

Five More Mercer Men Seized At Bataan Are Reported Dead

HARRODSBURG, Ky., June 30 (Special)—Families of five of Harrodsburg's 66 former National Guardsmen have received notification from the War Department of their death.

Prisoners of the Japanese since the fall of Bataan on April 6, 1942, all the men were said by the War Department messages to have lost their lives when a Japanese ship transporting northward 1,775 prisoners of war was sunk Oct. 24, 1944, in the China Sea 200 miles from the China coast. The ship, carrying no indication of its prisoner cargo, was sunk by a submarine according to the official message.

This brings to a total 16 of the 66 Mercer men officially declared dead by the War Department it was said today by Mrs. Thomas Nenaugh, head of the Home Service Department of the Mercer Red Cross chapter.

Pfc. Vernon Harold Bussell, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Bussell, of McAfee, Mercer county, was born July 1, 1922, and became a member in 1934 of the McKendree Methodist church at Hubble, Lincoln county. He attended school at McAfee after his parents moved to Mercer county and entered the Army a short time before he was graduated from the McAfee high school. He was a member of the former Mercer National Guard Tank Unit that was merged into Company D. of the 192nd Tank Battalion that sailed for the Philippines in November, 1941. Besides his parents, he leaves two brothers, Sgt. James D. Bussell, now in Germany, and Pvt. Paul C. Bussell in the Philippines.

Pvt. John Lewis Cummins was 22 years old and the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Henry Cummins, Mackville street, Harrodsburg. Besides his parents, he is survived by two brothers, Lt. Thomas E. Cummins, Army flight officer now in Kennedy General hospital, Memphis, Tenn., recovering from wounds suffered in India, and Pvt. James E. Cummins, attending Army Engineers school, Portland, Ore., and a sister, Mrs. Eva Irene Meeks, wife of Leon Gray Meeks, seaman 1/c, stationed in New Orleans.

Pfc. Ancil E. Crick, 27, is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mabel Cummins Crick, and daughter, Doris Ann, of Harrodsburg; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Crick, Minden, W. Va., formerly of Harrodsburg; four sisters, Mrs. Arman Hammonds, Mrs. Pleas Tawillan and Mrs. James Dean, all of Mercer county, and Mrs. Spencer Mutter, of West Virginia, and one brother, Sam Crick, seaman 1/c, with the Navy.

Pfc. James William Sallee was the son of Mrs. Sarah Sallee, formerly of Harrodsburg, now residing with her daughter, Mrs. Tom Bug, Danville. He had a brother, Pfc. Hez. Franklin Sallee, who also was a prisoner of war of the Japanese since the fall of Bataan, and who presumably is living. Other survivors are two brothers, David Sallee, of Danville, and John D. Sallee, in the Navy.

Robert V. Cloyd, private first class and specialist, was 23 years old, and was known to everyone here as "Bobby." In the early Philippine war he was attached to a reconnaissance platoon headquarters and was a motorcycle scout. He was the son of V. C. Cloyd and Mrs. Jessie Mae Cloyd and, besides his parents, leaves one brother, Thomas Cloyd, Harrodsburg, four sisters, Miss Martha Cloyd, seaman 2 c in the Waves at Paultuxent, Md.; Miss Doris Cloyd, St. Augustine, Fla.; Miss Irene Cloyd, Fort Knox, and Mrs. Harry Ransdall, Bondville, Mercer county.

Bussell Cummins Crick J Sallee Cloyd Dead 1 Jul 45

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