 1940, and a year later by the U.S. Army / The acronym RADAR (for Radio Detection And Ranging) was coined by the U.S. Navy in 1940, and the subsequent name "radar" was soon widely used

The United States liberty ship SS Baranov was named after Alexander Baranov, a Russian who was chief manager for the influential Russian-American Company / He managed all of the company's interests in Russian America, including the Aleutian and Kuril Islands. Baranov also advocated more educational opportunities for the Alaska Native Americans / Under his leadership, schools were created and frontier communities became less isolated / 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 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



# 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 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:** WEISS

JOSEPH J.

**Address:**

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

**Unit / Squadron:**

47TH TROOP CARRIER SQUADRON, 313RD TROOP CARRIER GROUP

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL	7 BATTLE STARS
PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION WITH CLUSTER	GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Joseph J. Weiss earned 7 Battle Stars for action in the battles for Sicily, Rome-Arno, Naples-Foggia, Normandy, Central Europe, Holland and the Sardenes Forest / Private Weiss shipped to North Africa aboard the USS West Point and returned back to the United States on the USS Mormac Moon

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The primary mission of the Air Force's Troop Carrier Group was to transport aircraft parts and other technical supplies from the Air Corps depots to air bases throughout the United States and around the world where needed

The SS America was an ocean liner built in 1940 for the United States Lines. In 1941, the ship was renamed the USS West Point / During her naval service she carried a total of over 350,000 troops which was the largest total of any Navy troopship in service during World War II / On one voyage in 1944 she was able to transport 9,305 people. Additionally the troop transport carried Red Cross workers, international officials, children, civilians, prisoners of war, and U.S.O. entertainers

The USS Mormac Moon was a troop transport ship that brought former prisoners of war back to the United States

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



# 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 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 bronze oak leaf cluster represents one additional award

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** WEISS

LEONARD J.

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "C", 8TH REGIMENT, 13TH BATTALION, I.R.T.C. (INFANTRY REPLACEMENT TRAINING CENTER)

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private

**Base Assignments:**

Fort McClellan (Fort McClellan, Alabama) - Originally named Camp McClellan, the fort 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:**

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

At an Infantry Replacement Training Center (I.R.T.C.), new recruits received an intensive 17 week training course prior to be sent into combat / Replacements were trained in preparation for the effort to retake Europe from Nazi Germany

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WELCH**

**JOHN**

**F.**

**Address:** 1096 UNION ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE

**Rank:** CAPT

**Unit / Squadron:**

27TH TROOP CARRIER SQUADRON, 69TH COMPOSITE WING

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Captain

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The 27th Troop Carrier Squadron was activated on 1 February 1942 and participated in the India-Burma, China Defensive, Central Burma and China Offensive campaigns / The 27th operated from bases in Chanyi, Chengtu, Kunming, Chengkung, and Liangshan, China

The 69th Composite Wing was activated in China on 3 Sep 1943 and Served in combat from December 1943 until August 1945 / The 69th ferried troops and supplies in China, helped to evacuate prisoners of war, and flew mercy and other special missions to areas in China, French Indochina, and Manchuria / The 69th Composite Wing was awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation for their actions in China, French Indochina and Manchuria

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WERNER**

**ALBERT**

**W.**

**Address:** 3385 CLINTON STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** S/SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

BATTERY "A", 406TH A.A.A. (ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY) - 90 MILLIMETER

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PURPLE HEART

4 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

SOLDIERS MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT - SUB MACHINE-GUN

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER - M1 CARBINE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER / EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Staff Sergeant Albert W. Werner earned his Battle Stars in the campaigns for European-Africa, Sicily, Naples-Foggia and Rome-Arno / SSgt Werner was wounded during combat action and awarded the Purple Heart

**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 anti-aircraft gunners by providing accurate information about the range, speed, and altitude of incoming enemy planes

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

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



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

## Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

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 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

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WESOLEK**

**JOSEPH**

**Address:** 254 NORTH OGDEN STREET

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

**Unit / Squadron:**

GROUND CREW, AIRPLANE MECHANIC

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class

**Base Assignments:**

Blythe Air Base - Blythe, California - The Army Air Forces used Blythe Field as a heavy bombardment crew training base / The field's mission was changed to the training of combat air crews prior to shipment overseas / During 1943 and 1944, Blythe AAF was used for squadron pilot training, then in December 1944 reverted to an active heavy bombardment base with B-24 Liberators

**Miscellaneous:**

Often compared with the better-known Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress, the B-24 Liberators were a more modern design with a higher top speed, greater range, and a heavier bomb load; it was also more difficult to fly, with heavy control forces and poor formation-flying characteristics / The B-24 ended World War II as the most produced heavy bomber in history / At over 18,400 units, half by the Ford Motor Company, the B-24 still holds the distinction as the most-produced American military aircraft



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **WESP**

**A.**

**E.**

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **WESTON**

**MANLEY**

**C.**

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WHIELDON**

**JOHN**

**K.**

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** F. 1/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS L.S.T. 202 (LANDING SHIP, TANK)

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Fireman First-Class

**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

During World War II, USS LST-202 was assigned to the Asiatic-Pacific Theater and participated in the following campaigns: Bismarck-Archipelago operations, Eastern and Western New Guinea operations, Hollandia operations and the Leyte operation / Commissioned on 9 April 1943 and decommissioned 11 April 1946 / USS LST-202 earned five battle stars for World War II service

Landing Ship, Tank (LST) was 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

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:** **WHIELDON**

**W.**

**L.**

**Address:**

**Service Branch:**

**Rank:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

HEADQUARTERS, CHINA-BURMA-INDIA A.S.C. (ARMY SERVICE COMMAND)

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The China Burma India Theater (CBI) was an umbrella term, used by the United States military during World War II for the China and Southeast Asian or India-Burma (IBT) theaters / Well-known U.S. (or joint Allied) units in the CBI included the Chinese Expeditionary Force, the Flying Tigers, transport and bomber units flying the Hump, the 1st Air Commando Group, the engineers who built Ledo Road, and the 5307th Composite Unit (Provisional), popularly known as "Merrill's Marauders"



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WHITE**

**BRUCE**

**R.**

**Address:** 114 FLOHR AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "A", 532ND ENGINEER BOAT & SHORE REGIMENT  
2ND ENGINEER SPECIAL REGIMENT, 6TH ARMY

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON W/3 BRONZE STARS  
AND ARROWHEAD

PHILIPPINE LIBERATION W/2 STARS

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The 532nd Engineer Boat and Shore Regiment (amphibian engineer unit) was a United States Army engineer unit that served in World War II

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 and a bronze arrowhead device was awarded for participation in designated Army amphibious and airborne combat assaults

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 Marksmanship Badge is a military badge of the United States Armed Forces presented to personnel upon



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WIELAND, JR.**

**JOHN J.**

**Address:** 64 TINDLE AVENUE

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

**Unit / Squadron:**

SECTION "C", BASE UNIT

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Sumner, New Mexico - Opened by the Army Air Corps as a training base during World War II

**Miscellaneous:**

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WILCOX**

**ANSLEY**

**F.**

**Address:** 455 CENTER ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

242ND INFANTRY DIVISION, SERVICE GROUP

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private

**Base Assignments:**

Camp Gruber, Oklahoma - The base is named after General Edmund L. Gruber / 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:**

The 242nd Infantry Division arrived in France at Marseille on the 8th and 9th of December 1944 / In late December 1944, the 242nd Infantry was deployed to the Strasbourg area to defend a 31-mile sector along the Rhine against the German Army

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WILCOX**

**RICHARD**

**C.**

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WILLETT**

**EDWARD J.**

**Address:** 1134 UNION ROAD

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

**Unit / Squadron:**

AIR SUPPORT DETACHMENT, 69TH COMPOSITE WING, 14TH A.A.F.

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

**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

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WILLETT JR.**

**GEORGE H.**

**Address:** 1134 UNION ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** T/5

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "F", 2ND BATTALION, 21ST ENGINEER REGIMENT

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL 4 BATTLE STARS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Technician Fifth-Grade (Corporal) George H. Willet Jr. earned 4 Battle Stars for combat action in the European Theater

**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 (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 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

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*Name:* **WILLIAMS**

**ELMER**

**E.**

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **WILLIAMS**

**JOHN**

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **WILLIAMS**

**KENNETH**

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** WILLIAMS

**M.**

**E.**

**Address:** 1381 UNION ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** CPL

**Unit / Squadron:**

HEADQUARTERS SERVICE TROOP, 4TH CAVALRY RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL 4 BATTLE STARS

2 PRESIDENTIAL CITATIONS

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Corporal M. E. Williams fought in the battles for Central Europe, North France, Ardennes Forest and the Rhineland, earning him 4 Battle Stars

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

By World War II, the regiment had exchanged its horses for armored vehicles/tanks and was redesignated the 4th Cavalry Group / It put ashore the first Allied soldiers of the D-Day invasion on the Îles Saint-Marcouf islands off the coast of France. With the islands unoccupied, but heavily booby trapped, the cavalrymen came ashore at Utah Beach / The regiment added to its laurels in fierce fighting among the hedgerows of Normandy and in the Hurtgen Forest during the Battle of the Bulge

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 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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **WILLIAMS**

**PAUL**

**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:** WILLIAMS

ROBERT T.

**Address:** 295 BARNSDALE AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** T/SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

HEADQUARTERS & SUPPLY COMPANY, 79TH ENGINEERING COMBAT BATTALION

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Technical Sergeant

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Engineering Combat Battalions built bridges, destroyed bridges (when necessary to stop an enemy advance), built and maintained roads, cleared towns, planted mines, and defended roadblocks in the face of oncoming tank columns

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** WILLIAMS

W.

K.

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* ARMY

*Rank:* S/SGT

*Unit / Squadron:*

257TH ENGINEERING COMBAT BATTALION

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

Staff Sergeant

*Base Assignments:*

Camp Gordon, Georgia - Fort Gordon, formerly known as Camp Gordon, was established in 1917 / The post was home to three divisions during the war: the 4th Infantry, the 26th Infantry, and the 10th Armored / From October 1943 to January 1945 Camp Gordon served as an internment camp for foreign prisoners of war

*Miscellaneous:*

Engineering Combat Battalions built bridges, destroyed bridges (when necessary to stop an enemy advance), built and maintained roads, cleared towns, planted mines, and defended roadblocks in the face of oncoming tank columns

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WILSON**

**ROBERT**

**E.**

**Address:** 3807 SENECA STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE

**Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

646TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON, 410TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL 6 BATTLE STARS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Robert E. Wilson was based in Braintree, England and France before being transferred to Squadron A-92 in Belgium / PFC Wilson earned 6 Battle Stars for combat action in the European Theater

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The 646th Bombardment Squadron (A-20 Havoc light bomber) was activated on 1 July 1943 and deployed to England in 1944 / The 646th entered combat in May 1944 and helped to prepare for the invasion of Normandy by assaulting coastal defenses, airfields, and V-weapon sites in France, and marshalling yards in France and Belgium / Supported the invasion in June 1944 by bombing gun positions and railway choke points / Assisted ground forces at Caen and St Lo in July and at Brest in August and September by attacking bridges, vehicles, fuel and ammunition dumps, and rail lines / Squadron moved to France in September 1944, and through mid-December struck defended villages, railroad bridges and overpasses, marshalling yards, military camps, and communications centers to support the Allied assault on the Siegfried Line / Participated in the Battle of the Bulge, December 1944-January 1945, by pounding marshalling yards, railheads, bridges, and vehicles in the battle area / Continued to fly support and interdiction missions, aiding the drive across the Rhine and into Germany, February-April 1945, continuing attacks on enemy forces until the German Capitulation in 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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WILSON**

**RUTH**

**J.**

**Address:** 3807 SENECA STREET

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** PH. M. 3/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

W.A.V.E.S. BARRACKS (WOMEN ACCEPTED FOR VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY SERVICE)

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Pharmacist's Mate Third-Class

**Base Assignments:**

U.S. Naval Hospital (Brooklyn, New York) - Commissioned in 1838, The Brooklyn Naval Hospital was one of the oldest U.S. Navy Hospitals / The hospital reached its peak capacity of 1125 patients in World War II

**Miscellaneous:**

Pharmacist's Mates were petty officers who, under the direction of medical officers, administer medical assistance, treatment, and services to naval personnel / They served in the sick bay or dispensary of a ship or shore station, at a naval hospital, or on a hospital ship

Thousands of WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) performed duties in the aviation community, Judge Advocate General Corps, medical professions, communications, intelligence, science and technology / At the end of World War II, there were well over 8,000 female officers and some ten times that many enlisted WAVES, about 2 ½ percent of the Navy's total strength

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WISNIEWSKI**

**EDWARD J.**

**Address:** CLINTON STREET

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

**Unit / Squadron:**

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class

**Base Assignments:**

Reno Army Air Base (Reno, Nevada) - Reno Army Air Base was originally assigned to the Second Air Force in October 1942 / Although the base was originally intended for use as a training center for Signal and Chemical personnel / Later the base was used as a training airfield for Curtiss C-46 Commando transport crews to be assigned to the China-Burma-India (CBI) Theater to fly supply missions over the Himalayas from airfields in the Assam Valley of India to China / In January 1951, the base was renamed Stead Air Force Base

**Miscellaneous:**

The Curtiss C-46 Commando was a rugged cargo transport used during World War II by the United States Army Air Forces as well as the U.S. Navy/Marine Corps



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** WITTEK

ELMER

W.

**Address:**

NORTH AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "A", 34TH INFANTRY TRAINING BATTALION, 2ND PLATOON

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL    NORWAY CITATION

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

In 1945, Private Elmer W. Wittek received a citation from King Haakon VII of Norway in Oslo, Norway for his valuable service in helping restore freedom to Norway and its people

**Base Assignments:**

Camp Croft, South Carolina - Located near Spartanburg, South Carolina, the Camp opened in 1940 and was named in honor of Major General Edward Croft (1874-1938), a South Carolinian who had served with distinction as an officer in World War I and retired as Chief of Infantry / As an Army Infantry Replacement Center, the Camp's main mission was training infantrymen to replenish units fighting in World War II / The camp also housed 900 German prisoners-of-war (POW) / Camp Croft was closed in 1947

**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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WITTMAN**

**BERNARD**

**H.**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* ARMY - AIR FORCE

*Rank:* PFC

*Unit / Squadron:*

SQUADRON "P", 432ND BASE UNIT

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

Private First-Class

*Base Assignments:*

Madras Army Air Field (Madras, Oregon) - The Madras Air Field was built by the Army Air Force in 1942 and operated until 1945 as a training base for B-17 Flying Fortress pilots

*Miscellaneous:*

The Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress was a four-engine heavy bomber aircraft primarily used in the daylight precision strategic bombing campaign of World War II against German industrial and military targets / During World War II, the B-17s dropped 640,036 tons of bombs on European targets



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WITTMANN**

**CLARENCE J.**

**Address:** 123 TINDLE AVENUE

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** F.C. 3/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS OKLAHOMA (CL-91)

LST- 834 (LANDING SHIP, TANK)

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON W/2 BRONZE STARS

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Fire Controlman Third-Class Clarence Wittmann operated the mobile anti-aircraft weapons aboard LST-834

**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

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

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma - In 1942 the Navy leased the Shawnee Municipal Airport from Oklahoma City and used the runways for training Naval aviators / The Navy also had several operating depots which stored munitions

**Miscellaneous:**

Fire Controlmen provided system employment recommendations; performed organizational and intermediate maintenance on weapon subsystems, and systems; operated and maintained combat and weapons direction systems, surface-to-air and surface-to-surface missile systems, and gun fire control systems at the organizational and intermediate level / Fire Controlmen operated the weapons sensors and tracking devices, from first detection through firing the weapons, to defending the ship against tactical threats or to make offensive strikes against hostile targets





# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

## Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

The USS Oklahoma City (CL-91/CLG-5/CG-5) was one of 27 Navy Cleveland-class light cruisers completed during or shortly after World War II, and one of six to be converted to guided missile cruisers / She was the first US Navy ship to be named for Oklahoma City, Oklahoma / The Oklahoma City participated in the latter part of the Pacific War in anti-aircraft screening and shore bombardment roles, for which she earned two battle stars / Commissioned on 22 December 1944 and decommissioned on 30 June 1947

LST-834 (Landing Ship, Tank) was commissioned on 10 November 1944 and was assigned to the Asiatic-Pacific Theater during World War II / LST -834 participated in the assault and occupation of Okinawa / Decommissioned on 12 September 1946

Landing Ship, Tank (LST) was 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

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

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

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** WITTMANN

HAROLD

W.

**Address:** 123 TINDLE AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

HEADQUARTERS SQUADRON 29, A.D.G. (AIRCRAFT DELIVERY GROUP)

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private

**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

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** WITTMAYER

ALBERT

R.

**Address:** 28 THORNDALE AVENUE

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** SK. 3/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

A.B.C.D. (ADVANCED BASE CONSTRUCTION DEPOT)

USS LENOIR (AKA-74)

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Storekeeper Third-Class

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Storekeepers were tasked with maintaining ship or company military supply stores / Their responsibilities generally included purchasing and procurement, shipping and receiving, and issuing of equipment, tools, consumable items or anything else obtained through the Naval Supply System

Advanced Base Construction Depot - Because the Navy cannot operate without repairs and supplies, bases are as important as are ships and planes and personnel / The 1940 Navy had no properly equipped advance base other than Pearl Harbor / In the succeeding five years, the Bureau of Yards and docks built or supervised the building of more than 400 advance bases for the Navy in the Atlantic and the Pacific areas

The USS Lenoir (AKA-74) was a Tolland-class attack cargo ship named after Lenoir County, North Carolina and the distant City of Lenoir, North Carolina, which are both named for the patriot William Lenoir / The Lenoir participated in the Okinawa landings and voyaged to Saipan, Guadalcanal, and Guam / Commissioned on 14 December 1944 and decommissioned on 13 June 1946

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



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



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

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** WITZEL

GEORGE J.

**Address:** 79 KLAS AVENUE

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

**Unit / Squadron:**

BOMBER HEADQUARTERS

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Lieutenant

**Base Assignments:**

Minter Field (Bakersfield, California) - Dedicated in February 1942, the field was named in honor of First Lieutenant Hugh C. Minter, a member of the locally prominent Minter family / The Lieutenant, a World War I veteran, was killed in a mid-air collision over March Field in July, 1932 / For a the Minter Field was known as Bakersfield Air Corps Flying School and offered pre-flight and basic flight training / Late in the war, Chinese pilots trained at Minter Field / During the course of the War, more than 11,000 Army Air Corps Cadets graduated from Minter Field, deploying around the world to fly in all theaters of operations

Carlsbad Army Air Field (Carlsbad, New Mexico) - Carlsbad was part of the Army Air Forces Training Command / One interesting incident at the Air Field involved the use of Mexican free-tailed bats as a weapon / The "Bat Bomb Incident", as it is known, occurred in 1943 and was the result of a project by Dr. Lytle S. Adams to attach tiny explosive devices to bats in order to use them as a type of bomb against Japanese cities / While testing the "weapon" at the Carlsbad Army Airfield, some of the bats accidentally escaped and roosted underneath a fuel truck / The ensuing explosions "incinerated the test range" and set some buildings on fire, but apparently no one was harmed

**Miscellaneous:**

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** WITZLEBEN

ROBERT

W.

**Address:** 140 WILDWOOD AVENUE

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** MO.M.M. 2/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

R/S (RECEIVING SHIP) NAVY 140, DIESEL ENGINEERING SCHOOL

**Medals / Citations:**

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Motor Machinist's Mate Second-Class Robert W. Witzleben was assigned to Navy Advance Base #60 on the Solomon Islands / Machinist Mate Witzleben also participated in the campaigns for New Hebrides (islands off the northern coast of Australia) and New Caledonia

**Base Assignments:**

Gulfport, Mississippi - On 2 June 1942, an Advanced Base Depot was established in Gulfport and the first Seabees started coming through Gulfport / The mission of the Center changed from a receiving organization to a U.S. Naval Training Center in March 1944, and provided for training in basic engineering, diesel, radioman, quartermaster and electrician's ratings

**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

A receiving ship is a ship that is used in harbor to house newly recruited sailors before they are assigned to a crew / Receiving ships were typically older vessels that could still be kept afloat, but were obsolete or no longer seaworthy / Receiving ships often served as floating hospitals as many were assigned in locations without shore-based station hospitals



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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

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

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WODE**

**ROBERT**

**W.**

**Address:** 3220 SENECA STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

5307TH COMPOSITE REGIMENT, 3RD PLATOON, HEADQUARTERS N.C.A.C., 610TH ORDNANCE  
AMMUNITION COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

PURPLE HEART

3 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

DISTINGUISHED UNIT CITATION

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Robert W. Wode earned 3 Battle Stars for combat action in the Pacific Theater / PFC Wode was wounded during battle and awarded the Purple Heart

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WOLBERT, SR.**

**ROYCE**

**W.**

**Address:** 56 BENSON AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "B", 31ST ENGINEERING BATTALION, 1ST PLATOON, A.S.F.T.C. (ARMY SERVICE FORCES TRAINING CENTER)

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private Royce W. Wolbert, Sr. was assigned to the 1284th Combat Engineers

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri - The post was created in December 1940 and named in honor of General Leonard Wood (former Chief of Staff) in January 1941. Originally intended to train infantry troops, in 1941 it became an engineer training post with the creation of the Engineer Replacement Training Center

**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

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WOLFGRUBER**

**EARL**

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE

**Rank:** SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

68TH A.A.C.S. GROUP (ARMY AIRWAYS COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS), DETACHMENT #1

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The Army Airways Communications System (AACS) established an effective, integrated, centrally managed, military airways communication system / The AACS operated all fixed Air Corps radio facilities which aided air traffic between Army flying fields located in the continental United States / AASC developed a small airways radio network point-to-point communications between four field on the Hawaiian Islands / Later, the network was expanded to include Wake Island and Midway Island

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:** **WOLFGRUBER**

**PAUL**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* ARMY

*Rank:* 1ST LT.

*Unit / Squadron:*

REGIONAL HOSPITAL

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

First Lieutenant

*Base Assignments:*

Fort Bragg, North Carolina - In 1918, Congress established Camp Bragg, an Army field artillery site named for the Confederate General Braxton Bragg / Camp Bragg became a permanent Army post renamed Fort Bragg / Various units trained at Fort Bragg during World War II, including the 9th Infantry Division, 2nd Armored Division, 82nd Airborne Division, 100th Infantry Division, and various field artillery groups

*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

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WOLTZ**

**JOSEPH**

**R.**

**Address:** 52 WICHITA ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

BATTERY "A", 893RD A.A.A. (ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY), A.W. BATTALION (AIR WARNING)

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER / EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant J. R. Woltz participated in the North African and Sicilian campaigns

**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 anti-aircraft gunners by providing accurate information about the range, speed, and altitude of incoming enemy planes

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

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WOLTZ**

**ROBERT**

**N.**

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** QM. 3/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS HENRY T. ALLAN (APA-15)

USS LST-457

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

ARMY OF OCCUPATION MEDAL: JAPAN

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PHILIPPINE LIBERATION MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Quartermaster Third-Class

**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

Gulfport, Mississippi - On 2 June 1942, an Advanced Base Depot was established in Gulfport and the first Seabees started coming through Gulfport / The mission of the Center changed from a receiving organization to a U.S. Naval Training Center in March 1944, and provided for training in basic engineering, diesel, radioman, quartermaster and electrician's ratings

Shoemaker, California - Camp Shoemaker housed a Naval Hospital and Naval Training and Personnel Distribution Center designed to handle naval personnel on their way to, or returning from, the Pacific

Lido Beach - Long Island, New York - Naval Personnel Redistribution Center and Receiving Barracks

**Miscellaneous:**

Quartermasters (QMs) were experts in navigation / They stood watch as assistants to officers of the deck and the navigator / They also served as helmsman and performed ship control, navigation, and bridge watch duties



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

## Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

The USS Henry T. Allen was built as a United States Army transport, declared surplus until reacquired by the Army and then transferred to the Navy in December 1941 / After initial Navy classification as the transport AP-30 the ship was reclassified to APA-15, A Harris-class attack transport that served with the US Navy during World War II / After completion of outfitting, the Henry T. Allen made one troop carrying voyage to Honolulu and returned / Arriving San Diego 18 June 1942, she took part in amphibious landing exercises until August 1942, helping to mold the potent American assault forces which would be a decisive factor in the Pacific war / Commissioned on (As AP-30) 22 April 1942 and decommissioned on 5 February 1946

Commissioned on 6 February 1943, the USS LST-457 was assigned to the Asiatic-Pacific Theater and participated in the Eastern New Guinea, Bismarck Archipelago, Western New Guinea, Leyte, Southern Philippines, and Borneo campaigns / The USS LST-457 earned seven battle stars for World War II service and was decommissioned on 15 March 1946

Landing Ship, Tank (LST) was 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

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

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

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

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

The Army of Occupation Medal is a military award of the United States military which was established by the United States War Department on 5 April 1946 / The medal was created in the aftermath of the Second World War to recognize those who had performed occupation service in Germany, Italy, Austria, or Japan / The original Army of Occupation Medal was intended only for members of the United States Army, but was expanded in 1948 to encompass the United States Air Force shortly after that service's creation / The Navy and Marine equivalent of the Army of Occupation Medal is the Navy Occupation Service Medal

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

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WOOD**

**FREDERICK J.**

**Address:** 35 LAFAYETTE AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

22ND ORDNANCE BATTALION, HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WOOD**

**WILLIAM**

**P.**

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** SM. 3/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS STURTEVANT (DE-239)

USS RENO (CL-96)

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL 2 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

ATLANTIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Signalman Third-Class William P. Wood earned 2 Battle Stars for combat action in the Atlantic Theater

**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

Carrier Aircraft Service Unit (C.A.S.U.) 23 (Atlantic City, New Jersey) - Carrier Aircraft Service Unit and Naval Air Station

**Miscellaneous:**

Signalmen were responsible for transmitting, receiving, encoding, decoding, and distributing messages obtained via the visual transmission systems of flag semaphore, visual morse code, and flaghoist signalling

The USS Sturtevant (DE-239) was an Edsall class destroyer escort and served in the Atlantic Ocean and the Pacific Ocean, and provided destroyer escort protection against submarine and air attack for Navy vessels and convoys

The USS Reno (CL-96) was an updated Atlanta-class light cruiser designed and built to specialize in anti-aircraft warfare / She was the second warship to be named for the city of Reno, Nevada / She steamed twice to Le Havre, France returning with repatriated U.S. Army troops / The Reno earned three battle stars for World War II service / Commissioned on 28 December 1943 and decommissioned on 4 November 1946



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

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 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

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WOODMAN**

**JOHN**

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "D", 2ND BATTALION, 506TH PARACHUTE MT. INFANTRY

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private

**Base Assignments:**

**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

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:* **WOODMAN**

**ROY**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* ARMY

*Rank:* PVT

*Unit / Squadron:*

COMPANY "F", 289TH INFANTRY

*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 (POW) camp, where 3,500 German prisoners were housed

*Miscellaneous:*

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

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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **WRIGHT**

**CLIFFORD**

**M.**

**Address:** 2225 UNION ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** T/3

**Unit / Squadron:**

BATTERY "C", 581ST A.A.A. BATTALION (ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY), A.W. BATTALION (AIRCRAFT WARNING)

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

2 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: MARKSMAN - RIFLE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Technician Third-Grade (Staff Sergeant) earned 2 Battle Stars for combat action in Europe

**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 anti-aircraft gunners by providing accurate information about the range, speed, and altitude of incoming enemy planes

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



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

## Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

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 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

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:** **WRIGHT**

**NORMAN J.**

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** G.M. 1/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS OTUS (ARG-20)

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY RIBBON

PHILIPPINE LIBERATION MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Gunner's Mate First-Class

**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 Otus (ARG-20) was an internal combustion engine repair ship that saw service in the United States Navy during World War II / The lone ship in her class, she was named for Otus, a mythological son of Iphimedia (wife of Aloeus) and Poseidon / Assigned to the Asiatic Fleet as a submarine tender, she was anchored in Mariveles Harbor, Philippine Islands, on 7 December 1941 / On 10 December 1941 she was slightly damaged during the Japanese air raid on the Cavite Navy Yard, when several bombs landed near her starboard side / From September 1943 until December 1944 Otus served at four different sites in New Guinea furnishing tender services for escort vessels, mincraft, and amphibious craft as well as submarines / Arriving in the Philippines in January 1945, the Otus provided routine upkeep and emergency repairs to the ships of the Southwest Pacific Area / Otus received one battle star for service in World War II / Commissioned on 19 March 1941 and decommissioned on 20 August 1946

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





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



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

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:** **WRIGHT**

**ROBERT**

**F.**

**Address:** 2225 UNION ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE

**Rank:** A/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Air Cadet Robert F. Wright was scheduled to report for service training on 7 July at Niagara University, Niagara Falls, New York

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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



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



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** WYSOCKI

J.

J.

*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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