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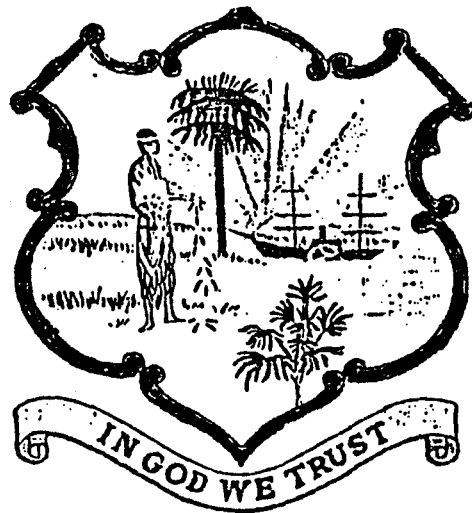
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Florida Department of Military Affairs



Special Archives Publication Number

60

FLORIDA NATIONAL GUARD
KILLED OR DIED; WORLD WAR II
BIOGRAPHICAL AND SERVICE ABSTRACTS

State Arsenal
St. Francis
Barracks
St. Augustine,
Florida

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

POST OFFICE BOX 1008
STATE ARSENAL, ST. AUGUSTINE
32085-1008

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Robert Hawk
Director

It was the greatest war in all history and Florida's National Guardsmen served, trained, fought and some died, in every theater and in every great battle, on land and in the air, of that titanic global struggle. Most served in, or with, the infantry, many in the Army Air Corps, and others in the artillery, engineers, quartermasters and as specialists in all the various technical professions associated with modern, industrial and scientific warfare. Most came home at wars end; some did not.

One might have thought all of Florida's Guardsmen would have served in the same unit; the 31st Division of which they were an organic part prior to general mobilization. Actually, most did not. It was partly calculation and intent on the part of the Regular Army but mostly it was simply the incredible demands created by the nature and size of the war itself. Some artillery, some support troops and a handful of Florida infantry would eventually reach the South Pacific and serve with the 31st Infantry Division in New Guinea and the Philippines. All of the Coast Artillery and most of the infantry would fight their war in other units and in other places.

Following general mobilization in November 1940, (January 1941 for the 265th), Florida's soldiers took up residence at newly created Camp Blanding, Florida. There they were joined by other elements of the 31st Division and their ranks fleshed out with draftees, most from Florida and the other southern states providing units of the 31st. Almost immediately, individuals were separated from their Guard units; some to attend special technical schools, a few to OCS and even more succumbed to the romantic attractions of a war in the air; the Army Air Corps.

Following the maneuvers of 1941 and the cataclysm of Pearl Harbor, Florida men began disappearing from the Division in large numbers. More volunteered for the Air Corps, numerous individuals went off to OCS and a very large number responded to the appeal for men to fill the ranks of the new airborne divisions. By this time, the 124th Infantry was no longer part of the 31st Division. They were school troops at the infantry school at Fort Benning, training the thousands and thousands of new junior officers of the vastly expanded national army how to do their job.

By the fall of 1943, approximately one half of the Florida Guardsmen in the 124th were gone and, at Camp Jackson, South Carolina, the remainder were transferred to other units and the regiment itself was officially disbanded. From Camp Jackson, large drafts of men from the 124th were sent to the 4th and 30th Divisions, destined for a war that would begin in the hedgerows

of Normandy during June of 1944. Others were sent as infantry replacements to the Mediterranean Theater, where Americans had been in combat with the Axis since November of 1942. Many of them would end up in the 3rd and 45th Divisions in the Anzio Beachhead.

Following a political rumpus over the disbandment of Florida's 124th, it returned to existence through the expedient of re-designating the 154th Regiment, then in New Guinea with the 31st Division, as the 124th. (It is ironic and fitting that the 154th had been Florida's assigned regiment immediately following the end of World War I). And some Florida Guardsmen were already in the 154th and others would find their way there. The continuity of Florida service in the regiment would survive.

Of the nearly 4,000 Florida Guardsmen mobilized for the war, approximately 160 are known to have been killed or to have died during the war. Forty died of non-battle related disease or accidents or were killed at times, places and with unit assignments that are not part of the available records. At least fourteen were killed while serving in the Army Air Corps and one as a Marine. Nearly half of all fatal casualties among Florida's Guardsmen occurred during service with a relatively small and select group of divisions; the 30th, 3rd, 4th, 45th and 31st Infantry Divisions and the 82nd, 17th, 101st and 11th Airborne Divisions. Other divisions in which Florida Guardsmen who were killed in action saw active service included the 1st, 2nd, 8th, 9th, 24th, 34th, 35th, 37th, 40th, 42nd, 63rd, 77th, 78th, 79th, 96th, 94th, 96th Infantry, and the 6th and 10th Armoured Divisions.

If the divisions and specialist units in which surviving veterans are known to have served are included, we could add the 7th, 26th, 43rd, 65th, 66th, 83rd, 85th, 87th, 98th, 99th Infantry and 10th Mountain and 13th Airborne Divisions, the Rangers, various intelligence and signal units and even training detachments in India, attached to the Chinese Army.

In short, there really wasn't anyplace Florida Guardsmen didn't serve during the war. Their impact on the Army must have been vastly greater than mere numbers might suggest. Florida provided private soldier, NCO and officer leadership cadres to most of the elite divisions in the Army and good men in many other divisions, specialty units, and air squadrons worldwide. They made a difference and established an enviable record, one worthy of commemoration. This small booklet honoring those who did not return is but a start in recognizing a long-neglected and overlooked achievements of those "Florida Boys of 1940" to whom Florida, and the nation, owe so much.

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NOTE:

The original Florida National Guard casualty list for the Second World War was compiled from fragmentary official and un-official sources before and after the war. Unfortunately, once a Guardsman is federalized, his official state records end and the federal government never found it necessary to notify the state when one of its federalized Guardsmen died or was killed. Only reports in local newspapers and careful search of Army lists during and after the war were available for compiling our list.

If, during the war, a former Guardsman changed his state of residence or the residence of his next of kin, then his name would not appear on the official lists for Florida and would not be included on our records. It is also evident only a proportion of the men from a specific area were given obituaries in local newspapers. Many were overlooked. This was especially true in the larger cities. Thus, it wasn't unusual for individual Guardsmen of 1940, who later died or were killed, to be left off our official lists.

Following the World War II Reunion of the 124th Infantry Regiment in St. Augustine during May 1988, considerable evidence was compiled to indicate that Florida National Guard fatal casualties were at least 20% above that previously known. (For example, the widow of Ernest K. Guard, mobilized with the Florida Guard in 1940, informed me he had been killed as an officer with the 3rd Division at Anzio in 1944. She is now married to another former Florida Guardsman of 1940). The true figures will never be known but an effort is underway to identify as many of the missing names as is possible.

ACOSTA, Jefferson Blavragard

COMPANY G, 124TH INFANTRY
(Duval County)

Born: 27 April 1922 at Jacksonville, Florida.

Acosta enlisted in Company G, 124th Infantry at Jacksonville, 8 October 1940. He had completed three years of high school and was a truck driver earning \$10 per week. He was a resident of rural Duval County. His next of kin were his mother and father, also of Jacksonville. He was not married.

Acosta was mobilized into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private. He was a Technician 5th Class at the time of his death.

DIED NON-BATTLE; cause, date, location and unit assignment at the time of death are unknown.

ADAMS, Horace H.

SERVICE COMPANY, 124TH INFANTRY
(St. Johns County)

Born: 15 January 1919 at St. Augustine, Florida.

Adams first enlisted in the Service Company, 124th Infantry 18 November 1935. He was mobilized with his unit 25 November 1940. At some later date he was transferred to the 119TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION. With them he landed in France during June of 1944. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Corene Adams, wife, Nicey Louise, Adams daughter, Omy Adams, mother, all of St. Augustine, and three brothers and three sisters with various home locations.

KILLED IN ACTION; 20 July 1944, Hebecrevow, Normandy, France.

119th Infantry Regiment

30th Infantry Division

(Following the fall of St. Lo after a long struggle, the 30th Division was engaged in vigorous defensive-offensive patrols against German positions west of the city in preparation for the commencement of Operation Cobra, the assault which would finally break the German Normandy defenses and which the 30th would lead. Adams was killed in one of those savage small unit actions).

ALBERT, Sam Michael

COMPANY G, 124TH INFANTRY
(Duval County)

Born: 6 October 1916, Detroit, Michigan.

Albert was a grammar school graduate, a resident of the City of Jacksonville, and was employed as a truck driver when he first enlisted in Company G 15 December 1939. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private 1st Class. Later he was assigned to the 120TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION. With them he landed in France during June 1944. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Daisey Allen, sister, of Jacksonville, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 21 June 1944, Normandy, France.

120th Infantry Regiment

30th Infantry Division

(The 30th Division was involved in the bitter hedgerow battles in the area north of St. Lo, Normandy, France on the date of Albert's death).

ALLIGOOD, Albert Quince

COMPANY I, 124TH INFANTRY
(Manatee County)

Born: 24 May 1916, Rubonia, Florida.

Alligood first enlisted in Company I, 124th Infantry 6 June 1934. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private. At some later date, he was assigned to the 119th INFANTRY REGIMENT, 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION. With them, he landed in France during June of 1944. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included W.C. Alligood, father, of Palmetto, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 24 July 1944, St. Lo, Normandy, France.

119th Infantry Regiment

30th Infantry Division

(Following prolonged and bitter action in the hedgerow country around the key city of St. Lo, Normandy, France, the 30th Division was one of the assault divisions used in the breakout battle, Operation Cobra. On the 24th of July, the original date of the assault, poor weather which prevented the planned carpet bombing of German positions by Allied aircraft and which prevented the close coordination between units caused the battle to be delayed one day. Some units were used to probe German positions, during which action Allgood was killed).

ANDERSON, William Harold

COMPANY M, 124TH INFANTRY
(Leon County)

Born: 12 April 1918 Monticello, Florida.

Anderson enlisted in Company M, 1 May 1938. At that time, he was a high school graduate and had completed four months of business college. He had work experience as a clerk and as a taxi driver. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 and discharged to accept a commission as 2nd Lieutenant 30 April 1941.

His next of kin included Mrs. Frank Anderson, mother, Tallahassee, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; date, location and unit assignment at the time of death are unknown.

ARGO, Jasper H.

COMPANY L, 124TH INFANTRY
(Manatee County)

Born: 5 March 1919, Bradenton, Florida.

Argo first enlisted in Company L, 124th Infantry 12 May 1938. He was a high school graduate and worked as an embalmer. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Corporal. (He also served with Company A, 124th Infantry following mobilization). He was a Private at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Helena G. Argo, mother, of Bradenton, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; date, location and unit assignment at the time of death are unknown.

AYERS, Lloyd W.

COMPANY B, 124TH INFANTRY
(Dade County)

Born: 2 March 1916 at Huntington, Indiana. (Also listed as Marlon, Indiana, 2 March 1917. It appears he was underage at the time of his first enlistment).

Ayers first enlisted in Company B, 124th Infantry Regiment 26 June 1934. He had completed grammar school and had work experience both as a newspaper carrier and plumber's apprentice. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Sergeant and was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Lonnie W. Ayers, father, of Miami, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; date, location and unit assignment at the time of death are unknown. (It is believed he was killed serving with the 4th Infantry Division, Normandy, France June 1944)

BACKUS, William E.

COMPANY E, 124TH INFANTRY
(Suwanee County, Polk County contingent)

Backus was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

DIED NON-BATTLE; cause, date, location and unit assignment at time of death unknown.

BAUGHMAN, William Forest

MEDICAL DETACHMENT, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Hillsborough County)

Born: 18 October 1920 at Roseville, Ohio.

Baughman enlisted in the Medical Detachment, 116th Field Artillery 19 October 1939. His occupation was listed as student. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private 1st Class. Later he was assigned to the 171ST FIELD ARTILLERY, 45TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Fern Baughman, mother of Tampa, Florida.

DIED OF WOUNDS; 22 November 1943, Italy.

171st Field Artillery

45th Infantry Division

(The 171st was engaged in close support and counter-battery missions with the 45th Division during the bitter battles for control of the German "Winter Line" defensive positions north of the Volturno River in Central Italy, November-December 1943).

BELL, James Irwin

COMPANY E, 124TH INFANTRY
(Suwanee County)

Bell enlisted in Company E, 124th Infantry Regiment 14 July 1940. He resided in Lafayette County, had completed one year of high school, and was a farmer. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private. Later he was assigned to the 7TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Hattie Bell, mother, Day, Florida.

DIED OF WOUNDS; 25 March 1944, Anzio, Italy.

7th Infantry Regiment

3rd Infantry Division

(The records state a date of death as 25 March. If true, then Bell died in one of the bitter close contact small unit actions or almost daily artillery barrages which characterized the fighting on the Anzio Beachhead perimeter. It is possible the date was 25 May in which instance Bell would have been killed in the battles associated with the breakout from the beachhead).

BENSEL, Robert Frederick

COMPANY C, 124TH INFANTRY
(Palm Beach County)

Born: 19 August 1922, West Palm Beach, Florida.

Bensel enlisted in Company C, 124th Infantry Regiment 4 November 1940. He had completed one year of high school, was employed as a truck driver earning \$12 per week in Palm Beach. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

DIED NON-BATTLE; cause, date, location and unit assignment at the time of death is unknown.

BERGFELD, Henry

BATTERY B, 265TH COAST ARTILLERY
(Duval County)

Born: 23 April 1891 Wiesbaden, Germany.

Bergfeld had graduated from high school and technical college in Germany as an engineer. He served from 1915 to 1941 in the American Regular Army as an NCO. His final years of service were as an instructor to the Florida National Guard into which he transferred and accepted a commission as 1st Lieutenant 4 January 1941. Inducted into federal service 6 January 1941, he served with the 265th Coast Artillery until November of that year. Subsequently, he served in a variety of stations and was a Major at the time of his death.

DIED NON-BATTLE; listed as of pneumonia 12 February 1945 in the Southwest Pacific area.

BLACK, Clifford Ray

BATTERY D, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Hillsborough County)

Born: 15 December 1921 Mascot, Florida.

Black had completed two years of high school, was living in Sulphur Springs working in a drugstore for \$8 per week when he enlisted in Battery D, 116th Field Artillery 25 October 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private. Later he was assigned to the 466TH PARACHUTE FIELD ARTILLERY, 17TH AIRBORNE DIVISION.

KILLED IN ACTION; 24 March 1945, Wesel, Germany.

466th Parachute Field Artillery

17th Airborne Division

(The division had been involved in combat during the latter stages of the Battle of the Bulge and then was used as the principle airborne assault force in the Allied crossing of the lower Rhine River, Operation Varsity, 24 March 1945. The division suffered moderate casualties, especially from anti-aircraft fire during the assault and local German counter-attacks against the northern face of the Allied aerial bridgehead).

BODENHAMER, Ralph Bills

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 124TH INFANTRY
(Duval County)

Born: 1 May 1918 Monroe, Indiana.

Bodenhamer had completed one year of high school and was resident in Jacksonville working as a carpenter's helper/apprentice for \$19 per week when he enlisted in Headquarters Company, 124th Infantry Regiment 5 November 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private. Later, he was assigned to the 7TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Technician 5th Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bodenhamer, parents, of Jacksonville, and five sisters and one brother, various locations.

DIED OF WOUNDS; 26 May 1944, Nettuno, Italy.

7th Infantry Regiment

3rd Infantry Division

(Bodenhamer joined the division in the Anzion Beachhead and died of wounds received in the bitter three day battle to breakout of the Beachhead, 23-25 May 1944. The 7th Infantry fought an especially tough campaign to seize Cisterna, (where Bodenhamer was wounded), key to the German defenses).

BOW, Richard Earnest

COMPANY C, 124TH INFANTRY
(Palm Beach County)

Born: 4 June 1908 Fenters, Tennessee.

Bow was a farmer at Indiantown, Martin County when he enlisted in Company C, 124th Infantry Regiment 6 November 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 and released to state control in October 1941. Recalled to federal service in January 1942, Bow was assigned to the 12TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included William Bow, father, and Earlie Bow, sister, both of Indiantown.

KILLED IN ACTION; date and place unknown; European Theater of Operations.

12th Infantry Regiment

4th Infantry Division

(It is believed he was killed during June-July in Normandy, France).

BRADSHAW, Marion Malcom Monroe

COMPANY M, 124TH INFANTRY
(Leon County)

Born: 20 February 1922 Monticello, Florida.

Bradshaw was resident at Wacissa, Jefferson County, Florida at the time of his enlistment in Company M, 124th Infantry Regiment 24 July 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private. Later he was assigned to the 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION and was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Malcom Watson of Wacissa, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 24 May 1944, Nettuno, Italy.

3rd Infantry Division

(Bow was serving with the division in the Anzio Beachhead and was killed during the savage struggle to break through the German defenses, 23-25 May 1944. Most probably, Bow was killed during the battle for Cisterna, key to the German defenses).

BROKMEYER, Henry Conrad

COMPANY D, 124TH INFANTRY
(Seminole County)

Born: 24 March 1908 Kansas City, Missouri.

Bodenhamer was a high school and college graduate who first enlisted in Company D, 124th Infantry Regiment 13 April 1936. He was an experienced sawmill operator, stenographer and was earning a living as a writer of fiction when inducted into federal service as a Corporal 25 November 1940. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

Brokmeyer had published many works of fiction in the popular press; western tales, stories involving airplanes and was especially known for his detective stories. He continued his writing for the regimental newspaper, The Alligator, while at Fort Benning, Georgia.

DIED NON-BATTLE; Camp Hospital, Fort Benning, Georgia, 15 June 1943 of peritonitis caused by perforated ulcers.

BROWNING, John Pieroa

SERVICE COMPANY, 124TH INFANTRY
(St. Johns County)

Born: 24 October 1919 Oak Park, Illinois.

Browning had completed two years of high school, was resident in Elkton, Florida had been a farmer and worked as a truck driver for \$15 per week when he enlisted in Service Company, 124th Infantry Regiment 16 October 1939. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 117TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mr. A.S. Browning, father, Elkton, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 2 October 1944, Holland.

117th Infantry Regiment

30th Infantry Division

(The division was involved in a strong attack on the German West Wall defenses east of the Wurm River and between Aachen and Geilenkirchen. The 117th seized the key positions at Usbach after savage house-to-house fighting during which Browning was killed).

BUTLER, Buford Alexander

COMPANY L, 124TH INFANTRY
(Manatee County)

Born: 16 May 1913 Cadwell, Georgia.

Butler had completed grammar school, was a resident of Manatee, had experience as a mattress worker and was employed as a grocery clerk when he first enlisted in Company L, 124th Infantry Regiment 13 April 1938. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private 1st Class.

DIED NON-BATTLE; 28 October 1941. Date, location and unit assignment at time of death are unknown.

BUZZETT, Julian Rexall

COMPANY E, 106TH ENGINEERS
(Franklin County)

Born: 25 January 1912 Apalachicola, Florida.

Buzzett was a high school graduate and worked as a clerk when he first enlisted in Company E, 106th Engineers 8 January 1931. He served several enlistments and had been awarded the Florida Service Badge (Medal) 22 December 1936. He was inducted into federal service as a Staff Sergeant 25 November 1940. He later accepted a commission and served with the 43th Engineer Regiment (which was eventually divided into the 49TH and 237TH ENGINEER BATTALIONS). He was a 1st Lieutenant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included William D. Buzzett, father, of Apalachicola, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 6 June 1944, Omaha Beach, Normandy, France.

237th Combat Engineer Battalion

(The combat engineers were landed ahead of the first assault waves on Omaha Beach with the mission to destroy beach obstacles and underwater anti-landing craft traps. Because of unexpected complications, including undamaged German defenses, the engineers suffered substantial casualties, more than 50% for most companies, including Lieutenant Buzzett).

CAIL, William Troy

COMPANY E, 106TH MEDICAL
(Lee County)

Born: 19 December 1921 Pine Level, Florida.

Cail had completed grammar school, lived in Fort Myers and drove an ice truck earning \$5 per week when he enlisted in Company E, 106th Medical Regiment 24 June 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a private 25 November 1940. He was a Technician 5th Class at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 6 February 1945, location and unit assignment at the time of death unknown.

CANNON, Alvin Bretton

COMPANY L, 124TH INFANTRY
(Manatee County)

Born: 27 January 1910 Colquitt, Georgia.

Cannon lived in Bradenton and worked as a laborer earning \$15 per week when he enlisted Company L, 124th Infantry Regiment 12 August 1937. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private 1st Class and released to state control 1 December 1941. He was recalled to federal service 19 January 1942.

His next of kin included J.F. Cannon, father, Colquitt, Georgia.

DIED NON-BATTLE; 9 April 1943 of a cerebral hemorrhage at the hospital, Fort Benning, Georgia.

CARTER, Walton L.

COMPANY G, COMPANY C, HEADQUARTERS COMPANY 124TH INFANTRY
(Duval County)

Born: 30 December 1930 Jacksonville, Florida.

Carter had completed one year of high school, lived in

Jacksonville and listed his occupation as a student when he enlisted in Company G, 124th Infantry Regiment 12 March 1939. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he assigned to the 120TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 17 June 1944, St. Lo, Normandy, France.

120th Infantry Regiment

30th Infantry Division

(The division was engaged in the hedgerow fighting in Normandy, France and was part of the assault force of three divisions which was assigned the task of seizing the key to Normandy's defenses in the central sector, St. Lo. The city fell only after a month-long, very costly, battle. It was during the height of this battle, on a day when the Division was supporting an-unsuccessful attack by the 29th Infantry Division, that Carter was killed).

CARVER, Burnice

COMPANY E, 124TH INFANTRY
(Suwanee County)

Born: 8 August 1919 Suwanee County, Florida.

Carver had completed one year of high school, lived in Live Oak and worked as a farmer when he first enlisted in Company E, 124th Infantry Regiment 2 February 1938. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 16TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included R. Carver, father, Live Oak, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 14 September 1944, Belgium.

16th Infantry Regiment

1st Infantry Division

(The division was assigned the task of penetrating the main German West Wall border defenses in and around the city of Aachen. The Germans put up an unexpectedly fierce resistance. The battle lasted more than an entire month. Carver was killed during the first week of the battle near the northern end of the city).

CHAPMAN, Arthur Edward

COMPANY B, 124TH INFANTRY
(Dade County)

Born: 27 January 1919 Miami, Florida.

Chapman had completed one year of high school, had experience in construction and as a stock clerk and lived in Miami when he first enlisted in Company B, 124th Infantry Regiment, 21 September 1937. He was inducted into federal service as a Corporal 25 November 1940. He was later assigned to the 368TH BOMB SQUADRON, 306TH BOMB GROUP and was a Staff Sergeant at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 9 October 1942, Northern France.

306th Bomb Group

(The 306th flew B-17 heavy bombers and was one of the first groups to arrive in England to initiate daylight strategic bombing raids against targets in Occupied Europe. Barely a month after his arrival, Chapman was killed in the largest raid to date; a one hundred bomber attack against the Factories and engineering works of the Compagnie de Fiver and Ateliers d'Hellemmer and the rail yards in and around Lille, France).

CHESSER, Evan Hughes

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY 265TH COAST ARTILLERY
(Duval County)

Born: 2 June 1921 Jacksonville, Florida.

Chesser had completed one year of high school, lived in Jacksonville and worked as a clerk earning \$18 per week when he enlisted in the Headquarters Battery, 265th Coast Artillery 15 October 1940. He was inducted into federal service 6 January 1941. He was later assigned to the 63RD BOMB SQUADRON and was a Captain at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mayo Chesser, wife, Texas City, Texas, Nora Chesser, mother, and William Chesser, brother, both of Jacksonville, Florida.

DIED/KILLED; Plane crash, Southwest Pacific 9 January 1945.

63rd Bomb Squadron

(The 63rd operated B-24 heavy bombers against Japanese targets in the Southwest Pacific. At the time of Chesser's death, the squadron was operating from air fields in Leyte, Philippine Islands).

CHILDRESS, Robert L.

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY, 2ND BATTALION,
116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Polk County)

Born: 31 October 1920, Fort Meade, Florida.

Childress had completed one year of high school, lived in Bartow and listed student as his occupation when he enlisted in Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion, 116th Field Artillery 3 October 1939. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 603RD TANK DESTROYER BATTALION, 6TH ARMORED DIVISION. He was a Technician 5th Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mrs. F.C. Pellem, mother, Bartow, Florida.

DIED OF WOUNDS; 17 April 1945, Germany.

6th Armored Division

(The division was part of the U.S. Third Army which crossed the Rhine River in south-central Germany during March of 1945 and fought its way across Germany towards the Elbe River and a meeting with the Russians. During the week's fighting that took Childress's life, the Division crossed the Mulde River and captured Rochlitz and Lunzenau on the Elbe).

CHRISTOPHER, James H.

SERVICE COMPANY, 124TH INANTRY
(St. Johns County)

Born: 23 January 1919 Knoxville, Tennessee.

Christopher had completed grammar school, lived in St. Augustine and worked as a truck driver/motor mechanic earning \$10 per week when he enlisted in Service Company, 124th Infantry Regiment 6 November 1939. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 306TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 77TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a private at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 21 December 1944 (also listed as 7 March 1945), Philippine Islands.

306th Infantry Regiment

77th Infantry Division

(The division was involved in heavy combat against Japanese positions in western Leyte, Philippine Islands. During the days prior to and including that of Christopher's death, the 306th helped seize the key Japanese position at Ormoc and Libonago and to seize and defend positions east along the Palompon Road against intense enemy counter-attacks).

COLLINS, Ernest William

COMPANY E, 124TH INANTRY
(Suwanee County)

Born: 14 May 1917 Hildreath, Florida.

Collins was a high school graduate living in O'Brien, Florida working as a grocery clerk earning \$15 per week when he enlisted in Company E, 124th Infantry Regiment 25 September 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 1st Class 25 November 1940. He was later assigned to the 119TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Staff Sergeant at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 12th July 1944, St. Lo, Normandy, France.

119th Infantry Regiment

30th Infantry Division

(The 30th was engaged in very bitter hedgerow fighting on the central Normandy sector near the city of St. Lo. A divisional attack against Pont Hebert on 12 July proved a costly failure due to strong enemy resistance and the difficult terrain).

COLLINS, Hugh Lamont

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, 1ST BATTALION,
124TH INFANTRY
(Seminole County)

Born: 6 January 1916 Broxton, Georgia.

Collins had completed one year of high school, lived in Orlando and worked as a sign painter at the time he first enlisted in Headquarters Detachment, 1st Battalion, 124th Infantry Regiment 19 May 1936. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Staff Sergeant, the rank he held at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 26 April 1945, Mindanao, Philippine Islands.

124th Infantry Regiment

31st Infantry Division

(Several days after landing at Parang, Mindanao, Philippine Islands, the 124th began moving against Japanese positions near the Sayre Highway, and, on the 26th began the months-long battle for control of the central portion of the island. It was during this preparatory stage that Collins was killed).

COOMBS, James P.

HEADQUARTERS, 106TH ENGINEERS
(Franklin County)

STATE OF FLORIDA
MILITARY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
STATE ARSENAL, ST. AUGUSTINE

June 7, 1943.

GENERAL ORDERS,
No. 5

1. Announcement is made with profound regret of the death of Lieutenant Colonel James Percy Coombs, Florida National Guard, which occurred at St. Petersburg, Florida on June 5th, 1943.

Lieutenant Colonel Coombs was born in Portland, Maine, on August 28, 1889. He enlisted on October 11, 1910 for Company "L," 1st Infantry. Appointed 1st Lieutenant of Infantry January 25, 1912. Promoted Captain of Infantry April 19, 1912. Promoted Major of Infantry January 8, 1915. Promoted Lieutenant Colonel of Infantry July 15, 1916. Resigned June 5, 1917, on disbandment of regiment. Appointed Major of Infantry June 5, 1917 on reorganization of regiment. Promoted Lieutenant Colonel of Infantry June 24, 1917 and assigned to 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry. Inducted into Federal service (World War) on August 5, 1917, and transferred to 106th Engineers, 31st Division at Camp Wheeler, Georgia. Commanded the 106th Engineers at Brest, France. Served overseas from October 7, 1918 to September 15, 1919. Honorably discharged September 15, 1919. Appointed Captain of Engineers February 3, 1927 and assigned to Company "E," 106th Engineers. Promoted Major of Engineers May 9, 1928 and assigned to 2nd Battalion, 106th Engineers. Promoted Lieutenant Colonel of Engineers March 1, 1934 and assigned Executive Officer of the regiment. Inducted into Active Military Service of the United States on November 25, 1940. Relieved from Active military service of the Army of the United States on February 15, 1941, by reason of having been found physically disqualified.

Funeral services will be held at Apalachicola, Florida, at 3:30 P.M., on June 8, 1943.

In the death of Lieutenant Colonel Coombs the National Guard of the State of Florida has lost a friend and staunch champion, and the State of Florida a distinguished citizen and able soldier.

As a mark of respect the flag at the State Arsenal and on all armories throughout the State will be displayed at half staff on the day of the funeral.

BY COMMAND OF THE GOVERNOR:

VIVIAN COLLINS,
The Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

J. B. ROUSSEAU,
*Major, Retired,
Assistant.*

COX, Richard

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Hillsborough County)

Born: 20 May 1921 Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Cox had completed two years of high school, lived in St. Petersburg and worked as a truck driver/messenger for \$7.50 per week when he enlisted in Headquarters Battery, 116th Field Artiller 22 July 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. He was a private at the time of his death.

DIED NON-BATTLE; 13 June 1943.

CRAWFORD, Roscoe Nepolina

COMPANY G, 124TH INFANTRY
(Duval County)

Born: 7 April 1919 Milledgeville, Georgia.

Crawford had completed one year of high school, lived in Jacksonville, and had worked as a truck driver and a Baker earning \$22 per week when he first enlisted in Company G, 124th Infantry Regiment 7 February 1938. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 1st class 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 19TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a staff Sergeant at the time of his death.

DIED OF WOUNDS; 4 June 1945, Philippine Islands.

19th Infantry Regiment

24th Infantry Division

(The division was involved in bitter jungle fighting against Japanese forces in the vicinity of Davao, Mindanao, Philippine Islands from April 1945 until the end of the war. During late May and early June, the division was assigned the difficult task of clearing the enemy from the Talamo River valley and the key town of Mandog where Crawford was killed).

CRAWFORD, W. H.

COMPANY K, 124TH INFANTRY
(Orange County)

Born: 11 June 1918 Dothan, Alabama.

Crawford earned his living as a laborer and lived in Winter Garden when he enlisted in Company K, 124th Infantry Regiment 13 November 1939. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 7TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 1 October 1944, France.

7th Infantry Regiment

3rd Infantry Division

(During the latter part of September and first week of October 1944, the 3rd Division was operating against German defenses in northeastern France in the vicinity of St. Ame and Vageny. It was during a period of defensive patrols and actions against local German counter-attacks that Collins was killed).

CROFT, Earl Bryon

BATTERY C, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Hillsborough County)

Born: 18 January 1922 Savannah, Georgia.

Croft had completed two years of high school, lived in Tampa and worked as a salesman earning \$10 per week when he enlisted in Battery C, 116th Field Artillery 6 November 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 757TH TANK BATTALION. He was a Technician 4th Class at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 22 April 1945, Decima, Italy.

(Allied forces were engaged in strong and successful attacks against German positions south of the Po River in northern Italy during the days including and immediately preceding that of Croft's death).

CURRAN, George David

BATTERY A, 265TH COAST ARTILLERY
(Duval County)

Born: 15 June 1919 Atlanta, Georgia.

Curran was a high school graduate, lived in Jacksonville and earned \$20 per week as a truck driver/auto mechanic at the time he enlisted in Battery A, 265th Coast Artillery 5 January 1941. He was inducted into federal service 6 January 1941. Later, he was assigned to the 19TH BOMB SQUADRON. He was a Private at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Frances Curran, mother, Jacksonville, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION 15 February 1942, Southwest Pacific/Philippine Islands area.

19th Bomb Squadron

(The 19th flew B-26 medium bombers and had just arrived in the war zone during the earliest days of the war in the Pacific when Curran was killed).

DAVIS, Marquis Elbert

BATTERY B, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Hillsborough County)

Born: 11 November, 1920 Greenfield, Indiana.

Davis had completed one year of high school, lived in Tampa, and was identified as a student at the time he enlisted in Battery B, 116th Field Artillery 19 October 1939. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private. Later, he was assigned to the 504TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY, 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 11 July 1944, Normandy, France.

504th Parachute Infantry

82nd Airborne Division

(The 82nd had air-assaulted Normandy during the night of 5-6 June behind the Utah Beach area. Following several days of bitter fighting in and around Ste. Marie-Eglise, the division was moved to the west coast of the Cotentin peninsula, capturing and defending the key hill, Hill 131, overlooking La Haye-de Puits where Davis was killed).

DAVIS, Robert C.

STATE OF FLORIDA
MILITARY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
STATE ARSENAL, ST. AUGUSTINE

April 2, 1941.

GENERAL ORDERS,
No. 3.

1. Announcement is made with profound regret of the death of Lieutenant Colonel Robert Clair Davis, 124th Infantry, which occurred at Camp Blanding, Florida, on April 1, 1941.

2. Lieutenant Colonel Davis was born at Ocala, Florida, on May 15, 1898. He enlisted April 13, 1917 and during the World War served as Private, Corporal and Sergeant, Company "C", 2nd Florida Infantry, and Company "K", 102nd Infantry. He served overseas from October 17, 1918 to April 7, 1919. Honorably discharged April 26, 1919. Appointed 2nd Lieutenant of Infantry, June 21, 1933 and assigned to Company "K", 124th Infantry. Promoted 1st Lieutenant of Infantry, April 19, 1934. Promoted Captain of Infantry, June 29, 1934. Promoted Major of Infantry, October 17, 1940, and assigned to command the 3rd Battalion, 124th Infantry. Promoted Lieutenant Colonel of Infantry, November 15, 1940. He was inducted into Federal service on November 25, 1940.

3. Funeral services will be held at Orlando, Florida, at 3:30 P.M., Thursday, April 3, 1941.

4. In the death of Lieutenant Colonel Davis the National Guard of the State of Florida has lost a friend and staunch supporter, and the State of Florida a distinguished citizen and able soldier.

5. As a mark of respect, the flag at the State Arsenal and on all armories throughout the State will be displayed at half staff on the day of the funeral.

BY COMMAND OF THE GOVERNOR:

VIVIAN COLLINS,
The Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:
J. B. ROUSSEAU,
*Major, Retired,
Assistant.*

DEAN, Harold Mason

COMPANY M, 124TH INFANTRY
(Leon County)

Born: 24 November 1921 River Junction, Florida.

Dean had completed one year of high school, lived in Quincy (Gadsden County), and worked as a salesman earning \$6 per week at the time of his enlistment in Company M, 124th Infantry Regiment 28 October 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 7TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 3RD INPANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 30 September 1944. (Location not certain; division was in France but other records state he was killed in either Italy or the "North Africa area". Actually, the division was in northern France during September, a fact which leads to some confusion).

7th Infantry Regiment

3rd Infantry Division

(Assuming Dean was killed with the Division in September 1944, he would have been involved in the battles to clear the Germans out of eastern France. If the actual date was 1943, then he would have been killed in the bitter fighting north of Naples, Italy where the Germans were attempting to establish a firm defensive line, the Winter Line, to stop Allied advances in Italy).

DENT, Ira Edward

COMPANY G, 124TH INFANTRY
(Duval County)

Born: 29 December 1920 Lyons, Georgia.

Dent had completed three years of high school, was listed as a student and lived in Jacksonville at the time he enlisted in Company G, 124th Infantry Regiment 11 March 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a private 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 383RD INFANTRY REGIMENT, 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a 2nd Lieutenant at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 22 May 1944, Okinawa.

383rd Infantry Regiment

96th Infantry Division

(The 96th Division was engaged in the conquest of Okinawa. It was the greatest battle of the Pacific war. The division was employed in several operations, especially in the month-long assault against the Shuri Line, the Japanese main defenses on the island. During 21-30 May, the 383rd Infantry fought a desperate battle for control of Oboe Hill, the key to their part of the Shuri Line. Dean was killed during this battle).

DERINGER, Don F.

COMPANY B, 124TH INFANTRY
(Dade County)

Born: 27 December 1921, Miami, Florida.

Deringer was a high school graduate, living in Miami and working as a store clerk earning \$13 per week when he enlisted in Company B, 124th Infantry Regiment. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940.

DIED OF WOUNDS; date, location and unit assignment at time of death are unknown.

DUKE, George Roscoe

BATTERY C, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Hillsborough County)

Born: 6 September 1921, Ruppert, Georgia.

Duke was living in Valrico and earning \$12 per week as a surveyor when he enlisted in Battery C, 116th Field Artillery 10 January 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 757TH TANK BATTALION. He was a Corporal at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 24 May 1944, Italy.

757th Tank Battalion

(Almost certainly killed during the actions which broke open the Anzio Beachhead and allowed Allied troops from Anzio to link up with those coming from the south in the ensuing campaign to capture Rome).

EBBETS, John Augustus

COMPANY B, 124TH INFANTRY
(Dade County)

Born: 13 December 1918, Jacksonville, Florida.

Ebbetts had completed one year of high school, lived in Miami and worked as a clerk earning \$17 per week at the time he enlisted in Company B, 124th Infantry Regiment 14 October 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. Later, he accepted a commission and was assigned to the 19TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a 2nd Lieutenant at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 11 May 1945, Philippine Islands.

19th Infantry Regiment

24th Infantry Division

(The 24th Division was operating on Mindanao, Philippine Islands, during the spring and summer of 1945. Entering from the city of Davao, the division had been used in assaulting enemy positions along the Talomo River. On the 11th, the 19th Infantry, with wir and artillery support, launched an unsuccessful, and costly, assault against Japanese positions on Hill 550 where Ebbetts was killed).

ELLIOTT, John C.

COMPANY C, 124TH INFANTRY
(Palm Beach County)

Born: 19 November 1917 Cales, Alabama.

Elliott had completed one year of high school, lived in West Palm Beach and worked as a truck driver when he first enlisted in Company C, 124th Infantry Regiment 15 June 1938. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 360TH BOMB SQUADRON, 303RD BOMB GROUP. He was a Staff Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included S.F. Elliott, father, of West Palm Beach.

KILLED IN ACTION; 21 January 1945, Freudenstadt, Germany.

360th Bomb Squadron

303rd Bomb Group

(The 303rd, flying B-17 heavy bombers, had been in action against the Germans since late 1942. During December 1944 and January 1945, the group was exclusively used to bomb German rail centers, military assembly areas and other tactical and strategic targets associated with the Battle of the Bulge. On the 21st of January, his group, and others, hit Transportation centers and targets of opportunity in and around Mannheim, Ashaffen and Reutlingen, Germany).

ELLZEY, George Barkley

COMPANY H, 124TH INFANTRY
(Columbia County)

Born: 17 April 1920 State Line, Mississippi.

Ellzey had completed one year of high school, lived in Lake City and worked as a farmer at the time he enlisted in Company H, 124th Infantry Regiment 16 April 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940.

KILLED IN ACTION; date, location and unit assignment at time of death are unknown.

EMPHREM, Victor L.

ANTI-TANK COMPANY, 124TH INFANTRY
(Duval)

Emphrem was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 119TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 11 August 1944, France.

119th Infantry Regiment

30th Infantry Division

(The 30th Division had seen heavy combat in Normandy and during the first week in August, was positioned in defense of the city of Mortain. A massive German counter-attack toward Avranches led to savage fighting by all members of the 30th. The German attack was contained and the division pushed the Germans out of Mortain, but only after hard fighting and heavy casualties, including Ellzey).

EVANS, Robert Lee

MEDICAL DETACHMENT, 124TH INFANTRY
(Seminole County)

Born: 16 February 1916 Bladensboro, North Carolina.

Evans had completed one year of high school, lived in Sanford and had work experience as a butcher and grocery clerk earning \$15 per week when he first enlisted in the Medical Detachment, 124th Infantry Regiment 27 February 1934. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. He was a Staff Sergeant at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 6 May 1945, Mindanao, Philippine Islands.
(Evans received a posthumous Silver Star).

Medical Detachment, 124th Infantry

31st Infantry Division

MEDICAL DETACHMENT, 124TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

31st Infantry Division, General Orders Number 87
16 July 1945

The Medical Detachment, 124th Infantry Regiment, is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action on Mindanao, Philippine Islands, during the period 6 May 1945 to 12 May 1945. On 6 May 1945, the 1st Battalion, 124th Infantry Regiment, advanced north along the Sayre Highway from Kibawe with the mission of seizing the Maramag Air Strip and opening the highway to this point. Two miles south of their objective the leading elements of the Battalion entered an exceptionally dense tropical rain forest. Here they encountered heavy, accurate, controlled fire from an estimated battalion of the enemy occupying a long prepared, well camouflaged, defensive position organized in depth. The 1st Battalion launched a determined attack, assaulting the position several times but were unable to dislodge the enemy from his fortifications. Casualties were heavy. After the successive assaults, a large number of the wounded remained in advance of our lines. All personnel of the Battalion Medical Section, as well as personnel of the Regimental Medical Section voluntarily went forward to augment the strength of the company aid men. For three hours, under heavy enemy fire, the medical personnel found, treated, and evacuated fifty casualties, many of which were 20 and 30 yards in front of our lines. In the performance of this duty three medical technicians were killed, the Assistant Battalion Surgeon and one aid man severely wounded, and three aid men slightly wounded. On 7 May 1945, the 2nd Battalion, 124th Infantry Regiment, reinforced the 1st Battalion with the mission of taking the fortified positions and of clearing the woods of the enemy. The 2nd Battalion advanced 200 yards through the underbrush when it encountered the same fierce resistance that had faced the 1st Battalion the day before. The position was assaulted but the advance was stopped. Again numerous casualties remained where they had fallen in front of the enemy positions. In order to care for and remove all the wounded in as short a period as possible, the entire 2nd Battalion Medical Section came forward to assist the company aid men. Throughout the day men of the 2nd Battalion Medical Section made numerous trips 20 and 30 yards in front of our lines in the face of heavy enemy small arms and grenade fire to find, treat, and evacuate approximately 40 severely wounded men. In the performance of this duty the Section Leader was killed, two aid men were seriously wounded and three of

the medical personnel, though not wounded, had bullet holes in their clothing. On 7 May 1945, the 3rd Battalion, 124th Infantry Regiment, with the mission of seizing an objective in rear of the enemy fortified position, thereby cutting his communication to the rear, advanced around the flank of the 2nd Battalion in an encircling movement. In executing this mission the 3rd Battalion crossed a flat open grassland between two areas of heavy woods. As the rear of the battalion, where the Battalion Medical Section was marching, crossed this open grassland, the enemy launched a furious banzai attack. In the fight that ensued a number of casualties were incurred by our troops. Though the terrain was open and in full view of the enemy, the personnel of the 3rd Battalion Medical Section treated the wounded in spite of heavy machine gun, rifle, and mortar fire. For several hours the Medical Section, along with several riflemen, were cut off from the Battalion. Nevertheless the medical personnel continued to search for, treat, and collect the casualties. When contact was reestablished the wounded were evacuated. The Medical Section then returned to make another reconnaissance of the open area for other wounded, though they were still endangered by enemy fire. In so doing the personnel of the Medical Section were the last to leave this scene of conflict. This act not only saved the lives of several of the fifteen severely wounded men and ten to fifteen slightly wounded but was also responsible for keeping several of the wounded from falling into the hands of a fanatical enemy. The Battalion Surgeon, although severely wounded in this action, would not permit treatment of his wounds until the other casualties had been cared for and removed to safety. Two medical non-commissioned officers were killed, one by enemy bayonet wounds while he was attempting to reach a wounded man. The resistance of the enemy in and about the woods was so well camouflaged, dug in, organized and stubborn that the fighting of all three Battalions continued for a period of six days before our troops completely annihilated the enemy. During this period of time the entire Medical Detachment continued to go forward to treat and remove casualties from areas in front of our lines or from areas commanded by enemy sniper fire. The conspicuous gallantry and outstanding performance of duty from 6 May 1945 to 12 May 1945 by all personnel of the Medical Detachment, 124th Infantry Regiment, was an inspiration to the troops advancing along the Sayre Highway, reflected great credit upon themselves and the Medical Department, and upheld the highest traditions of the Service.

FERNANDEZ, Henry B. Jr.

BATTERY C, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Hillsborough County)

Fernandez was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 466TH PARACHUTE ARTILLERY, 17TH AIRBORNE DIVISION. He was a Technician 4th Class at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; date uncertain but believed to have been 24 March 1945.

466th Parachute Artillery

17th Airborne Division

(Following limited action in the latter stages of the Battle of the Bulge, the 17th was the aerial assault force used in forcing the German Rhine River defenses beginning 24 March. Fernandez could have been killed in any of those actions but is believed to have died during Operation Varsity; 24 March 1945).

FLAKE, J.C.

COMPANY K, 124TH INFANTRY
(Orange County)

Born: date and place unknown.

Flake had completed two years of high school. Lived in Winter Garden and worked as a farmer when he enlisted in Company K, 124th Infantry Regiment 16 February 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 8TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 2 August 1944, France.

8th Infantry Regiment

4th Infantry Division

(Following the Allied breakout from the Normandy Beachhead, the 4th division had the mission of clearing the Germans from the area of St. Pois, enabling the remainder of the U.S. First Army to force the Germans away from American troops in western France and the Brittany Peninsula. Flake was killed in those actions).

FORRESTER, Copeland Albert

BATTERY D, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Hillsborough County)

Born: 2 December 1921 Dothan, Alabama.

Forrester had completed three and one half years of high school, worked as a student and lived in Lakeland at the time he enlisted in Battery D, 116th Field Artillery 29 December 1939. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 and was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

DIED NON-BATTLE; date, location and unit assignment at the time of his death are unknown.

FOX, Raymond Franklin

COMPANY D, 106TH ENGINEERS
(Franklin County)

Fox was a high school graduate living in Callaway at the time he enlisted in Company D, 106th Engineers 26 September 1940. Later he was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 860TH BOMB SQUADRON, 493RD BOMB GROUP. He was a Staff Sergeant at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 19 September 1944, Hilbersheim, Germany.

860TH Bomb Squadron

493 Bomb Group

(The 493rd operated B-17 heavy bombers with the 8th Air Force against targets in northern and western Europe. During the third week in September, most missions were against transportation and communications centers in northwestern Germany in support of Allied operations in Holland. On the 19th, in spite of poor weather, more than 600 heavy bombers hit various targets of opportunity in Germany).

FUQUAY, Cecil Owen

COMPANY C, 124TH INFANTRY
(Palm Beach County)

Born: 10 December 1917 Daytona Beach, Florida.

Fuquay was a high school graduate working as a laborer in West Palm Beach when he first enlisted in Company C, 124th Infantry Regiment 13 July 1936. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 and was a 2nd Lieutenant at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; date, location and unit assignment at time of death are unknown.

GAINES, William J.

COMPANY C, 106TH QUARTERMASTERS
(Duval County)

Born: 6 July 1910 Oxford, Florida.

Gaines was a high school graduate living in Jacksonville who worked as a butcher when he first enlisted in the Motor Transport Company, 124th Infantry Regiment 5 September 1928. The unit was later redesignated Company C, 106th Quartermaster Regiment. He was inducted into federal service as a Sergeant 25 November 1940. Later, he was commissioned and underwent training at Fort Warren, Wyoming, Fort Crook, Nebraska and Fort Lewis, Washington. He was a Captain at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Doris Gaines, wife, and Mr. and Mrs. W.J. Gaines, parents, all of Jacksonville, Florida.

DIED OF WOUNDS; 21 August 1944, of wounds received 16 August, in France; location and unit assignment at time of death is unknown.

GOFF, Curtis Augustus Jr.

COMPANY G, 124TH INFANTRY
(Duval County)

Born: 16 January 1922 Hazelhurst, Georgia.

Goff had completed grammar school, was living in Jacksonville and worked as a grocery clerk when he enlisted in Company G, 124th Infantry Regiment 26 February 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private. Later, he was assigned to the 8TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 25 June 1944, Normandy, France.

8th Infantry Regiment

4th Infantry Division

(The 4th Division had landed on D-Day and had been involved in the defense of the American positions at Utah Beach and the subsequent campaign to clear the Germans out of the Cherborug Peninsula. On the 25th of June, the Division was involved in securing the area east of the city of Cherbourg and was then used to assault the built-up and heavily defended areas of the eastern portion of the city during which operations Goff was killed).

GOLDEN, William Crocker

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY, 265TH COAST ARTILLERY
(Duval County)

Born: 12 July 1918 Jacksonville, Florida.

Golden was a graduate of R.E. Lee High School, living in Jacksonville and working as a clerk/salesman earning \$18 per week when he enlisted in the Headquarters Battery, 265th Coast Artillery 2 October 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 1st Class 6 January 1941. Later, he was commissioned a bombardier and assigned to the 20TH BOMB SQUADRON, 2ND BOMB GROUP. He was a 1st Lieutenant at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 10 January 1944, Bulgaria. (Golden had completed more than thirty combat missions prior to his death).

20th Bomb Squadron

2nd Bomb Group

(The 2nd Group flew B-17 heavy bombers in the from African and Italian bases against Germany targets ranging from southern Germany to the Balkans. On the 10th of January 1944, the group, and others, escorted by P-47 fighter aircraft, attacked enemy targets in Sofia, Bulgaria. Two heavy bombers, including Golden's, were lost to enemy action).

HALL, Russell E.

SERVICE COMPANY, 124TH INFANTRY
(St. Johns County)

Born: 21 July 1919 Thomasville, Georgia.

Hall was a high school graduate living in St. Augustine working as a truck driver and clerical worker earning \$14 per week when he first enlisted in the Service Company, 124th Infantry Regiment 6 September 1938. He was inducted as a Corporal into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he received a commission and served with the 506TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY REGIMENT, 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION. He was a 1st Lieutenant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Dina Hall, mother, of St. Augustine.

KILLED IN ACTION; 23 September 1944, Veghel, Holland.

506th Parachute Infantry

101st Airborne Division

(The 101st Division had been part of the airborne campaign, Operation Market Garden, intended to capture bridges over the Rhine River at Arnhem. The 101st was dropped on Eindhoven 17 September and its mission was to clear the Germans from the area, defend against German counter-attacks, and open and maintain land communications with the British Guards to the south. It was while re-capturing German held positions along the Veghel-Uden highway that Hall was killed).

HARPER, William Mack

COMPANY E, 124TH INFANTRY
(Suwanee County)

Born: 21 August 1921 Tarpon Springs, Florida.

Harper was a high school graduate living in Live Oak when he enlisted in Company E, 124th Infantry Regiment 16 October 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 309TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 78TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 15 April 1945 Killinghausen, Germany.

309th Infantry Regiment

78th Infantry Division

(The Division had entered combat in the latter stages of the Battle of the Bulge and had been used in clearing the areas east of the Roer River. Later, the Division crossed the Rhine at Remagen and was involved in assaulting the southern face of the Ruhr Pocket. The division, after severe close combat, captured Elberfeld and Wuppertal, Germany during which battle Harper was killed).

HARRIS, Gillis Roger

BATTERY F, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Polk County)

Born: 17 December 1917 Waycross, Georgia.

Harris had finished seven years of grammar school and was a citrus worker living in Lake Wales when he enlisted in Battery F, 116th Field Artillery 27 June 1939. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private. Later, he was assigned to the 456TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY REGIMENT, 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION. He was a Private at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Lulu Harris, mother, Lake Wales, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 15 October 1944 Nijmegen, Holland.

456th Parachute Infantry

82nd Airborne Division

(As part of the Operation Market Garden aerial assault on Holland during September, the 101st was later employed in defending the Nijmegen Corridor against very strong German counter-attacks and in securing the positions along the Nijmegen-Groesbeek Ridge necessary for the next offensive to reach the Rhine River. Harris was killed in action on the Ridge).

HEAD, Frank Edward

MEDICAL DETACHMENT, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Hillsborough County)

Born: 22 December 1921 Plant City, Florida.

Head had completed two years of high school, lived in Sulphur Springs and worked as a truck driver when he enlisted in Battery B, 116th Field Artillery 17 July 1940. (He almost immediately switched to the Medical Detachment) He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 503RD PARACHUTE INFANTRY REGIMENT, 11TH AIRBORNE DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 16 February 1945, Philippine Islands.

503rd Parachute Infantry

11th Airborne Division

(While ostensibly part of the 11th Airborne Division, the 503rd had fought its war in the Pacific as an independent Regimental Combat Team. It was as an RCT that the regiment was dropped on the island of Corregidor at the entrance to Manila Harbor, the island surrendered to the Japanese in 1942. Head was killed during the assault).

HERRING, Francis Marion

SERVICE COMPANY, 124TH INFANTRY
(St. Johns County)

Born: 26 August 1916 Lake Park, Georgia.

Herring was a high school and college (Georgia Southwestern) graduate living in St. Augustine and working in advertising earning \$20 per week when he enlisted in the Service Company, 124th Infantry Regiment 22 November 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 7TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mrs. F.M. Herring, wife, Mamie Herring, mother, both of St. Augustine, two sisters and three brothers of various locations.

KILLED IN ACTION; 24 November 1944, Saales, France.

7th Infantry Regiment

3rd Infantry Division

(During October and November of 1944, the 3rd Division was employed against German positions in Northeastern France. In mid November, the Division captured the area around Clairefontain-St. Michel and led the assault through the Vosges Mountains, gateway to the key city of Strasbourg. Herring was killed in this campaign).

HOGAN, James C.

COMPANY D, 124TH INFANTRY
(Seminole County)

Born: 29 July 1914 Fitzgerald, Georgia.

Hogan lived in Sanford and enlisted in Company D, 124th Infantry Regiment 9 July 1939. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private. Later, he was assigned to the 180TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 45TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 16 August 1944, Ste. Maxime, France.

180th Infantry Regiment

45th Infantry Division

(The 45th had been heavily engaged in the Italian Campaign from 1943 until the invasion of Southern France, Operation Dragoon, for which the division was part of the initial assault force. It was landed at Ste. Maxime on 15 August and for the next two days, fought hard to secure the beachhead and clear out the defending Germans. It was during this battle Hogan was killed).

HOWARD, Green Van

COMPANY E, 124TH INFANTRY
(Suwanee County)

Born: 23 June 1919 McAlpine, Florida.

Howard had completed three and one half years of high school, worked as a farmer and lived in Live Oak at the time he first enlisted in Company E, 124th Infantry Regiment 23 September 1936. (He had been a football star with the local high school team) He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private. Later, he was assigned to the 119TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Staff Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mr. and Mrs. P.M. Howard, parents, of McAlpine, Florida and five sisters and two brothers of various locations.

KILLED IN ACTION; 8 July 1944, St. Lo, Normandy, France.

119th Infantry Regiment

30th Infantry Division

(The 30th Division was deeply involved in the Normandy Campaign of France and during early July, was used to capture German defenses in the hedgerow country northwest of St. Lo. On the 7th and 8th of July, units of the Division made an assault crossing of the Vire-Taute Canal and established a bridgehead at St. Jean-de Day, during which operation Howard was killed).

HOWE, John Sylvester

COMPANY G, 124TH INFANTRY
(Duval County)

Born: 21 March 1919 Thelmann, Georgia.

Howe was living in Jacksonville when he enlisted in Company G, 124th Infantry Regiment 22 July 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Corporal at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 12 July 1944, St. Lo, Normandy, France.

30th Infantry Division

(On the 12th of July, the 30th Division, following weeks of severe fighting in the hedgerow, or bocage, country of Normandy, France north of the key road center of St. Lo, fought a bitter, but unsuccessful, battle to capture the German positions at Pont Hebert where Howe was killed).

HUGHES, John William

BATTERY F, 265TH COAST ARTILLERY
(Dade County)

Born: 22 September 1915 Miami, Florida.

Hughes was a high school graduate living in Miami, earning \$25 per week as a clerk when he enlisted in Battery F, 265th Coast Artillery 9 September 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 6 January 1941. Later he was assigned to the 168TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 34TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

DIED OF WOUNDS; 7 January 1944, San Vittore, Italy.

168th Infantry Regiment

34th Infantry Division

(Following the North African, Sicilian and Southern Italian campaigns, the 34th was given the mission of capturing assault positions within the German Gustav Line north of Naples. Destined to be the start of a long and bitter winter-spring campaign, the division attacked German defense positions overlooking the Rapido River, 5-7 January 1944 during which action Hughes received the wounds which cost him his life).

HYSLER, Daniel Franklin Jr.

BATTERY A, 265TH COAST ARTILLERY
(Duval County)

Born: 16 September 1922 Jacksonville, Florida.

Hysler was living in Jacksonville and working as a concrete finisher earning \$18 per week when he enlisted in Battery A, 265th Coast Artillery 25 September 1940. He was inducted into federal service 6 January 1941. He appears to have gone AWOL in order to enlist in the U.S. Marine Corps. He was a Corporal, U.S.M.C. at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 6 January 1945, Luzon, Philippine Islands.

(Hysler was serving aboard the U.S.S. New Mexico as part of the ship's company. The New Mexico was engaged in shore bombardment and anti-aircraft protection of ships involved in the Linguyan Gulf, Luzon, Philippine Islands invasion force. A Japanese Kamakazi aircraft crashed into the bridge area of the New Mexico, killing approximately forty members of the crew, including Hysler).

INSON, William Luke Jr.

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Pinellas County)

Born: 2 March 1919 Clearwater, Florida.

Ineson was a high school graduate living in St. Petersburg and working as a watchmaker/truck driver earning \$12 per week when he enlisted in Headquarters Battery, 116th Field Artillery 21 November 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

DIED NON-BATTLE; date, location and unit assignment at the time of his death is unknown.

JENKINS, Samuel T.

COMPANY M, 124TH INFANTRY
(Leon County)

Born: 18 October 1920, Jacksonville, Florida.

Jenkins lived in Monticello, worked as a farmer and had completed seven years of grammar school when he first enlisted in Company M, 124th Infantry Regiment 1 October 1939. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 117TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Corporal at the time of his death.

His next of kin included John Jenkins, father, Monticello, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 27 February 1945, Hambach Forest, Germany.

117th Infantry Regiment

30th Infantry Regiment

(Following the conclusion of the Ardennes Campaign, the 30th Division was employed in the Roer River Campaign. The 117th crossed the Roer and helped clear the city of Hambach and then was sent against strong German positions at Steinstrass in the Hambach Forest where Jenkins was killed).

JOHNSON, Andrew L. Jr.

COMPANY F, 124TH INFANTRY
(Duval County)

Born: 4 July 1920 Jacksonville, Florida.

Johnson lived in Jacksonville and worked in a dry cleaners earning \$12 per week at the time he enlisted in Company F, 124th Infantry Regiment 10 September 1939. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 1st Class 25 November 1940.

His next of kin included Anna Johnson, mother, Jacksonville, Florida.

DIED NON-BATTLE; 4 April 1941, at Camp Blanding, Florida.

JOHNSON, Robert Nesbitt

COMPANY K, 124TH INFANTRY
(Orange County)

Born: 10 February 1918 Orlando, Florida.

Johnson was field forman for a central Florida dairy when he first enlisted in Company K, 124th Infantry Regiment 19 June 1936. Johnson received the Florida Service Medal. He was inducted into federal service as a 2nd Lieutenant 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 504TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY REGIMENT, 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION. He was a Captain at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 16 December 1943, Mt. Sammuero, Italy.

504th Parachute Infantry

82nd Airborne Division

(Following the Sicilian Campaign, the 82nd became involved in the assault on Southern Italy. After the capture of Naples by the Allies, the Germans established an extremely powerful defensive Winter Line in the mountains north of the city. These defenses would not be completely breached until the late spring of 1944. Johnson was killed leading his men during an attack on Hill 687, a key feature of the German Winter Line).

JONES, Joseph A.

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY, 265TH COAST ARTILLERY
(Duval County)

Born: 2 September 1919 Screven, Georgia.

Jones lived in Jacksonville and worked as a mail clerk at the time of his enlistment in Headquarters Battery, 265th Coast Artillery 4 October 1939. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 1st Class 6 January 1941. Later, he served with the 450TH BOMB SQUADRON, 322ND BOMB GROUP. He was a 1st Lieutenant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Naney Jones, mother, Jacksonville, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 17 May 1943, Bergen, Holland.

450th Bomb Squadron

322nd Bomb Group

(The 322nd flew B-26 medium bombers and had its first combat mission 14 May 1943 when 12 aircraft bombed a powerplant in Holland, attacking from a very low altitude. The second mission of the group, again against a target in Holland and again from a very low altitude, was a disaster. One plane returned early with engine problems; all ten remaining aircraft, including Jones's, were lost to enemy action).

KALEEL, Sam Abraham

BATTERY B, 265TH COAST ARTILLERY
(Duval County)

Born: 21 October 1917 Jacksonville, Florida.

Kaleel was a news agent/distributor living in Jacksonville when he first enlisted in Howitzer Battery, 124th Infantry Regiment 2 October 1934. Later he transferred to Battery B, 265th Coast Artillery. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 6 January 1941.

His next of kin included Mary Kaleel, mother, Jacksonville, Florida.

DIED NON-BATTLE; Date, location and unit assignment at the time of his death are not known.

KAUFMAN, Herbert Corbett

COMPANY M, 124TH INFANTRY
(Leon County)

Born: 12 December 1912 Tallahassee, Florida.

Kaufman was a high school graduate living in Tallahassee when he first enlisted in Company M, 124th Infantry Regiment 17 February 1931. He advanced through the ranks, receiving a commission as 2nd Lieutenant 12 December 1939. He was the recipient of both the Florida Service and State Active Duty medals. Kaufman was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 504TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY REGIMENT, 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION. He was a Captain at the time of his death.

His next of kin included his mother, a wife, and a son; all of Tallahassee, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 9 July 1943 near Gela, Sicily.

504th Parachute Infantry

82nd Airborne Division

(The 82nd was part of the Allied invasion force in the attack on Sicily, 9 July 1943. The 3rd Battalion of the 504th, including Kaufman's company, was dropped on Ponte Olivo, northeast of Gela, Sicily. The area was behind the German defenses. The Germans resisted strongly and mounted a counter-attack against the beachhead held by the U.S. 1st Infantry Division and through the area tenuously held by the 504th. Kaufman was killed during the ensuing battle).

KELLER, John Joseph

COMPANY A, 124TH INFANTRY
(Dade County)

Born: 3 December 1914 Cleveland, Ohio.

Keller lived in Miami when he first enlisted in Company A, 124th Infantry Regiment 26 April 1935. He advanced through the ranks, receiving a commission as 2nd Lieutenant 14 April 1939. He received the Florida Active State Duty Medal and was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 507TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY REGIMENT, 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION. He was a Captain at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Marie Berier, mother, Miami, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 6-7 June 1944, Normandy, France.

507th Parachute Infantry

82nd Airborne Division

(The 82nd was part of the Allied airborne assault on the Normandy Peninsula of France, D-Day, the 6th of June 1944. The airborne drop zones were near the town of Ste Marie-Eglise and the causeways which led to "Utah Beach". The Germans resisted furiously and the division sustained many casualties, including Keller, defending and expanding their positions).

KEMP, Thomas Eugene

COMPANY C, 124TH INFANTRY
(Palm Beach)

Born: 20 April 1918 Sylvania, Georgia.

Kemp lived in Palm Beach and had completed one year of high school when he enlisted in Company C, 124th Infantry Regiment 10 September 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private. He remained with the 124TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 31ST INFANTRY DIVISION and with it, served in the Southwest Pacific. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Lester Kemp, father, Sylvania, Georgia.

KILLED IN ACTION; 3 August 1944, Aitape, New Guinea.

124th Infantry Regiment

31st Infantry Division

(The 124th Infantry Regimental Combat Team was involved in the Aitape-Drinimour River Campaign in New Guinea for which the 3rd Battalion received a Distinguished Unit Citation. On the day Kemp was killed, the 3rd had made a flank march against Japanese positions, combatting strong enemy units, the main line of which they encountered on the 3rd of August, the day of Kemp's death. Later, the Japanese were successfully turned out of their main defenses).

3RD BATTALION, 124TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

31st Infantry Division, General Order Number 156
20 September 1945

The 3rd Battalion, 124th Infantry, is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action near Aitape, British New Guinea, during the period 12 July 1944 to 7 August 1944. On 12 July 1944, the 3rd Battalion, after a forced march of 12 miles, routed an enemy-held position east of the X-Ray River to secure a line of departure, to launch a counterattack to restore the line of the Drinimour River, which had been penetrated by a determined fanatical enemy force the previous day. The 3rd Battalion, with an exposed right flank, led the attack and by strong aggressive action reached its objective late in the afternoon of 13 July 1944. This battalion was subjected to intense automatic and small arms fire from three exposed flanks throughout the night, as other elements of the combat team had been delayed by a strong enemy force and could not close in on the objective. On 14 July 1944, the 3rd Battalion in an advance to close the left flank of the unit on their right, met sudden intensified enemy resistance from all directions. The 3rd Battalion fighting with sheer determination under the most adverse circumstances finally overpowered the enemy killing 168 enemy and severed and strongly secured the enemy's main supply route. This feat was accomplished so swiftly that an enemy supply train continued to advance down the trail directly into the strongest sector of the 3rd Battalion's perimeter, resulting in 131 enemy dead littering the trail and river bed. Shortly before daybreak on 16 July the 3rd Battalion was attacked by a well organized enemy force from the rear followed by a similar attack supported by mortar fire on the right flank by an enemy force occupying positions previously prepared by friendly troops. The opposition in that direction was quickly neutralized and one company of the Battalion counterattacked to the right and drove the enemy from their position where 416 enemy were killed. Early on the morning of 21 July 1944, the enemy launched a vicious coordinated attack on the front and rear defense of the 3rd Battalion. There followed the most fanatical fighting up to this time as the enemy attacked the well defended positions of the battalion time and time again, only to be repulsed by a superior force. On 31 July 1944, the entire regi-

ment, reinforced by an infantry battalion, launched a counter-attack, to the east toward Niemen Creek, to relieve the pressure on the extreme southern flank and to secure a position from which the enemy could be enveloped and cut off. The 3rd Battalion on the extreme right flank of three battalions abreast with the reinforcing battalion following reached its objective early in the afternoon of 1 August 1944. Turning south the 3rd Battalion encountered well prepared positions and the advance was halted due to the bitter opposition. Following the engagement 99 enemy dead were counted. The advance to the south continued through dense jungle, rough and swampy terrain, with the 3rd Battalion reaching the Afua Trail far in advance of the battalion on its right. On 5 August 1944, while attacking south on Niemen Creek, the 3rd Battalion contacted strong dug-in positions, but by aggressive action digging the enemy from caves and spider fox-holes in solid rock, continued to advance until 1500. Heavy mortar fire was received during the night and the enemy launched a vigorous counterattack which was quickly repulsed by the 3rd Battalion. Immediately afterwards, the 3rd Battalion launched an attack fixing the enemy in position, while another battalion flanked to the enemy's left; then a vicious coordinated attack was launched, destroying and routing an estimated reinforced battalion, accounting for 425 enemy dead. As a result of the strenuous action on 5 and 6 August the whole enemy force was practically annihilated and the disorganized remnants of the force trapped. The 3rd Battalion was in constant contact with the desperate enemy force during the period of 13 July to 7 August 1944. The aggressive action of the 3rd Battalion, relentlessly driving the enemy through mud, swamps, dense jungle growth and over rough mountainous terrain during heavy prevailing rains, never allowing the enemy to consolidate and reorganize, played a major role in the liberation of Aitape and established another "stepping stone" for Allied armies to advance to the other strategic islands to the north. During this period the 3rd Battalion accounted for approximately 1300 enemy dead. The conspicuous gallantry and the outstanding performance of duty from 13 July to 7 August 1944 by all personnel of the 3rd Battalion, 124th Infantry Regiment, reflects great credit upon themselves and the Battalion and upholds the highest traditions of the service.

KNIGHT, Carlton Dewitt

COMPANY E, 124TH INFANTRY
(Suwanee County)

Born: 25 June 1919 Suwanee County, Florida.

Knight was a farmer in Suwanee County and had completed one year of high school at the time of his enlistment in Company E, 124th Infantry Regiment 11 September 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private. Later he was assigned to the 60TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Technician 5th Class at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 11 October 1944 Zweifel, Germany.

60th Infantry Regiment

9th Infantry Division

(The 9th Division had been engaged in extensive combat operations since the Normandy invasion during which it was part of the force which captured Cherbourg. But the fighting in the Huertgen Forest, part of the German West Wall defenses saw the bitterest fighting for units of the division, especially the 60th Regiment. It was during the extremely savage fighting for control of Road Junction 471 that Knight was killed).

LANDEN, Nathaniel Vasco

COMPANY E, 124TH INFANTRY
(Suwanee County)

Born: 25 November 1920 Suwanee County, Florida.

Landen was a high school graduate, living in Suwanee County and working as a farmer earning \$15 per week when he enlisted in Company E, 124th Infantry Regiment. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 but quickly recommended for a disability discharge two days later. But he returned to service and served with the 435TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, 475TH FIGHTER GROUP. He was a 2nd Lieutenant at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 19 September 1944, Manado, Celebes Islands.

435th Fighter Squadron

475th Fighter Group

(The 475th was one of the most famous and highly decorated fighter groups in the Pacific, including Florida's Medal of Honor winner, Thomas McGuire. The group earned two Distinguished Unit Citations in 1943. During the late summer and fall of 1944, the Group, flying P-38 fighter-bomber aircraft, operated out of Biak Island against Japanese targets in the western New Guinea, Celebes, Borneo and the Southern Philippines. On the 19th of September 1944, the group attacked and destroyed Japanese fuel tanks and defensive positions in the Amoerang port area of the Northeast Celebes. Several aircraft were lost to heavy Japanese anti-aircraft fire).

LAWHORN, Cecil Boyd

COMPANY A, 124TH INFANTRY
(Dade County)

Born: 17 February 1920 Lakeland, Florida.

Lawhorn had completed one year of high school, lived in Miami and worked as a mechanic earning \$15 per week when he enlisted in Company A, 124th Infantry Regiment 25 September 1939. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private. Later he was assigned to the 502ND PARACHUTE INFANTRY REGIMENT, 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION, 19 September 1944, Best, Holland.

502nd Parachute Infantry

101st Airborne Division

(The 101st was part of the Allied airborne invasion of Holland, Operation Market Garden in September 1944. The division was dropped near Eindhoven to secure river crossings for advancing Allied land forces and to defend the corridor against German counter-attacks. It was during the especially heavy German attacks from the east that Lawhorn was killed).

LENNON, Rufus Henry

COMPANY L, 124TH INFANTRY
(Manatee County)

Born: 7 April 1921 Plant City, Florida.

Lennon had completed grammar school and lived in Bradento when he enlisted in Company L, 124th Infantry Regiment 18 May 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 180TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 45TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 21 September 1944 Epinal, France.

180th Infantry Regiment

45th Infantry Division

(The 45th Division had seen considerable combat in the Italian Campaign prior to its commitment to the invasion of Southern France. In August and September of 1944, the division moved northward in France and in mid to late September, was involved in the heavy fighting to secure the crossings over the Moselle River. It was during the bitter fighting for control of the Chatel area near Epinal that Lennon was killed).

LUTZ, Herman Paul

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 124TH INFANTRY
(Duval County)

Born: 27 July 1919 Jacksonville, Florida.

Lutz had completed one year of college, lived and worked in Jacksonville as a salesman earning \$25 per week when he enlisted in Howitzer Company, 124th Infantry Regiment 12 July 1939. Later he transferred to Headquarters Company and was inducted into federal service as a Staff Sergeant 25 November 1940. He received a commission and was assigned to the 148TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 37TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Major at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Henry and Rose Lutz, parents, Jacksonville, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 19 June 1945, Luzon, Philippine Islands.

148th Infantry Regiment

37th Infantry Division

(The 37th Division had first entered combat in the Russell Islands Campaign, New Georgia, Rendova and Bouganville Islands. It landed at Lingayen Gulf, Luzon, Philippine Islands in January 1945 and was in almost continual combat from then until war's end. Lutz received his first Silver Star for actions in the approaches to and fighting in, the Japanese defended city of Manila. His second Silver Star, awarded posthumously, was for actions in the crossing operations of the Cagayen River and the approach to the Japanese positions at Ilagan).

1st Silver Star

"For Gallantry in action at***(Manila) Philippine Islands, on 3 and 18 February 1945. During an assault river crossing a soldier was painfully wounded by intense hostile fire. Captain Lutz, a battalion staff officer, immediately went to the man's aid. Although subjected to heavy enemy machine gun and rifle fire, he administered first aid and dragged the man to a sheltered position. On another occasion during an assault on an enemy-held building, Captain Lutz led a tank forward and directed its fire on point targets. Although bullets from enemy machine guns struck in and around his post, Captain Lutz remained in this exposed position until the tank reduced the enemy gun emplacements. His intrepidity and willingness to expose himself under fire proved an inspiration to the men around him".

2nd Silver Star (posthumous)

"While moving along a road with a motorized reconnaissance party near*** (Ilagen, Luzon) on 19 June 1945, Captain (already posted Major; orders in transit) Lutz detected two well-camouflaged enemy tanks off to the side of the road. One of the tanks was severely damaged and appeared harmless. The other showed no signs of having been fired upon and was parked so that its guns covered the road. Captain Lutz, suspecting that the tank was still manned, decided to investigate. He approached the tank with another officer, mounted it, and thrust open the turret, and emptied a clip from his pistol into the tank, killing several enemy soldiers. He then jumped to the ground, telling his companion that he was going to organize a patrol to investigate the sector for additional enemy soldiers. Just as he dashed onto the road, several Japanese light machine guns opened fire, and he was killed instantly. Captain Lutz's outstanding courage and alertness in discovering a hostile ambush saved many American lives".

MARTIN, Clifford Eunice

COMPANY B, 124TH INFANTRY
(Dade County)

Born: 21 July 1916 Whigham, Georgia.

Martin lived in Miami, had finished grammar school and worked as a mechanic earning \$21 per week when he enlisted in Company B, 124th Infantry Regiment 11 July 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 503RD PARACHUTE INFANTRY REGIMENT, 11TH AIRBORNE DIVISION.

His next of kin included Lottie Martin, mother, Miami, Florida. (He was married but separated at the time of death).

KILLED IN ACTION, 17 September 1943, Southwest Pacific.

503rd Parachute Infantry

11th Airborne Division

(Although listed as part of the 11th Airborne Division, the 503rd operated separately and arrived in the Pacific nearly a year before the division arrived. The 503rd was used extensively during the campaign in New Guinea. During September 1943, the regiment was employed at Nazdab to secure a forward base for American and Australian forces under General Douglas MacArthur. MARTIN was killed the last day of deployment and action in the Nazdab area).

MATHEWS, Arthur Franklin

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY, 2ND BATTALION, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Polk County)

Born: 4 December 1920 Bartow, Florida.

Mathews had completed one year of high school, lived in Bartow and worked as a student and clerk when he enlisted in Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion, 116th Field Artillery 24 January 1939. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 508TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM, attached to the 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION. He was a Corporal at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 12 June 1944, Normandy, France.

508th Parachute Infantry

82nd Airborne Division

(The 508th had been part of the airborne assault on Normandy, D-Day, the 6th of June 1944. Engaged in bitter fighting against strong German resistance, the 508th was reinforced and designated a Task Force 12 June and made a combat crossing of the Douve River at Beuzeville-la-Bastille the night of 12-13 June. Mathews was killed in the action.

MCGAHEE, Huton

COMPANY F, 124TH INFANTRY
(Duval County)

Born: 4 February 1919 Williamson, Georgia.

McGahee was a high school graduate living in Jacksonville working as a truck driver earning \$15 per week when he first enlisted in Company F, 124th Infantry Regiment. He was inducted into federal service as a Corporal 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 12TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a 2nd Lieutenant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Hattie McGahee, mother, Jacksonville, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 5 July 1944 Normandy, France.

12th Infantry Regiment

4th Infantry Division

(Following its participation in the capture of Cherbourg, the 12th Infantry, as part of the 4th Division, was employed in the bitter hedgerow fighting in the area of Periers, Normandy, France where McGahee was killed).

MCMILLAN, James Kilby

COMPANY I, 124TH INFANTRY
(Manatee County)

Born: 4 February 1919 Crawfordville, Florida.

McMillan had completed one year of high school, lived in Terra Ceia, and worked as a farmer when he enlisted in Company I, 124th

Infantry Regiment 18 November 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 300TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 94TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included James McMillan, father, Terra Ceia, Florida.

DIED NON-BATTLE; 17 June 1943 Fort Benning, Georgia.

300th Infantry Regiment

94th Infantry Division

MCNAMARA, George Paul

COMPANY C, 124TH INFANTRY
(Palm Beach County)

Born: 7 September 1915 Hoboken, New Jersey.

McNamara had completed two years of high school, working as a stock clerk for \$18 per week in West Palm Beach at the time he enlisted in Company C, 124th Infantry Regiment 23 September 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 117TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION.

His next of kin included Mary McNamara, grandmother, New York City, New York.

KILLED IN ACTION; 9 July 1944, St. Lo, Normandy, France.

117th Infantry Regiment

30th Infantry Division

(The 30th Division had been involved in the costly and bitter hedgerow fighting in Normandy for more than a month. The division was advancing row by row in the Hauts-Vents region, west of St. Lo when they had to stop a strong German counter-attack on the 9th of July, the day of McNamara's death).

MCRORY, George Whitfield

HEADQUARTERS, 31ST INFANTRY DIVISION
(Jackson County)

STATE OF FLORIDA
MILITARY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
STATE ARSENAL, ST. AUGUSTINE

January 21, 1946.

GENERAL ORDERS,
No. 1.

1. Announcement is made with profound regret of the death of Lieutenant Colonel George Whitfield McRory, 0-286 320, Florida National Guard (Colonel Army of the United States), which occurred at Marianna, Florida, on 19 January 1946.

Colonel McRory was born at Monticello, Florida, on August 9, 1897. He enlisted May 15, 1929, and served with Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, and Company "D", 124th Infantry. Appointed 1st Lieutenant of Infantry April 14, 1931, and assigned as Aide, 62nd Infantry Brigade. Promoted Captain of Infantry April 24, 1933, and assigned as Adjutant, 62nd Infantry Brigade. Promoted Major of Infantry February 27, 1939, and assigned as Executive Officer, 62nd Infantry Brigade. Promoted Lieutenant Colonel of Infantry August 1, 1940, and assigned as Executive Officer, 62nd Infantry Brigade. Transferred to Headquarters 31st Infantry Division as Plans and Training Officer on November 13, 1940. Inducted into Active military service of the United States on 25 November 1940. He participated in Normandy Campaign; Northern France and Belgium Campaigns; Invasion of Germany. He was awarded European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon; American Defense Ribbon; Bronze Star Medal; Three Campaign Clasps on ETO Ribbon. Colonel McRory was relieved from Active duty on 30 May 1945, at Finney General Hospital, Thomasville, Georgia, due to physical disability.

He was promoted Colonel, Army of the United States on November 28, 1945.

Funeral services will be held at Marianna, Florida, Tuesday, 22 January 1946. Interment will be at Monticello, Florida.

In the death of Colonel McRory the National Guard of the State of Florida has lost a friend and staunch champion, and the State of Florida a distinguished citizen and able soldier.

As a mark of respect the flags at the Marianna Armory, and at the State Arsenal, will be displayed at half staff on the day of the funeral.

BY COMMAND OF THE GOVERNOR:

VIVIAN COLLINS,
The Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

J. B. ROUSSEAU,
*Major, Retired,
Assistant.*

MERRILL, William K.

COMPANY A, 124TH INFANTRY
(Dade County)

Born: 26 February 1921 Windsor, Connecticut.

Merrill had completed one year of high school, lived in Miami and worked for Western Union for \$15 per week at the time he enlisted in Company A, 124th Infantry Regiment 27 June 1939. He was inducted into federal service as a Corporal 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 108TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 40TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Captain at the time of his death.

His next of kin included P.W. Merrill, father, Miami, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 27 March 1945, Philippine Islands.

108th Infantry Regiment

40th Infantry Division

(The 40th Division was heavily engaged in the central Luzon Campaign, especially near the Bamban Hills. Later, the 108th was detached from the division and sent to Leyte Island to assist in clearing out the remaining Japanese from the hills in the southern part of the island and from Masbate Island offshore. Merrill was killed during these operations).

MICHELSON, David Anthony

BATTERY D, 265TH COAST ARTILLERY
(Volusia County)

Born: 6 July 1918 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Michelson had completed two years of high school, lived in Daytona and worked as a grocery clerk at the time of his enlistment in Battery D, 265th Coast Artillery 22 October 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 6 January 1941. Later he was assigned to the 850TH BOMB SQUADRON, 801ST BOMB GROUP. He was a 1st Lieutenant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included William and Agnes Michelson, parents, Daytona, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 18 July 1944, Marigny, France.

850th Bomb Squadron

801st Bomb Group

(The 850th operated B-17 heavy bombers out of bases in England as part of the 8th Air Force. They attacked strategic targets in Germany and those parts of northern Europe occupied by the Nazis. During July of 1944, the group was also employed against tactical targets in support of Allied ground forces in Normandy. on the 18th of July, the 801st, with others, was sent against strategic targets in northern Germany including the port of Kiel and Cuxhaven and the Hemmingstedt oil refineries. Three B-17's, including Michelson's, were lost to enemy action).

MILTON, Johnnie James

COMPANY H, 124TH INFANTRY
(Columbia County)

Born: 8 April 1920 Baker County, Florida.

Milton had completed one year of high school and lived in Lake City when he first enlisted in Company H, 124th Infantry Regiment 13 September 1936. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 117TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included R.M. Milton, father, Lake City, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 13 July 1944, St. Lo, Normandy, France.

117th Infantry Regiment

30th Infantry Division

(The division had been engaged in the heavy fighting in the Normandy hedgerow country in and near the important road junction of St. Lo. Regiments of the division fought a slow and costly battle for the country north and west of this important city and the 13th was one of many days noted as one of small gains at heavy cost against a well-entrenched and tenacious enemy).

MINX, Earl Otho Jr.

COMPANY C, 124TH INFANTRY
(Palm Beach County)

Born: 9 September 1914 Kissimmee, Florida.

Minx was a high school graduate living in West Palm Beach working as a grocery clerk earning \$20 per week when he enlisted in Company C, 124th Infantry Regiment. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. He served with the re-established 124TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 31ST INFANTRY DIVISION in the Southwest Pacific.

His next of kin included Mrs. S.E. Moore, mother, West Palm Beach, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 22 July 1944, Aitape, New Guinea.

124th Infantry Regiment

31st Infantry Division

(The 124th was engaged in the Drinimour River Campaign at Aitape for which it earned its first Distinguished Unit Citation. The fighting on the 13th involved stopping a local Japanese attack attempting to regain the crossings over the Drinimour River).

3RD BATTALION, 124TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

31st Infantry Division, General Order Number 156
20 September 1945

The 3rd Battalion, 124th Infantry, is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action near Aitape, British New Guinea, during the period 12 July 1944 to 7 August 1944. On 12 July 1944, the 3rd Battalion, after a forced march of 12 miles, routed an enemy-held position east of the X-Ray River to secure a line of departure, to launch a counterattack to restore the line of the Drinimour River, which had been penetrated by a determined fanatical enemy force the previous day. The 3rd Battalion, with an exposed right flank, led the attack and by strong aggressive action reached its objective late in the afternoon of 13 July 1944. This battalion was subjected to intense automatic and small arms fire from three exposed flanks throughout the night, as other elements of the combat team had been delayed by a strong enemy force and could not close in on the objective. On 14 July 1944, the 3rd Battalion in an advance to close the left flank of the unit on their right, met sudden intensified enemy resistance from all directions. The 3rd Battalion fighting with sheer determination under the most adverse circumstances finally overpowered the enemy killing 168 enemy and severed and strongly secured the enemy's main supply route. This feat was accomplished so swiftly that an enemy supply train continued to advance down the trail directly into the strongest sector of the 3rd Battalion's perimeter, resulting in 131 enemy dead littering the trail and river bed. Shortly before daybreak on 16 July the 3rd Battalion was attacked by a well organized enemy force from the rear followed by a similar attack supported by mortar fire on the right flank by an enemy force occupying positions previously prepared by friendly troops. The opposition in that direction was quickly neutralized and one company of the Battalion counterattacked to the right and drove the enemy from their position where 416 enemy were killed. Early on the morning of 21 July 1944, the enemy launched a vicious coordinated attack on the front and rear-defense of the 3rd Battalion. There followed the most fanatical fighting up to this time as the enemy attacked the well defended positions of the battalion time and time again, only to be repulsed by a superior force. On 31 July 1944, the entire regi-

ment, reinforced by an infantry battalion, launched a counter-attack, to the east toward Niumen Creek, to relieve the pressure on the extreme southern flank and to secure a position from which the enemy could be enveloped and cut off. The 3rd Battalion on the extreme right flank of three battalions abreast with the reinforcing battalion following reached its objective early in the afternoon of 1 August 1944. Turning south the 3rd Battalion encountered well prepared positions and the advance was halted due to the bitter opposition. Following the engagement 99 enemy dead were counted. The advance to the south continued through dense jungle, rough and swampy terrain, with the 3rd Battalion reaching the Afua Trail far in advance of the battalion on its right. On 5 August 1944, while attacking south on Niumen Creek, the 3rd Battalion contacted strong dug-in positions, but by aggressive action digging the enemy from caves and spider fox-holes in solid rock, continued to advance until 1500. Heavy mortar fire was received during the night and the enemy launched a vigorous counterattack which was quickly repulsed by the 3rd Battalion. Immediately afterwards, the 3rd Battalion launched an attack fixing the enemy in position, while another battalion flanked to the enemy's left; then a vicious coordinated attack was launched, destroying and routing an estimated reinforced battalion, accounting for 425 enemy dead. As a result of the strenuous action on 5 and 6 August the whole enemy force was practically annihilated and the disorganized remnants of the force trapped. The 3rd Battalion was in constant contact with the desperate enemy force during the period of 13 July to 7 August 1944. The aggressive action of the 3rd Battalion, relentlessly driving the enemy through mud, swamps, dense jungle growth and over rough mountainous terrain during heavy prevailing rains, never allowing the enemy to consolidate and reorganize, played a major role in the liberation of Aitape and established another "stepping stone" for Allied armies to advance to the other strategic islands to the north. During this period the 3rd Battalion accounted for approximately 1300 enemy dead. The conspicuous gallantry and the outstanding performance of duty from 13 July to 7 August 1944 by all personnel of the 3rd Battalion, 124th Infantry Regiment, reflects great credit upon themselves and the Battalion and upholds the highest traditions of the service.

MOORE, William G.

COMPANY C, 124TH INFANTRY
(Palm Beach County)

Born: 24 April 1920 Cordelle, Georgia.

Moore was a high school graduate living in West Palm Beach when he enlisted in Company C, 124th Infantry Regiment 9 October 1939. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940.

His next of kin included Mrs. S.E. Moore, mother, West Palm Beach, Florida.

DIED NON-BATTLE; Date, location and unit assignment at time of death are unknown.

MULLANEY, Harrell Lee

BATTERY F, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Polk County)

Born 9 February 1915 Brinson, Georgia.

Mullaney was a high school graduate living in Winter Haven working as a telegraph operator earning \$40 per week when he first enlisted in Battery F, 116th Field Artillery. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 376TH PARACHUTE ARTILLERY, 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mrs. James Mullaney, mother, Winter Haven, Florida.

DIED OF WOUNDS; 15 February 1944, Nettuno, Italy.

376th Parachute Artillery

82nd Airborne Division

(The 82nd was part of the assault force in the Anzio Beachhead, Italy during January 1944. The division was heavily engaged in attacks against German positions along the Mussolini Canal. Mullaney died as a result of wounds received in that fighting).

NELSON, Laudies Ira Jr.

BATTERY B, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Hillsborough County)

Born: 3 May 1919 Tampa, Florida.

Nelson had completed two years of high school, lived in Tampa and worked as a truck and tractor driver earning \$19 per week when he enlisted in Battery B, 116th Field Artillery 26 June 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 712TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION. He was a Corporal at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mr. and Mrs. L.I. Nelson, parents,
Tampa, Florida.

DIED OF WOUNDS; 19 September 1944, Germany.

712th Tank Destroyer Battalion

(It is not known exactly where Nelson received the wounds from which he died but it is thought to have been in the severe conflict for river bridgeheads and other objectives associated with the Lorraine Campaign of the U.S. Third Army).

NETTLES, George Monroe

SERVICE COMPANY, 124TH INFANTRY
(St. Johns County)

Born: 22 February 1922 Smoaks, South Carolina.

Nettles had completed grammar school, lived in St. Augustine and worked as a plumber earning \$12 per week when he enlisted in Service Company, 124th Infantry Regiment. He was inducted into federal service as a Sergeant 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 119TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Staff Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Lois Nettles, ne Mrs. Lois Wainwright, sister of St. Augustine, Florida and four other sisters and two brothers of various locations.

KILLED IN ACTION; (Two dates given in the records); 27 August and 3 September 1944, France.

119th Infantry Regiment

30th Infantry Division

(Although two possible dates are given, Nettles is more likely to have been killed in the fighting around Mons, Belgium (just over the French border) while Allied Armies pursued the retreating Germans. Even though retreating, the Germans managed several savage delaying fights to slow Allied Armies, including one near Mons 2-3 September 1944).

NEWSOME, Witmer Wilbur

COMPANY K, 124TH INFANTRY
(Seminole County)

Born: 4 August 1920 Waycross, Georgia.

Newsome had completed grammar school, was resident in Sanford and working as a truck driver and Western Union Deliveryman earning \$12 per week when he enlisted in Company K, 124th Infantry Regiment 29 July 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 12TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Nora Newsome, mother, Sanford, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 13 June 1944, Normandy, France.

12th Infantry Regiment

4th Infantry Division

(The 4th Division had landed at Utah Beach on D-Day, the 6th of June 1944. After establishing contact with the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions, the 4th became part of the attack force fighting for control of the Cotentin Peninsula and its capital city, Cherbourg. It was during the early portion of this campaign that Newsome was killed).

NICHOLSON, Jack McClain

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 124TH INFANTRY
(Duval County)

Born: 17 January 1917 St. Louis, Missouri.

Nicholson was a high school graduate living in Jacksonville and working as a truck driver and later as a salesman when he first enlisted in Howitzer Company, 124th Infantry Regiment 12 April 1932. (Apparently only 15 years old). He was the recipient of the Florida Service Medal and had received a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in 1938 but was inducted into federal service as a 1st Sergeant 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 9TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 2ND INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a 1st Lieutenant at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 29 August 1944, Brest, Brittany, France.

9th Infantry Regiment

2nd Infantry Division

(The 2nd Division had been deeply involved in the hedgerow country of Normandy north of St. Lo from 7 June until the breakout in July. Later, the division was made part of the assault force sent to capture the heavily defended city of Brest on the tip of the Brittany Peninsula. Nicholson was killed in the early assaults on the outer defenses of that city).

NORRIS, Willard P.

COMPANY H, 124TH INFANTRY
(Columbia County)

Born: 11 November 1919 Lake City, Florida.

Norris had completed three years of high school and lived in Lake City when he enlisted in Company H, 124th Infantry Regiment 3 September 1940. He was inducted as a Private into federal service 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 179TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 45TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included E. I. and Zola Norris, parents, Lake City, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 3 June 1944 Cecchina, Italy.

179th Infantry Regiment

45th Infantry Division

(The division had been engaged in extremely heavy fighting in the Anzio Beachhead and, when the Allies broke out of the position, the 45th Division advanced up the Albano Road toward Rome. During the 3-4th of June, the 179th assault-crossed the Tibur River and secured crossing points north of Rome, during which action Norris was killed).

NORSWORTHY, Arthur G.

COMPANY H, 124TH INFANTRY
(Columbia County)

Born: 17 November 1915, Jacksonville, Florida.

Norsworthy had completed two years of high school when he first enlisted in Company H, 124th Infantry Regiment 6 March 1934. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940.

His next of kin included Mrs. A. G. Norsworthy, mother, Lake City, Florida.

DIED NON-BATTLE; 21 December 1940, auto accident west of Starke, Florida. (He was on his way home for the Christmas Holidays).

OGDEN, Ernest E.

BATTERY E, 265TH COAST ARTILLERY
(Monroe County)

Born: 11 April 1921 Key West, Florida.

Ogden had completed one year of high school, lived in Key West and worked as a laborer at the time of his enlistment in Battery E, 265th Coast Artillery Regiment 16 November 1939. He was inducted into federal service 6 January 1941 as a Private 1st Class. Later he was assigned to the 505TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY, 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION.

His next of kin included Pedro Aguilar, uncle, Key West, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 30 April 1945 Wentischtum, Germany.

505th Parachute Infantry

82nd Airborne Division

(The division had been engaged in the combat crossing of the Roer River and subsequent operations north of the Ruhr Pocket. In late April 1945, the division attacked the remnants of the German 21st Army near the Elbe River in extreme northern Germany. On the 30th, the 505th, using British amphibian craft, makes an assault crossing of the river against light resistance in the Bandekow area, on the way to the Baltic coast, an action that claimed the life of Ogden).

O'QUINN, Milton F.

BATTERY A, 265TH COAST ARTILLERY
(Duval County)

Born: 24 September 1920 Brunswick, Georgia.

O'Quinn was living in Jacksonville and attending Andrew Jackson High School at the time he enlisted in Battery A, 265th Coast Artillery 9 February 1938. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 6 January 1941. O'Quinn went with the Regiment to Galveston, Texas where he captained the football team. Later he served at Fort Benning and then was assigned to the 504TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY REGIMENT, 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION. O'Quinn had received his first Purple Heart Medal in Sicily. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Annie Ogden, mother, and Francis, wife, both of Jacksonville, Florida and seven sisters and two brothers, various locations.

DIED OF WOUNDS; 10 February 1944, Nettuno, Italy.

504th Parachute Infantry

82nd Airborne Division

(Following a spell of heavy combat against the Germans in the Mountains of central Italy, the 504th Regiment was sent to the Anzio Beachhead where it fought a series of severe offensive-defensive battles along the Mussolini Canal during which Ogden received the wounds on the 9th of February from which he died the following day).

QUIMETTE, Edward J.

BATTERY E, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Hillsborough County)

Born: 18 March 1907 Danvers, Massachusetts.

Quimette had completed one year of high school when he first enlisted in Battery E, 116th Field Artillery Regiment 1 June 1931. He lived in Tampa and worked as a farmer, painter and truck driver. He was awarded the Florida Active State Service Medal in 1932. He was inducted into federal service 25 November

1940. As part of the 2nd Battalion of the 116th, their unit designation was changed to the 149TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION, 31ST INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included O.J. Ouimette, father, Danvers, Massachusetts.

DIED OF WOUNDS; 10 August 1944 Aitape, New Guinea.

149th Field Artillery

31st Infantry Division

(The 149th had been providing artillery support for the 124th Infantry Regimental Combat Team during the Drinimour River Campaign near Aitape, New Guinea. Ouimette received the wounds from which he died during the final days of the campaign).

PALMES, Jere F.

SERVICE COMPANY, 124TH INFANTRY
(St. Johns County)

Born: 5 August 1919 Pensacola, Florida.

Palmes was a high school graduate living in the St. Augustine area working as a farmer earning \$12 per week at the time he enlisted in Service Company, 124th Infantry Regiment 15 July 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 1st Class 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 222ND INFANTRY REGIMENT, 42ND INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Captain at the time of his death.

His next of kin included R.B. Palmes, father, St. Augustine, Florida. A memorial service was devoted to Palmes on the 13th of May 1945 at the Memorial Presbyterian Church of St. Augustine.

KILLED IN ACTION; 25 April 1945, Donauwoerth, Germany.

(The 42nd Division entered combat late in December 1944. They were heavily engaged in fighting for the West Wall defences and later in the drive to defeat German forces in Southern Germany leading to a combat crossing of the Upper Danube River 25 April, the day of Palmes death).

222nd Infantry Regiment

42nd Infantry Division

PARKER, Billy D.

COMPANY B, 124TH INFANTRY
(Dade County)

Born: 4 March 1921 Winter Haven, Florida.

Parker had completed one year of high school, lived in Miami and worked as an electricians helper when he enlisted in Company B, 124th Infantry Regiment 11 December 1939. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 1st Class 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 325TH GLIDER INFANTRY REGIMENT, 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION. He was a Private at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mrs. W.D. Parker, mother, Miami, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 7 June 1944, Normandy, France.

325th Glider Infantry

82nd Airborne Division

(The 82nd had been part of the airborne assault on German defences D-Day, the 6th of June 1944. Units of the division were scattered in the Caratan Peninsula and the 325th was sent in to help the division expand its aerial bridgehead and repel very strong German counter-attacks near Ste. Mere-Eglise, Normandy, 7 June 1944).

PARRA, Roy P.

BATTERY A, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Hillsborough County)

Born: 20 September 1919 Tampa, Florida.

Parra had completed grammar school and lived in Tampa when he first enlisted in Battery A, 116th Field Artillery 17 November 1937. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 702ND TANK DESTROYER BATTALION. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mrs. M.M. Chaney, aunt, Tampa, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 21 November 1944 Uebach, Germany. (Personnel records indicate a death in the Southwest Pacific but this is unlikely as the unit served only in Europe).

702nd Tank Destroyer Battalion

(It is not known where the battalion was serving during November but there was heavy fighting everywhere along the front extending from the Swiss border in the south to the Rhine River border of Holland).

PERSONS, Herbert William

COMPANY K, 124TH INFANTRY
(Orange County)

Born: 11 July 1919 Sellersburg, Indiana.

Persons had completed grammar school, lived in Orlando and worked as an office clerk when he enlisted in Company K, 124th Infantry Regiment 14 June 1939. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 167TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 31ST INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Helen Persons, mother, Orlando, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 15 May 1945 Mindanao, Philippine Islands.

167th Infantry Regiment

31st Infantry Division

(The 31st Division was committed to destroying Japanese forces in central Mindanao, Philippine Islands during the spring and summer of 1945. In April and May, the 167th attacked up the Sayre Highway, the fighting for the Colgan Woods and along the Talamo Trail where Persons was killed).

PETERSON, Noel Braxton

COMPANY E, 124TH INFANTRY
(Suwanee County)

Born: 29 April 1908 Branford, Florida.

Peterson was a high school graduate living in O'Brien and working as a carpenter earning \$20 per week when he enlisted in Company E, 124th Infantry Regiment 12 October 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940, released to state control in November 1941 and called back to active duty January 1942. Later, he was assigned to the 8TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 10 June 1944 Normandy, France.

8th Infantry Regiment

4th Infantry Division

(The division was heavily engaged in expanding American positions in the Carentan region, Normandy against severe German resistance. In cooperation with the 82nd Airborne Division, units of the 4th attacked enemy positions near Montebourg. The 8th Infantry successfully gained its objectives along the Le Ham-Montebourg highway during which action Peterson was killed).

PHILLIPS, Roscoe DeWitt

COMPANY B, 124TH INFANTRY
(Dade County)

Born: 22 January 1920 Colquitt, Georgia.

Phillips was a high school graduate living in Miami working as a carpenter earning \$14 per week when he enlisted in Company B, 124th Infantry Regiment 14 October 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940.

His next of kin included Mrs. L.L. Phillips, mother, Colquitt, Georgia.

DIED NON-BATTLE; Date, location and unit assignment at the time of his death are not known.

PIERCE, Shelton Houston

COMPANY G, 124TH INFANTRY
(Duval County)

Born: 27 May 1915 Charlotte, North Carolina.

Pierce had completed three years of high school, lived in Jacksonville and worked for the General Mills Corporation when he first enlisted in Company G, 124th Infantry Regiment 9 June 1933. He was inducted into federal service as a 2nd Lieutenant 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 585TH BOMB SQUADRON, 394TH BOMB GROUP. He was a 1st Lieutenant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mrs. Pierce, mother, Jacksonville, Florida.

DIED NON-BATTLE; 12 July 1943, crash of his medium bomber near Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

585th Bomb Squadron

394th Bomb Group

POWERS, Joseph Elbert

COMPANY E, 106TH MEDICAL REGIMENT
(Lee County)

Born: 21 February 1915 Fort Myers, Florida.

Powers was a high school graduate living in Ft. Myers working as a nailer at the time he enlisted in Company E, 106th Medical Regiment 10 October 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Estelle Powers, mother, Ft. Myers, Florida.

DIED NON-BATTLE; 2 November 1944 of hepatitis, location and unit assignment at time of death are not known.

PREESCHL, Donald Richard

COMPANY A, 124TH INFANTRY
(Dade County)

Born: 25 April 1917 Waycross, Wisconsin.

Preeschl had completed two years of high school, lived in Miami and worked as an interior decorator when he enlisted in Company A, 124th Infantry Regiment 23 November 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 134TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 35TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He left for overseas 6 April 1944.

KILLED IN ACTION; 10 November 1944, Fresnes-en-Saulnois, France.

134th Infantry Regiment

35th Infantry Division

(The division entered combat near St. Lo, Normandy during July of 1944. Following defensive-offensive fighting near Mortain, the division helped force German positions in eastern France. During early November, the division crossed the Seille River and fought a severe battle for control of the Bois d'Amelecourt and the capture of the Forest of the Chateau Salins, 10-11 November 1944, during which battle Preeschl was killed).

PREVATT, John Paul

COMPANY E, 124TH INFANTRY
(Suwanee County)

Born: 5 June 1915 Pinemount, Florida.

Prevatt had completed grammar school and lived in Pinemount working as a farmer earning \$10 per week when he enlisted in Company E, 124th Infantry Regiment 9 October 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 314TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 79TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Jennie Prevatt, mother, Pinemount, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 19 November 1944 Barbas, France.

314th Infantry Regiment

79th Infantry Division

(The division had been heavily engaged in combat operations since the second week in June 1944. During September and October, the division forced the Germans back from positions along the Moselle River. Beginning 13 November, the 314th assaulted German defenses in the Montigny area, forcing the Vezouse and capturing Fremonville on the road to Strasburg the 19th, the day of Prevatt's death).

PURDY, Clayton David

COMPANY H, 124TH INFANTRY
(Columbia County)

Born: 12 March 1919 Mineola, Georgia.

Purdy had completed six years of grammar school and lived in Lake City working as a dishwasher when he enlisted in Company H, 124th Infantry Regiment 25 September 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 12TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Seymour Purdy, father, Lake City, Florida.

DIED OF WOUNDS; 11 June 1944 Normandy, France.

12th Infantry Regiment

4th Infantry Division

(The division was deeply involved in expanding American positions in the Caratan region, Normandy, France. On the 10th of June, the 12th Infantry successfully forced German positions below Montebourg-Quineville road east of Montebourg, setting the pace for the entire division. Purdy received the wounds from which he died the next day).

RABB, Elwood Gerald

BATTERY F, 265TH COAST ARTILLERY
(Monroe County)

Born: 27 September 1920 Miami, Florida.

Rabb had completed three years of high school and lived in Miami working as a mechanic's helper at \$15 per week when he enlisted in Battery F, 265th Coast Artillery. He was inducted into federal service 6 January 1941. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Henry Rabb, father, Miami, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; date, location and unit assignment at time of death are not known.

ROBERTS, Charles E.

BATTERY E, 265TH COAST ARTILLERY
(Monroe County)

Born: 23 June 1921 Key West, Florida.

Roberts had completed two years of high school, lived in Key West and worked as a laborer when he enlisted in Battery E, 265th Coast Artillery 16 November 1939. He was inducted into federal service 6 January 1940 as a Private 1st Class. He was a Technician 5th Class at the time of his death.

DIED NON-BATTLE; date, location and unit assignment at the time of his death are not known.

RODRIGUEZ, William David

BATTERY A, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Hillsborough County)

Born: 25 April 1965 Tampa, Florida.

Rodriguez had completed one year of high school, lived in Tampa and worked as a truck driver earning \$18 per week when he enlisted in Battery A, 116th Field Artillery 18 September 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. He was a Private at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mini Lee Rodriguez, mother, Tampa, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; date, location and unit assignment at the time of his death are not known.

ROGERS, John Wesley Jr.

COMPANY E, 124TH INFANTRY
(Suwanee County)

Born: 25 March 1922 Suwanee County.

Rogers had completed six years of grammar school and lived in Live Oak working as a grocery clerk earning \$9 per week when he enlisted in Company E, 124th Infantry Regiment 15 May 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 155TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 31ST INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mrs. Jewel Horne, mother, Live Oak, Florida.

DIED OF WOUNDS; 30 August 1944, Maffin Bay, New Guinea.

155th Infantry Regiment

31st Infantry Division

(The 31st Division, less the 124th Infantry engaged at Aitape, assumed the defense of Maffin Bay as it prepared for the Moratal Island landings. There was offensive-defensive patrol action against Japanese troops in the area. During one such attack, Rogers received the wounds from which he died).

RUDD, James Denerson

COMPANY D, 124TH INFANTRY
(Seminole County)

Born: 19 February 1920 Okeechobee, Florida.

Rudd had completed six years of grammar school, lived in Longwood and worked as a truck driver when he enlisted in Company D, 124th Infantry Regiment 26 July 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Jane Rudd, mother, Longwood, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; date, location and unit assignment at the time of his death are not known.

RUSSELL, James Joseph

COMPANY E, 106TH ENGINEERS
(Franklin County)

Born: 16 August 1919 Millville, Florida.

Russell had completed two years of college and worked as a millright helper in Apalachicola when he enlisted in Company E, 106th Engineer Regiment. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Sergeant. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mr. and Mrs. James Russell, parents, Apalachicola, Florida.

DIED NON-BATTLE; date, location and unit assignment at time of death is unknown.

RYAN, John F.

BATTERY C, 265TH COAST ARTILLERY
(Escambia County)

Born: 24 July 1921 Highlands, New Jersey.

Ryan was a high school graduate living in Pensacola and working as a laborer when he enlisted in Battery C, 265th Coast Artillery 23 October 1939. He was inducted into federal service 6 January 1941. Later, he was assigned to the 20TH BOMB SQUADRON, 2ND BOMB GROUP. He was a Staff Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included John Ryan, father, Chicago, Illinois.

KILLED IN ACTION; 25 February 1944, Moosdorf, Austria.

20th Bomb Squadron

2nd Bomb Group

(The 2nd operated B-17 heavy bombers from bases in North Africa and Italy. Beginning in December 1943, the group was part of the Fifteenth Air Force attacking strategic targets in Germany and the other occupied countries of central and southern Europe. On their mission against a German aircraft factory in Steyr, Austria 24 February 1944, the group received a Distinguished Unit Citation for maintaining unit integrity and bombing their target in spite of extremely heavy enemy opposition. On a similar mission the very next day against Regensburg, Germany, the group received a second DUC. Ryan was killed on that mission).

SCOTT, Eldred Floyd

COMPANY I, 124TH INFANTRY
(Manatee County)

Born: 3 March 1922 Manatee, Florida.

Scott had completed eight years of grammar school, lived in Palmetto and worked as a laborer earning \$10 per week when he enlisted in Company I, 124th Infantry Regiment 9 September 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 179TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 45TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Lula Mae Scott, mother, Palmetto, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 14 January 1945 Mutterhouse, France.

179th Infantry Regiment

45th Infantry Division

(Following its long deployment in the Italian Campaign, the 45th moved to France. During December 1944 and January 1945, the Division was heavily engaged against very strong German defensive forces in Northeastern France and Rhineland, Germany. Scott was killed during the bitter struggle for the Bitchie Salient near Wingen on the Rothbach-Moder River lines).

SELLERS, Luther L.

COMPANY G, 124TH INFANTRY
(Duval County)

Born: 19 October 1920 Jacksonville, Florida.

Sellers had completed two years of high school, lived in Jacksonville and worked as a carpenter's helper for \$12 per week when he enlisted in Company G, 124th Infantry Regiment 16 September 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 301ST INFANTRY REGIMENT, 94TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sellers, parents, Jacksonville, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 27 February 1945 Freudenberg, Germany.

301st Infantry Regiment

94th Infantry Division

(The Division had entered combat status in Brittany, France during September 1944. From late December on, it was heavily engaged against German West Wall and Rhineland defensive positions. They saw severe fighting around and in Tettingen and the Bannholz Woods and made an assault crossing of the Saar River. It was during the fighting to hold and expand the Serrig-Taben Bridgehead over the Saar that Sellers was killed).

SHARPE, Robert C.

BATTERY F, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Duval County)

Born: 5 January 1919 Austin, Georgia.

Sharpe had completed six years of grammar school, lived in Lake Wales and worked in the citrus industry earning \$25 per week (in season) when he enlisted in Battery F, 116th Field Artillery 18 July 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940.

His next of kin included Lavelle Sharpe, wife, Lake Wales, Florida.

DIED NON-BATTLE; date, location and unit assignment at the time of death unknown.

SIMMONS, Bill

COMPANY H, 124TH INFANTRY
(Columbia County)

Born: 2 December 1921 Miami, Florida.

Simmons had completed six years of grammar school, lived in Jasper (Hamilton County) and worked as a farmer earning \$7 per week when he enlisted in Company H, 124th Infantry Regiment 13 September 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mrs. Hattie Dawes, Jasper, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 8 July 1944, Normandy, France.

4th Infantry Division

(The Division had been engaged in the bitter hedgerow fighting in the Carentan Peninsula, Normandy, France since D-Day. While no major attacks were launched by the Division the day Simmons was killed, there was considerable patrol and defensive action against local German forces).

SIMMONS, James S.

COMPANY K, 124TH INFANTRY
(Orange-Marion County)

Born: 9 May 1921 Enterprise, Alabama.

Simmons had completed six years of grammar school, lived in Winter Garden and worked for Wester Union when he enlisted in Company K, 124th Infantry Regiment 13 November 1939. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 313TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 79TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included J.M. Simmons, father, Winter Garden, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 6 July 1944, Normandy, France.

313th Infantry Regiment

79th Infantry Division

(Following its arrival in the Normandy Beachhead, the 79th Division was assigned objectives involving the capture of German strongpoints around the city of Cherbourg. In early July, the Division was sent down the west coast of the Cotentin Peninsula toward the strongly defended German positions at La Haye-du-Puits during which attack Simmons was killed).

SIRES, Charles Reed

COMPANY I, 124TH INFANTRY
(Manatee County)

Born: 1 November 1919 Milan, Tennessee.

Sires had completed seven years of grammar school, lived in Terra Ceia and worked on a farm earning \$15 per week when he enlisted in Company I, 124th Infantry Regiment 18 November 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 179TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 45TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Gerdun and May Sires, parents, Milan, Tennessee.

KILLED IN ACTION; 28 May 1944, Parano, Italy.

179th Infantry Regiment

45th Infantry Division

(The 45th Division had been engaged in combat in both the Sicilian and Southern Italian Campaigns. As part of the Anzio Beachhead forces, it had seen considerable and costly fighting for several months preceding the break-out in late May 1944. It was during the Division's advance on Rome along the Albano Road that Sires was killed).

SKINNER, Steve Earl

COMPANY E, 124TH INFANTRY
(Suwanee County)

Born: 9 March 1921 Columbus, Georgia.

Skinner had completed seven years of grammar school, lived in McAlpin and worked as a farmer at the time he enlisted in Company E, 124th Infantry Regiment 16 April 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin were his parents, McAlpin, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 29 November 1944 Germany. Unit assignment at the time of his death is not known.

SMITH, Boyd A.

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Pinellas County)

Born: 25 April 1907 Summerville, Florida.

Smith had completed one year of high school. lived in St. Petersburg and worked as an electrician for \$19 per week when he enlisted in Headquarters Battery, 116th Field Artillery. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940.

His next of kin included Paul Smith, brother, St. Petersburg, Florida.

DIED NON-BATTLE; date, location and unit assignment at time of death unknown.

SMITH, John Wesley

COMPANY D, 106TH ENGINEERS
(Bay County)

Born: 13 June 1921 Millville, Florida.

Smith was a high school graduate living in Millville working as a grocery clerk earning \$18 per week when he enlisted in Company D, 106th Engineers 26 October 1939. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 1st Class 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 428TH BOMB SQUADRON, 310TH BOMB GROUP. He was a Staff Sergeant at the time of his death.

KILLED IN ACTION; 24 December 1944 Sileareccio, Italy.

428th Bomb Squadron

310th Bomb Group

(The Group had been engaged in combat operations in the Mediterranean Theater since October-November 1942. They had participated in the North African, Sicilian and Italian Campaigns. Based in Italy after August 1943, their primary mission was attacking German positions and communications in Northern Italy. Smith was killed on a mission in very poor weather against German communications in the Po River Valley near Milan, Italy).

SMITH, Rubert

STATE STAFF
(Desoto County)

STATE OF FLORIDA
MILITARY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
STATE ARSENAL, ST. AUGUSTINE

August 30, 1944.

GENERAL ORDERS,
No. 3.

1. Announcement is made with profound regret of the death of Major Rupert Smith, 0207232, State Staff, Florida National Guard, which occurred at Lake City, Florida, on August 29, 1944.

Major Smith was born at Nocatee, DeSoto County, Florida, on September 29, 1889. He was appointed Captain of Infantry and assigned to Company "K", Second Florida Infantry, June 26, 1916. Drafted into Federal service on August 5, 1917, served at Arcadia, Florida, Camp Wheeler, Ga., Camp Jackson, S. C., Camp Gordon, Ga. Served overseas (France) from October 16, 1918, to December 20, 1918. Honorably discharged January 21, 1919. Appointed Captain Field Artillery September 3, 1923, and assigned to Battery "F", 116th Field Artillery. Transferred to 56th Field Artillery Brigade and assigned as Adjutant on October 23, 1924. Appointed Major, Field Artillery, July 8, 1937, and assigned as Ordnance Officer, State Staff Corps and Departments. Inducted into Active military service of the United States on October 10, 1940, and assigned to duty with State Headquarters Selective Service System of Florida.

Funeral services will be held at Arcadia, Florida, at 4.00 o'clock P.M., Saturday, September 2, 1944.

In the death of Major Smith the National Guard of the State of Florida has lost a friend and staunch champion, and the State of Florida a distinguished citizen and able soldier.

The Commanding Officer, Company "D", 6th Battalion, Florida State Guard, Arcadia, Florida, will provide a funeral escort and as a mark of respect the flags at the Arcadia Armory, and at the State Arsenal, will be displayed at half staff on the day of the funeral.

BY COMMAND OF THE GOVERNOR:

VIVIAN COLLINS,
The Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

J. B. ROUSSEAU,
*Major, Retired,
Assistant.*

SMITH, William Henry

COMPANY F, 124TH INFANTRY
(Duval County)

Born: 28 November 1917 Jacksonville, Florida.

Smith was a high school graduate living in Jacksonville working as a bookkeeper earning \$18 per week when he enlisted in Company F, 124th Infantry Regiment 30 March 1936. He was inducted into federal service as a Corporal 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 255TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 63RD INFANTRY DIVISION. He was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant 5 May 1942 and was a Captain at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mr. and Mrs. John Smith, Jacksonville, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 3 January 1945 Aachen, France.

255th Infantry Regiment

63rd Infantry Division

(The 63rd Division arrived in France in early December 1944 and two weeks later was engaged in combat operations in the Vosges-Magnot Line area of Northeastern France. During the first week in January, the Division helped stop a very strong German counter-attack in the Bitchie Salient area during which battle Smith was killed).

SPIVEY, Jasper C.

MEDICAL DETACHMENT, 124TH INFANTRY
(Seminole County)

Born: 8 August 1919 Webster, Florida.

Spivey had completed one year of high school, lived in Sanford and worked as a chauffeur earning \$12 per week at the time he enlisted in the Medical Detachment, 124th Infantry Regiment. Later he was assigned to the 120TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Technician 5th Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mrs. J.I. Spivey, mother, Sanford, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 25 July 1944 St. Lo, Normandy, France.

120th Infantry Regiment

30th Infantry Division

(Following weeks of heavy fighting in the Hedgerow country of Normandy, France near St. Lo, the Division was made part of the assault force for the breakout, Operation Cobra. The successful assault from positions along the Periers-St. Lo road were preceded by carpet bombing from Allied aircraft, some of which dropped short on American troops. Spivey was killed by the bombing or during the assault).

STEELE, James Elmo

COMPANY I, 124TH INFANTRY
(Manatee County)

Born: 1 October 1922 Palmetto, Florida.

Steele had completed two years of high school, lived in Palmetto and worked as a truck driver earning \$21 per week when he enlisted in Company I, 124th Infantry Regiment 2 October 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. He was later assigned to the 61ST ARMoured INFANTRY BATTALION, 10TH ARMoured DIVISION. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Lena Mae Steele, mother, Palmetto, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 5 December 1944 Reimbach, Germany.

61st Armoured Infantry Battalion

10th Armoured Division

(The 10th Armoured had entered combat in the Saar-Moselle Triangle area of Northeastern France during November 1944. During late November and early December, the Division was engaged in heavy fighting for Tettingen and in the drive to the Saar River opposite Merzig and in the capture of Dreisbach during which battle Steele was killed).

STEGALL, Kemp E.

COMPANY K, 124TH INFANTRY
(Orange County)

Born: 8 August 1916 Draper, North Carolina.

Stegall had completed two years of college, lived in Orlando and worked as an electrical engineer earning \$25 per week at the time he enlisted in Company K, 124th Infantry Regiment 15 July 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. He was later assigned to the 157TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 45TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mrs. Lillian Stegall, mother, Washington, DC.

KILLED IN ACTION; 25 March 1944 Italy.

157th Infantry Regiment

45th Infantry Division

(The 45th Division had been in the Anzio Beachhead from the beginning of the operation in February. Although there were no major battles the week of Stegall's death, there was constant "wasteage" from patrol and artillery action, even in the "quiet" times like mid-March 1944).

STEPHENS, Bernard Forrest

COMPANY A, 124TH INFANTRY
(Manatee County)

Born: 23 July 1915 Zanesville, Ohio.

Stevens lived in Miami when he enlisted in Company A, 124th Infantry Regiment 4 November 1940 and was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. He was an Aviation Cadet at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mrs. Catherine Stephens, mother, Miami, Florida.

DIED NON-BATTLE; date, location and unit assignment at the time of death is unknown.

STEVENS, Edwin Charles

COMPANY C, 124TH INFANTRY
(Palm Beach County)

Born: 4 July 1919 Smith Center, Kansas.

Stevens had completed two years of high school, lived in Lake Worth and worked as a cleaner for \$25 per week when he first enlisted in Company C, 124th Infantry Regiment 21 June 1937. He was inducted into federal service as a Corporal 25 November 1940. He was later assigned to the 119TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Lewis Stevens, father, Lake Worth, Florida.

DIED OF WOUNDS; 1 August 1944, St. Lo, Normandy, France.

119th Infantry Regiment

30th Infantry Division

(Following the breakout from the Normandy positions, Operation Cobra, which the 30th Division helped spearhead, the Division was assigned the objective of attacking toward the key German positions at Tessey. It was during the capture of the enemy strongpoint at Troisgots north of Tessey that Stevens was killed).

STRAUBEL, Eric Roy

BATTERY A, 265TH COAST ARTILLERY
(Orange County)

Born: 23 January 1920 Rutherford, New Jersey.

Straubel had completed three years of high school, lived in Orlando and worked as a cabinet maker for \$10 per week when he enlisted in Battery A, 265th Coast Artillery 4 September 1940. He was inducted into federal service 8 January 1941 and was a Private at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Eve Straubel, mother, Orlando, Florida.

DIED NON-BATTLE; date, location and unit assignment at time of death is unknown.

STRUTH, Elmo Rodman

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 124TH INFANTRY
(Bradford County)

Born: 16 March 1914 Waldo, Florida.

Struth had completed two years of high school, lived in Starke and worked as a storekeeper and assistant funeral director at the time he first enlisted in Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 124th Infantry Regiment 24 October 1933. He was inducted into federal service as a Technical Sergeant on 25 November 1940. He was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant at Fort Benning, Georgia 7 November 1941. Later he was assigned to the 300TH INFANTRY REGIMENT but went into combat with the 19TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Captain at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Lulu Struth, wife, James and Kathy, children, all of Starke, Florida and three brothers and six sisters of various locations.

DIED OF WOUNDS; 1 June 1945, Mindanao, Philippine Islands.

19th Infantry Regiment

24th Infantry Division

(The 24th Division saw limited service in the New Guinea and Biak Island Campaigns but was heavily, and widely, engaged in the Philippine Islands, landing in Leyte during October 1944 and subsequently serving in Mindoro, Luzon and Mindanao. Following the capture of Davao, the 24th was assigned the objective of clearing the Japanese out of the Talamo River Valley and the capture of Mandog, during which operation Struth was killed).

SUHRBIER, Leo Kenneth

COMPANY B, 124TH INFANTRY
(Dade County)

Born: 26 April 1917 Fairbanks, Iowa.

Suhrbier had completed three years of high school, lived in Miami and worked as a carpenter when he enlisted in Company B, 124th Infantry Regiment 31 January 1939. His combat service was with the 124TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 31ST INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mrs. T. Hamilton, Aunt, Miami, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 3 August 1944 Aitape, New Guinea.

124th Infantry Regiment

31st Infantry Division

(The 124th Infantry had been detached from the 31st Division to spearhead the Battle for the Drinumour River near Aitape, New Guinea, July-August 1944. It was during the crucial holding or "fixing" battle during which the regiment was able to turn the flank of the Japanese forces that Suhrbier was killed).

TAPLEY, Arthur Lee Jr.

COMPANY E, 124TH INFANTRY
(Suwanee County)

Born: 2 June 1922 Bineville, Gerogia.

Tapley had completed four years of grammar school, lived in Live Oak and worked as a truck driver earning \$6 per week at the time he enlisted in Company E, 124th Infantry Regiment 25 September 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940 as a Private. He was later assigned to the 15TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Ethel Tapley, mother, Live Oak, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 24 March 1944, Isola Della, Italy.

15th Infantry Regiment

3rd Infantry Division

(The 3rd Division had been heavily engaged in offensive-defensive activity in the Anzio Beachhead. There was no major battle the day Tapley died but there was continual patrol action and artillery fire against Allied positions throughout the day).

TAYLOR, John Simmons

COMPANY L, 124TH INFANTRY
(Manatee-Hardee County)

Born: 25 July 1921 Arcadia, Florida.

Taylor had completed eight years of grammar school, lived in Ona and worked as a farmer when he enlisted in Company L, 124th Infantry Regiment 12 November 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 157TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 45TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Alice Taylor, mother, Ona, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 14 February 1945 Conya, Italy. (This was almost certainly 1944 as the division was in Germany in 1945. The 1944 date would coincide with the battles of the Anzio Beachhead).

157th Infantry Regiment

45th Infantry Division

If the date really is 1945 and in Germany, not Italy, then the circumstances of Taylor's death would be as follows:
(During January and February 1945, the 45th Division was engaged in very heavy fighting near the Bitchie Pocket-Wingen-Althorn section of the Southern Rhineland. The 157th suffered heavy casualties at Reipertswweiler and the division pulled back and defended the Rothbach Rau-Moder River Line against heavy German counter-attacks during which battles Taylor was killed).

THOMAS, Paul Franklin

BATTERY C, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Hillsborough County)

Born: 1 September 1919 Plant City, Florida.

Thomas had completed two years of high school, lived in Tampa and worked as a truck driver earning \$10 per week when he enlisted in Battery C, 116th Field Artillery 18 September 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 757TH TANK BATTALION. He was a Corporal at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Linnie Thomas, mother, Tampa, Florida.

DIED OF WOUNDS; 23 May 1944 Ausonia, Italy.

757th Tank Battalion

(the 23rd of May was the first day of the massive Allied offensive to break the months-long deadlock in Italy. Simultaneously, attacks were mounted against the Hitler Line near Monte Cassino and from Allied positions in the Anzio Beachhead. The attacks were successful and Rome was liberated within two weeks. Thomas died of wounds received that first day).

TILLIS, Wiley Wilbur

COMPANY D, 124TH INFANTRY
(Seminole County)

Born: 2 April 1916 Sanford, Florida.

Tillis had completed eight years of grammar school, lived in Sanford and worked as a stockman when he first enlisted in Company D, 124th Infantry Regiment 23 April 1934. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. He was later assigned to the 30TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Roy Tillis, father, Sanford, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 10 March 1944 Parano, Italy.

30th Infantry Regiment

3rd Infantry Division

(The 3rd Division had been one of the assault divisions at Anzio and remained to assist in the months of bloody offensive-defensive activity that occurred within the beachhead in the months that followed. While the lines didn't move much, there was constant artillery fire, strong patrol and counter-patrol action and periodic struggles over strategic bits of real estate, all of it costly in lives. Tills died in that day by day battle).

TURNER, Emil

COMPANY I, 124TH INFANTRY
(Manatee County)

Born: 15 January 1916 Parrish, Florida.

Turner was a high school graduate working as a farmer earning \$12 per week in Palmetto when he enlisted in Company I, 124th Infantry Regiment 3 October 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. He was later assigned to the 155TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 31ST INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Corporal at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mrs. F.C. Turner, mother, Parrish, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 16 November 1944 Mapia, New Guinea.

155th Infantry Regiment

31st Infantry Division

(On the 15th of November 1944, elements of the 31st Division, now part of the newly created 8th Army, assaulted Mapia Island against light resistance. But the small Japanese garrison did fight the overwhelming American forces as Turner's death attests).

VARGAS, Lionel G.

BATTERY E, 265TH COAST ARTILLERY
(Monroe County)

Born: 24 September 1921 Key West, Florida.

Vargas had completed four years of grammar school and was living in Key West working as a laborer when he enlisted in Battery E, 265th Coast Artillery 16 November 1939. He was inducted into federal service 6 January 1941. He was a Technician 5th Class at the time of his death.

DIED NON-BATTLE; date, location and unit assignment at time of death are not known.

WAAS, Jack Martin

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 124TH INFANTRY
(Duval County)

Born: 19 December 1917 Jacksonville, Florida.

Waas had completed one year of high school, lived in Jacksonville when he first enlisted in Company F, 124th Infantry Regiment, 22 July 1935. Later, he transferred to Headquarters Company, completed more schooling and was working as a lineman earning \$28.50 per week when he re-enlisted in 1940. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he received a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant and was assigned to the 121ST INFANTRY REGIMENT, 8TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a 1st Lieutenant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Ethel Waas, mother, Jacksonville, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 17 September 1944 Brest, Brittany, France.

121st Infantry Regiment

8th Infantry Division

(Following its engagements in the hedgerow country of Normandy, the 8th Division was dispatched to the Brittany Peninsula. The 121st Infantry was detached to assist in the attack on Dinard, sealing the Germans in St. Malo the rejoined the Division for the assault on the strong German defenses of Brest. Waas was killed during the associated battle for Crozon, on the Crozon Peninsula).

WALLACE, Walter Morris

BATTERY C, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Hillsborough County)

Wallace had completed two years of high school and lived in Tampa when he first enlisted in Battery C, 116th Field Artillery 1 July 1938. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. Later, he was assigned to the 504TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY REGIMENT, 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION. He was a Private 1st Class at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Lillie Wallace, mother, Tampa, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 5 February 1944, Nettuno, Italy.

504th Parachute Infantry

82nd Airborne Division

(The 504th had been deeply engaged in the initial fighting against the German Winter Line north of Naples until it was committed to the Anzio Landings in January 1944. For the next several weeks, the regiment saw heavy combat and suffered substantial casualties helping defend the Mussolini Canal positions against extremely strong German counter-attacks during which Wallace was killed).

WALTER, Harry George

COMPANY A, 124TH INFANTRY
(Dade County)

Born: 26 October 1918 Stafford, Kansas.

Walter had completed two years of high school, lived in Miami and worked as a clerk earning \$18 per week when he enlisted in Company A, 124th Infantry Regiment 16 September 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. He was later assigned to the 119TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mrs. Minnie Walter, mother, Miami, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 27 November 1944, Germany.

119th Infantry Regiment

30th Infantry Division

(During the latter half of November 1944, the 30th Division was assigned the objective, with other U.S. forces, of penetrating German West Wall defenses west of the Roer River. Following the Battle of Warden, the 119th was sent to attack and clear the area between the Inde and Roer Rivers near Altkirche. During this battle, strongly resisted by the Germans, Walter was killed).

WALTHALL, Randall Payton

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, 1ST BATTALION, 124TH INFANTRY
(Seminole County)

Born: 17 September 1918 Boonesville, Mississippi.

Walthall had completed two years of high school, lived in Lake Mary and worked as a laborer at the time he enlisted in the Headquarters Detachment, 1st Battalion, 124th Infantry Regiment 28 January 1937. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 1st Class 25 November 1940. Later he was assigned to the 30TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Irene Walthall, mother, Lake Mary, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 24 April 1944 Parano, Italy.

30th Infantry Regiment

3rd Infantry Division

(The 3rd Division's long commitment to the Anzio Beachhead was very costly. Even at times when no major battles took place, units of the division were subjected to German artillery barrages and infantry assaults. Squad-sized units of the 3rd were also used daily in patrol and harrassing attacks against German positions. It was during such a period that Walthall was killed).

WARDEN, Alexander

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY, 1ST BATTALION, 265TH COAST ARTILLERY
(Duval County)

Born: 4 August 1919 Jacksonville, Florida.

Warden was a high school graduate living in Jacksonville working for Southern Bell earning \$25 per week at the time he enlisted in Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 265th Coast Artillery 26 January 1938. He was inducted into federal service 6 January 1941. He attended flight school at South Plains Army Air Base, Lubbock, Texas and was a Flight Officer at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mary Warden, mother, Jacksonville, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 24 March 1945. (Records do not so indicate but it is believed Warden was part of the flight crew for a Air Transport Squadron carrying American 17th Airborne Division troops as part of the Rhine River assault at Wesel, Germany 24 March 1945).

WARREN, William Earl

COMPANY M, 124TH INFANTRY
(Leon County)

Born: 13 December 1921 Wakulla, Florida.

Warren had completed two years of high school, lived in Wakulla and worked in a service station earning \$12 per week at the time he enlisted in Company M, 124th Infantry Regiment 9 September 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. His subsequent assignments are not known but he was reported died or killed in service during the war. His next of kin included Laura Warren, mother, Arran, Florida.

WEAVER, William Donald

COMPANY E, 124TH INFANTRY
(Suwanee County)

Born: 13 August 1915 Perry, Florida.

Weaver lived in Live Oak and worked as a grocery clerk earning \$15 per week at the time he enlisted in Company E, 124th Infantry Regiment 22 August 1934. He was inducted into federal service as a Corporal 25 November 1940. He was later assigned to the 119TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mrs. N.A. Weaver, mother, Live Oak, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 12 July 1944 St. Lo, Normandy, France.

119th Infantry Regiment

30th Infantry Division

(The 30th Division was deeply involved in the weeks-long and costly struggle to eject the Germans from the hedgerow country around and near the crucial road junction city of S. Lo. On the 12th of July, a divisional attack in the Pont Herbert area met strong German resistance and was stopped with heavy casualties, including Weaver).

WEINTRAUB, Bernard

MEDICAL DETACHMENT, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Hillsborough County)

Born: 2 September 1913 Tampa, Florida.

Weintraub was a high school graduate living in Tampa working in sales and as an ambulance driver when he first enlisted in the Medical Detachment, 116th Field Artillery 3 January 1934. He received the Active State Duty Medal. He was inducted into federal service as a Sergeant 25 November 1940. He was later assigned to the 125TH EVACUATION HOSPITAL. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Ruth Warren, sister, Tampa, Florida.

DIED; 21 December 1944 England.

125th Evacuation Hospital

WILLIAMS, Earl David

COMPANY L, 124TH INFANTRY
(Manatee County)

Born: 10 March 1917 Bartow, Florida.

Williams had completed six years of grammar school, lived in Manatee and was a millworker when he enlisted in Company L, 124th Infantry Regiment 7 February 1938. He was inducted into federal service as a Corporal 25 November 1940 and released to state duty 9 December 1941. He was recalled to federal service 19 January 1942. He was a Sergeant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Lillie Williams, mother, and Willie Mae Williams, wife, both of Manatee, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; date, location and unit assignment at time of death are not known.

WILLIAMS, Earnest Winfrey Jr.

COMPANY C, 124TH INFANTRY

(Palm Beach County)

Born: 21 August 1921 Bainbridge, Georgia.

Williams had completed three years of high school, lived in West Palm Beach and worked as a salesman earning \$20 per week when he enlisted in Company C, 124th Infantry Regiment 20 November 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. He was later assigned to the 117TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION. He was a Private at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Mrs. Jimmie Lee Williams, mother, West Palm Beach, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 16 July 1944 St. Lo, Normandy, France.

117th Infantry Regiment

30th Infantry Division

(Toward the end of the long struggle to capture St. Lo, Normandy, the 30th Division was holding the left flank of the Corps position east of St. Lo when units of the 29th Division had finally reached the outskirts of the city. Williams was killed during local defensive action. The city fell to American forces two days later).

WILLIAMS, Oscar M.

BATTERY D, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY
(Polk County)

Born: 12 January 1921 Lee, Florida.

Williams had completed three years of high school and was living in Lakeland when he enlisted in Battery D, 116th Field Artillery 5 February 1939. He was inducted into federal service 25 November 1940. He received a commission as 2nd Lieutenant 25 June 1943. He was a 2nd Lieutenant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included C.F. Williams, father, Lakeland, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 25 October 1943 Rabaul, New Guinea.

403rd Bomb Squadron

43rd Bomb Group

(During October of 1943, the 43rd Group, flying B-24 heavy bombers, were extremely busy and successful attacking Japanese land targets and shipping along the northern coast of New Guinea. On the 25th of October, more than 60 B-24's with escorting P-38 fighter aircraft, successfully attacked the Japanese air base at

Rabaul. The Japanese lost dozens of aircraft, on the ground and in the air. American losses were light, including Williams's aircraft).

WINGERT, Walter H.

COMPANY I, 124TH INFANTRY
(Manatee County)

Born: 1 June 1920 Palmetto, Florida.

Wingert was a high school graduate living in Palmetto at the time he enlisted in Company I, 124th Infantry Regiment 28 February 1938. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 1st Class 25 November 1940. He was later assigned to the 10TH PHOTO RECONNAISSANCE GROUP. He was a 1st Lieutenant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included C.E. Wingert, father, Palmetto, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 18 July 1944 Torigny-Gires, France.

10th Photo Recon Group

(The 10th, flying P-38 (F-5) aircraft, had been involved in pre-invasion photo reconnaissance missions in France during May 1944 for which it received a Distinguished Unit Citation. Following Allied landings in Normandy, the unit flew both strategic and tactical reconnaissance missions. It was during a low level reconnaissance mission over German defenses south, east and west of St. Lo that Wingert was shot down and killed)

WOOD, Joseph Eugene

COMPANY A, 124TH INFANTRY
(Dade County)

Born: 26 April 1921 Savannah, Georgia.

Wood was a high school graduate, lived in Miami and worked as a dental technician for \$10 per week when he enlisted in Company A, 124th Infantry Regiment 12 February 1940. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 1st Class 25 November 1940. He received a commission as a flight officer 12 December 1942. He was later assigned to the 351ST FIGHTER SQUADRON, 353RD FIGHTER

GROUP. He was a 2nd Lieutenant at the time of his death.

His next of kin included Bessie Wood, mother, Miami, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 22 February 1944; off coast of Holland.

351st Fighter Squadron

353rd Fighter Group

(During 1943 and most of 1944, the 353rd flew P-47 fighter aircraft in ground attack and bomber escort missions over northwestern Europe. It was heavily engaged in the escort missions associated with the Eight Air Forces's "Big Week" attacks against the German Air Force and its aircraft factories, 20-25 February 1944 during which series of battles Wodd was killed).

NOTE: The 353rd was later re-designated the 116th, Georgia Air National Guard, and one of its squadrons, the 352nd, was re-designated the 159th, Florida Air National Guard, and they served in the Korean War. Later, the 159th was re-designated the 125th Fighter Group, today's Florida National Guard.

WOODS, George H.

ANTI-TANK COMPANY, 124TH INFANTRY
(Duval County)

Born: 16 February 1920 Jacksonville, Florida.

Woods had completed three years of high school, lived in Jacksonville and worked as a painter/carpenter for \$12 per week when he first enlisted in Howitzer Company, 124th Infantry Regiment 3 January 1939. He later transferred to Headquarters and later still to Anti-Tank Company, 124th Infantry. He was inducted into federal service as a Private 25 November 1940. He was a Private at the time of his death. His next of kin included Hattie Mae Woods, mother, Jacksonville, Florida.

KILLED IN ACTION; 3 May 1945 Serrig, Germany. (It is very likely the real date is 3 March 1945 as the Division was not in combat during May nor anywhere near Serrig).

301st Infantry Regiment

94th Infantry Division

(During February and early March of 1945, the 94th Division was heavily engaged against strong German defensive positions and offensive counter-attacks in the Serrig-Tauben and Saarbourg Bridgeheads in the German Rhineland. It was likely that during these battles Woods was killed).

The following two officers of the FLORIDA STATE GUARD, (FLORIDA DEFENSE FORCE) are known to have died or been killed while in Florida state service during World War II.

BREEDEN, Thomas Verne

COMPANY A, 3RD BATTALION, FLORIDA DEFENSE FORCE (STATE GUARD)

STATE OF FLORIDA
MILITARY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
STATE ARSENAL, ST. AUGUSTINE

August 31, 1942.

GENERAL ORDERS,
No. 12

1. Announcement is made with profound regret of the death of Captain Thomas Verne Breedon, Florida Defense Force, which occurred on August 30, 1942, at Lake Harris, Florida.

Captain Breedon was born at Bennettsville, South Carolina, on March 27, 1897.

He entered the military service of the United States on August 28, 1918, and was discharged on September 4, 1919, in grade of Sergeant of Infantry. He served Overseas during World War No. I.

He was commissioned Captain, Florida Defense Force, on May 6, 1941, organized and commanded the Third Company, later Company "A", 5th Battalion.

Funeral services will be held at Plant City, Florida, at 4:00 p. m., on September 1, 1942.

As a mark of respect the flag at the State Arsenal and all armories throughout the State will be displayed at half staff on day of funeral.

BY COMMAND OF THE GOVERNOR:

VIVIAN COLLINS,
The Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:
J. B. ROUSSEAU,
*Major, Retired,
Assistant.*

GOURLEY, Clark

COMPANY D, 2ND BATTALION, FLORIDA STATE GUARD

STATE OF FLORIDA
MILITARY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
STATE ARSENAL, ST. AUGUSTINE

October 27, 1943

GENERAL ORDERS,
No. 9

1. Announcement is made with profound regret of the death of Second Lieutenant Clark Gourley, Company "D", 2nd Battalion, Florida State Guard, which occurred at the Alachua Air Base, Gainesville, Florida, this date.

Lieutenant Gourley was born in Findlay, Ohio, on August 20, 1911. He enlisted September 11, 1941, for Company "D", 2nd Battalion, Florida State Guard. Appointed Private 1st class October 21, 1941; promoted Corporal April 9, 1942; promoted Sergeant May 12, 1942. Appointed 2nd Lieutenant, Florida State Guard and assigned to Company "D", 2nd Battalion, March 25, 1943.

Funeral Services will be held at Gainesville, Florida, at 11:00 A. M., on Friday, October 29, 1943, with interment in Gainesville Cemetery.

As a mark of respect the Flag at the State Arsenal and all armories throughout the State will be displayed at half staff on the day of funeral.

BY COMMAND OF THE GOVERNOR:

VIVIAN COLLINS,
The Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

J. B. ROUSSEAU,
*Major, Retired,
Assistant.*
