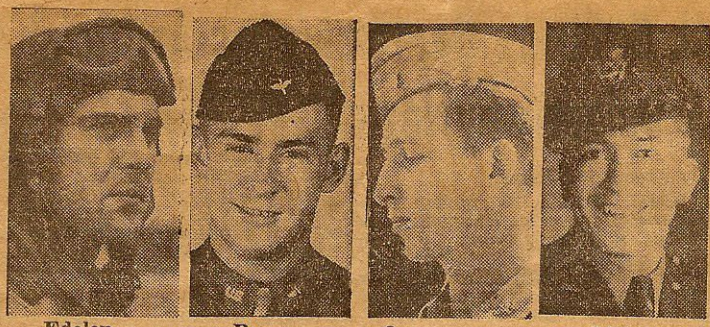


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Edelen Rung Oppermann Littge

HEROES CITED: Flight Officer George J. Edelen, formerly of 9500A Lackland road, Overland, pilot in England, Air Medal; Lt. James E. Rung, 5341 Labadie avenue, navigator in England, Air

Medal; 1st Lt. Conrad W. Oppermann, 3633 Russell boulevard, pilot in Central Pacific, Oak Leaf Cluster to Distinguished Flying Cross; Lt. Raymond H. Littge of Altenburg, Mo., pilot in France, Air Medal.

Germany Doomed Utterly, Declares

proud of what you have done. "The triumphant cry now is, 'forward into Germany.' Good luck to you all, and good hunting in Germany."

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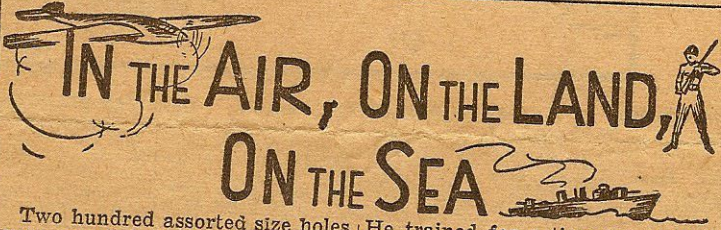
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UNDER SNIPER FIRE IN OBERDORLA, GERMANY, the
tiously scout up a street. They were followed by Third Army
took the town. (Signal Corps radiophoto.)



Two hundred assorted size holes were counted in the Flying Fortress "Queen of Hearts," of which Lt. James E. Rung, son of Mr. and Mrs. Erwin John Rung, 5341 Labadie ave., St. Louis, was navigator, after a bombing trip to Stuttgart, Germany, in which the plane caught the first four flak bursts sent up against approaching planes.

It was Lt. Rung's "closest call," according to a release from the AAF Convalescent Hospital, Fort George Wright, Wash., where he was sent as a patient after 35 missions to some of the hottest spots in Germany.

The flak burst "conked" the No. 3 engine, the oxygen system was knocked out, flak and shattered plexiglass flew around the plane interior and the plane filled up with smoke. Forced out of formation, the plane limped back to England. The crew miraculously came through the experience with only superficial wounds.

Lt. Rung's thirty-fifth and last mission was flown on Christmas Eve, 1944. He was in the accounting department of Grove Laboratories, Inc., St. Louis, when he entered the Air Forces in January, 1943, and plans to enroll in the accounting classes offered by the AAF.

A hero of World War I, Maj. David A. Smiley, 48, of 3733 Lindell bl., is back from the southwest Pacific and is now awaiting reassignment at Army Air Forces Redistribution Station, Miami Beach, Fla. He won the Silver Star for gallantry and the Purple Heart for wounds while serving as a Lieutenant in the Aisne-Marne campaign of the last war. Wounded twice, Maj. Smiley also won the French Croix de Guerre.

He trained for a time to go aloft in observation balloons, the 1918 counterpart of today's reconnaissance aircraft. By contrast, Maj. Smiley has flown in the modern heavy and medium bombers during a five months' tour of duty as an intelligence officer with the Fifth Air Force. He flew several combat missions. Maj. Smiley was a broker here when recalled to duty in 1942. His parents live at Hannibal, Mo.

Three St. Louis area men are back in the United States after long tours of duty overseas and have been sent home on furloughs. They are T-Sgt. Arthur J. Aston Jr., 27, son of Arthur J. Aston, 7443 Warner st., Cpl. Lloyd G. James, 34, husband of Mrs. Samuella James, 4459 West Pine bl., and Pfc. Ray J. Behlmann, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Behlmann, Shackelford road, Florissant. Sgt. Aston, a commercial artist in civilian life, has completed 30 month's service in Africa and the Middle East. Pfc. Behlmann served 28 months in the China-Burma-India theater with a Signal Corps unit. Cpl. James served 15 months in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean area with an Air Force reconnaissance squadron.

Pfc. Bernadine Dupree of the Post Headquarters WAC Detachment at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., has donated 11 pints of blood, almost a gallon and a half, to the St. Louis Red Cross blood bank and she's still donating. She makes her donations while in St. Louis on pass. Pfc. Dupree has taken even more personal interest in donating since her husband, Pfc. J. W. Dupree went into action on the Western Front.

Pvt. Robert H. Brown, son of Calvert

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