

## TWO COUNTY MEN MISSING IN ACTION

The war department has listed two Decatur soldiers as casualties according to telegrams received yesterday by their families. S. Lt. Jerome Geimer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Geimer of near Decatur, was reported missing in action in Europe since November 8, He was recently promoted to his latest rank on the field of battle. Earlier he was awarded the Purple Heart, Oak Leaf Cluster and Combat Infantryman's Medal.

S. Sgt. William E Kenny, 22, a B-17 Flying Fortress tail gunner, is reported missing in action since September 11. The message to his mother, Jessic Kenny of Decatur, stated also that he had been wounded.

**Berne Witness, Adams County, IN; November 29, 1944**

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## DECATUR SOLDIER REPORTED KILLED

Lt. Jerome Geimer, 28, son of Fred Geimer of near Decatur, was killed in action with General Patton's Third army in France on November 14, according to a message received yesterday by his wife in Decatur and also by his father. On November 8 he was reported missing in action. He was serving in the infantry. Besides his wife and father, he is survived Four brother's who all serve in the military Overseas, and a sister at Celina, Ohio.

Another Decatur young man Pfc. Carl. F. Rash, a paratrooper, is reported missing in action in France since October 16, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Rash of Decatur have been informed. They are quite sure that he is a prisoner of war in Germany.

**Berne Witness, Adams County, IN; December 6, 1944**

**Both articles provided by the Berne Library Heritage Room Staff**

**Transcribed by Gabriella Brouillette Smith**

LT. JEROME GEIMER IS REPORTED AS KILLED IN ACTION IN FRANCE

Lt. Jerome (Joe) Geimer, 28, son of Fred Geimer of Decatur rural route five, and husband of Mrs. Justine Spangler-Geimer of this city, was killed in action in France with General Patton's third army on Nov. 14, the family was advised by the war department last night.

The death message followed the ?? which reported him missing in action since Nov. 8.

Lt. Geimer had a meritorious and gallant career as a soldier. He was promoted from technical sergeant to second lieutenant on the field of battle in October, and had received the combat infantryman's medal and other citations, including the Purple Heart, which was awarded him for wounds received prior to his promotion while in action.

Lt. Geimer is one of five brothers serving with the armed forces overseas. Sgt. Raymond Geimer is in Germany, with the advancing American army; T/3 Aloysius Geimer is in England; T/5 Ambrose Geimer is also in France and T/5 Cornelius Geimer is in India. A cousin, Pvt. Gerald Geimer, whom Lt. Geimer's parents raised, is in England.

On November 28, the war department reported Lt. Geimer missing in action and hope was extended for his safety and eventual return to his company. Last evening's message shattered those hopes, the word being that he was killed in action six days after he had been reported on the missing list.

Lt. Geimer joined the army on July 15, 1942 and took training in this country in various camps, the last being Camp Phillips, Kan. He went overseas in June, 1944 and followed the army into France shortly after the invasion. He was born in this county, May 3, 1916.

Lt. Geimer was with the 317th infantry regiment, 80th division, in which at least six soldiers from this county have been killed in action.

Besides his parents and brothers, he is survived by one sister, Mrs. Ed Geimer of near Celina, O. His wife, who is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Spangler, resides at 108 South Third street in this city. A daughter, Margaret Ann, died Feb. 12, 1942, a few hours after birth. His father is manager of the Steifel grain company here.

**Contributed by Karin King**



Photo courtesy of the Lorraine American Cemetery, Saint-Avoid, Lorraine, France