Deaths in Service

Capt. George V. Bell, '37-'40, Seminole, has been officially declared dead by the War Department as of December 11, 1945. He had previously been reported missing in action on August 21, 1943. Captain Bell, at the time of his death, was serving with the Army Air Forces in the Asiatic theater.

Mr. Henry W. Reaves, '41, has been officially declared dead by the War Department. Captain Reaves, Norman, was reported missing in action on separate occasions by interposing his body between them and enemy soldiers until he could revivethem enough to continue marching. Major Ruth's ministrations did much to alleviate the terrible suffering of his fellow prisoners of war.

Ruth Awarded Bronze Star

For risking death and brutality at the hands of the Japanese to tend to his sick and exhausted comrades during the "death march" of Bataan, Lt. Col. R. C. Ruth, '36, a patient at Brooke General Hospital, Brooke Army Medical Center, has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal.

The award was made by Brig. Gen. John M. Willis, commandant, Brooke Army Medical Center.

Colonel Ruth, a resident of Okene, Oklahoma, took over the Army 11 years ago. He went to the Philippines in May 1942 after his plane was captured with the fall of Bataan. He was liberated from a prison camp on Formosa on September 6, 1945.

Colonel Ruth was graduated from the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine in 1933 and served his internship at Hollywood hospital, Hollywood, California, specializing in internal medicine.

Beside the Bronze Star, he wears the Presidential Unit Citation with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Asian-Pacific campaign ribbon with two battle stars, American Defense Service ribbon, one Philippine Liberation ribbon, one with battle star, the Victory ribbon and the American Theater of Operations ribbon.

Mrs. Ruth and their two daughters, Mary Ann and Sarah Jane, reside in Okene. Two brothers also make their homes there: Donald D. and Roland R. Ruth, who served in the Navy during the war.

Following is the citation of Colonel Ruth, who was a major at the time it was written:

"Major Weldon K. Ruth, Medical Corps, performed meritorious and heroic services from 10 to 22 April 1942 during the march of captured Americans from Bataan province to a Japanese concentration camp near Capas, Tarlac, Philippine Islands.

"Discarging his own condition and risking brutality and death at the hands of the Japanese, he continually attended his sick and exhausted comrades. He prevented the murder of two officers on separate occasions by interposing his body between them and enemy soldiers until he could revivethem enough to continue the march. Major Ruth's ministrations did much to alleviate the terrible suffering of his fellow prisoners of war."

But Where's My Vet Pay Check?

What's a mere Croix de Guerre compared with "moolah"? That seemed to be the opinion of Don MacLeod, Wichita, Kansas, veteran now enrolled in the University, when he recently received a registered letter containing the medal for helping liberate St. Mere Eglise on "D" day.

MacLeod's comment was, "Look what I have! Bus, I'd rather have those veteran assistance checks I've been expecting!" MacLeod was with the 82nd Airborne Division while overseas.

Hober echt Commended by Navy

Earnest Hober echt, 1941 graduate of the University of Oklahoma School of Journalism, has received a commendation from the Secretary of the Navy for his work as a war correspondent.

During the war, Mr. Hober echt reported activities of the United States Navy and saw action with the famous Third Fleet of Admiral William Halsey. The commendation, signed by Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal, was given "for conspicuous service rendered to the United States at war as an accredited Navy War Correspondent."

Mr. Hober echt is employed by the United Press. He was with the United Press Foreign Correspondent in Tokyo where his assignments include covering the office of General Douglas MacArthur, reporting the activities of the Allied Council for Japan and handling news of the war criminal trials.

Cpl. Verdon Roths Awarded Army Commendation Ribbon

Technician Fifth Grade Verdon L. Rogers, '42-'43, Eldorado, was awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, on June 8. This is the second time in the history of the camp that an enlisted man was given the award.

Corporal Rogers was decorated by command of General J. M. Wainwright, commandant of the Fourth Army, for his work in organizing a newspaper at the camp.

"This paper was published in a new, modern and distinctive manner... . . . His aggressiveness, adaptability and spirit reflect the highest credit upon the armed forces," read the citation.

The award was for meritorious service rendered from November 1, 1945, to April 12, 1946, during which time Corporal Rogers was editor of the Camp Chaffee Armorer and served as chief reporter of the Public Relations Section.

Due to deactivation of the Camp Chaffee Personnel Center, Corporal Rogers is being transferred to Fort Knox, Ky.

Before entering the service, Corporal Rogers was assistant editor of the Eldorado Courier, Eldorado. He was a journalism major at the University.

Legion of Merit Award Winner

Lt. George C. McGhee, '33-bus, Dallas, has received the Legion of Merit award for planning, organizing and co-ordinating air-sea rescue activities in support of long-range bombardment operations from the Marianas while serving as Naval liaison officer to the 21st Bomber Command from November, 1944, to August, 1945. His efforts resulted in the employment of a network of submarine destroyers, surface craft and aerial observers that rescued hundreds of airmen from ditched aircraft.

After graduating from the University in 1933, Lt. McGhee had attended Oxford University, England, as a Rhodes scholar and received his Ph.D. degree there in government. He is now employed in the economic affairs division of the Department of State after having spent 27 months in the Navy.

Discharges

Former University students who have recently received discharges from military service are Bert K. Smith, '41-'43, Ft. Worth, Texas; Christian L. Sheedy, Jr., '39-eng, Emporia, Kansas; Paul C. Starks, '41-'42, Butler, and Ralph E. Williams, '35-Eng, Poteau.

Capt. Berdette C. Smith, '38-law, former Tulsa attorney, is now on terminal leave. He recently returned from three years of service overseas.

Lt. Jay B. Smith, '26-'37, Oklahoma City, was released from inactive duty after serving 44 months in the Navy.

Ralph E. Smith, '40-'42, Norman, has returned to Norman recently following his discharge from the service.

Lt. Talmadge Sollenberger, '37-bus, '40s, has been discharged from the service.

Capt. Ed Edmonds, '35-Eng, Fort Sill, has received his discharge from the armed forces.

Capt. John T. Spradling, '41-bus, Oklahoma City, recently was placed on terminal leave following 44 months in the service. He served two years in the southwest Pacific and Japan.

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style detachable shirt cuffs as shown in picture during my first attendance at the Oklahoma University. There was very little change in my appearance between the date of the picture and the opening date of the University. I did not attend any more public schools after April, 1891. We moved from Texas to Oklahoma in the Spring of 1892, leaving Whitesboro, Texas, March 13, and was snowbanged at Ardmore March 10, 1892, during that historic snow storm and blizzard.

"My father filed on a claim near where McLoud is now. My parents became interested in the educational possibilities that the opening of the University would bring, and moved to Norman in July, 1892. My father and I hauled some of the material and brick used in the construction of the first University building. We formed an early friendship with Dr. David R. Boyd, and the rest of the faculty, and when the opening day came, my mother and I were there promptly, and I took my examination for entrance. She and I did not know that I was the first to enrol until I passed and received the congratulations of the entire faculty for the honor of being the first student to enrol in the University of Oklahoma. The examination and enrollment were in the upstairs, northwest room of the old rock building, that is known as the first home of the University."

Discharges

- Discharges from military service were received recently by Robert Spurlock, '41-'42, Norman; Charles Daniel Hille, '41ba, Tulsa; Ralph Merkle, '41eng, Fort Stockton, Texas; Joe S. Rockwood, '32ed, '37law, Sapulpa, and Gervase D. Sdr tlin, '41ed, Pauls Valley.

- Lt. Col. Joe Stamper, '33ba, '35law, Anslers, is now on terminal leave from the Army.

- Howard G. Stonley, '44-'45, Marshall, Michigan, was discharged.

- George Steckel, '43ba, Wetzumka, recently received his discharge from military service.

- Tech. Sgt. Leroy E. Stewart, '37ba, '38ma, and Plc. Elton G. Davis, '41-'42, both of Norman, were discharged from the Army at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, March 14.

- Maj. Charles Storms, '42bus, Ponca City, is now on terminal leave after returning recently from Frankfurt, Germany, where he has been stationed for the last 14 months. He has been in the service for the last four years.

- Jack Strong, '41-'43, Okemah, received his discharge from the Army at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, February 25 after three years' service.

- Lt. Col. Hirst B. Sulfeld, '34ba, Gage, has returned to the States after serving 18 months in the European theater of operations. His terminal leave expired March 17.

- Staff Sgt. Fletcher Blake Swank, Jr., '37jour, Norman, has been discharged from service after 40 months. He served in the Asiatic-Pacific theater of operations.

- John E. Turnbull, '41-'43, Norman, received his discharge from the Army March 5. Mr. Turnbull had served with the infantry in the Ardennes, Rhineland and Central Europe.

- Flight Officer Charles Turner, '43, recently was discharged from military service.

- First Lt. James D. Wallace, '38-'40, Oklahoma City, was discharged from the Army Air Corps in November.

- Lt. Homer A. Wecks, '27ma, Norman, has been placed on inactive status in Miami, Florida.

- Sgt. Landl West, '37-'38, Norman, was discharged from the Army Air Force January 18 after 41 months in the service.

- Lt. Col. W. W. Whitehead, Jr., '30ba, '37law, '40bus, Oklahoma City, received his discharge from the Army in November following five years in the service.

- Reginald Williams, '31ba, '32ma, '42law, Oklahoma City, and Ron W. Woodhouse, '35-'36, Sacramento, California, have been discharged from the armed forces.

- Three former University students who recently were discharged from military service were M. L. Willises, '42pharm, Altus, and Ellis Lieberman, '30bus, Frederick.

- Lt. (j.g.) Robert E. Wolfard, '40-'42, Norman, has been transferred from inactive status to duty as an instructor at Todd Field, Naval Air Station, Corpus Christi, Texas. Lieutenant Wolfard returned from the Pacific in December and was released to inactive duty.

- W. C. Woodward, '42zool, Oklahoma City, recently received his discharge from military service.

- Col. Elwood Wright, '34pharm, '35pharm, Elk City, received his discharge from the Army March 11. He was overseas for 20 months in the New Guinea, Leyte, and Philippine invasions. His corps was among the first to enter Japan for occupation duties.

- James Neil Yowell, '42, Norman; Thomas Hickman Wilson, Jr., '40ba, Seattle, Washington; O. L. Williams, '28-'31, Elk City, and Thomas George White, '44, Sulphur, are a few of the former students who have been discharged recently.