



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **DALEY**

**VINCENT**

**F.**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* (UNKNOWN)

*Rank:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

Vincent F. Daley honorably served in the United States Military

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DALY

JAMES

P.

**Address:** 195 INDIAN CHURCH ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** M/SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

HEADQUARTERS, 1156TH ENGINEERING CORPS

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Master Sergeant James P. Daly honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Riley, Kansas - Located in north-central Kansas and established in 1853, Fort Riley was named in honor of Major General Bennett C. Riley who led the first military escort along the Santa Fe Trail / Approximately 125,000 soldiers were trained at Fort Riley / Notable trainees included heavyweight boxing champion, Joe Louis, Indy car driver Walt Faulkner, and motion picture stars such as Mickey Rooney / Fort Riley also served as a holding facility for Prisoners-of-War (POW)

**Miscellaneous:**

Engineering Battalions performed many engineering tasks, including demolitions, obstacle emplacement, fortification, and light bridge building / Engineer general service regiments and battalions performed construction, repair, and maintenance duties of all kinds behind the front lines / When needed, combat engineers also could act as infantry



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DALY

JOSEPH P.

**Address:** 195 INDIAN CHURCH ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

SECTION "C", NORTH GROUP, 2515TH BASE UNIT

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Joseph P. Daly honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force

**Base Assignments:**

Dodge City Air Field, Kansas - The base's first mission was an Army Air Forces Advanced Flying School, but in 1943 the mission was changed to B-26 Marauder medium bomber transition training / The Dodge City Air Field was closed on 31 July 1945

**Miscellaneous:**

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **DARMOTT**

**LEE**

**J.**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* (UNKNOWN)

*Rank:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

Lee J. Darmott honorably served in the United States Military

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DARSTEIN**

**EDWARD**

**C.**

**Address:** 333 ALLENDALE ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY POLICE, 109TH INFANTRY, 28TH DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Edward C. Darstein honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The Military Police provides expertise in police, detainment and stability operations in order to enhance security and enable mobility / In World War II, Military Police soldiers moved traffic along the Burma Road, supported amphibious operations on Normandy beachheads, and managed enemy prisoners of war from Italy to the South Pacific

Infantry refers to soldiers moving and fighting on foot, armed with hand weapons such as rifles, machine guns, grenades, mortars, etc.

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War



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Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **DARSTEIN**

**PHILIP**

**F.**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* (UNKNOWN)

*Rank:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

Philip F. Darstein honorably served in the United States Military

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **DARSTEIN**

**RAYMOND**

**R.**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* (UNKNOWN)

*Rank:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

Raymond R. Darstein honorably served in the United States Military

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

Raymond R. Darstein was a member of Teamsters Local #375 / Raymond R. Darstein passed away on 1 December 2013 at the age of 86 years old and is interred at Woodlawn Cemetery, Orchard Park, New York



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **DAVIS**

**F.**

**L.**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* (UNKNOWN)

*Rank:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

F. L. Davis honorably served in the United States Military

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DAVIS

HOMER

H.

**Address:** 527 MAIN STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** T/4

**Unit / Squadron:**

832ND SQUADRON, SERVICE COMPANY DETACHMENT

DETACHMENT 3, 4025TH SIGNAL SERVICE GROUP

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Technician Fourth-Grade (Sergeant) Homer H. Davis honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The 4025th Signal Service Group was activated on 1 June 1945 / The 4025th saw action in New Guinea, Southern Philippines, and Luzon / Stationed in Manilla, Philippines, the 4025th prepared for the invasion of Japan by setting up radio, wire, and signal center communications / The Group received the Philippines Presidential Unit Citation / The 4025th Signal Service Group was deactivated on 1 June 1949

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military awarded to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DEE

ALBERT

G.

**Address:** 59 DIRKSON AVENUE

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

U.C.M.C.A.S. (UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS AIR STATION)

9TH M.W.S.S. (MARINE WING SUPPORT GROUP)

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Albert G. Dee honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Albert Dee served in Hawaii

Albert Dee was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps on 29 June 1946

**Base Assignments:**

Cherry Point, North Carolina - Commissioned in 1942, Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point or MCAS Cherry Point is a United States Marine Corps airfield located in Havelock, North Carolina / Cherry Point's primary World War II mission was to train units and individual Marines for service to the Pacific theater / The air station also served as a base for anti-submarine operations, with an Army Air Corps (22d Antisubmarine Squadron) and later a Navy squadron each being responsible for the sinking of a German U-boat just off the North Carolina coast during 1943

**Miscellaneous:**

Albert G. Dee enlisted in the Marine Corps on 30 June 1943

The 9th Marine Wing Support Group was a training unit for Marine Aviation personnel headed to the Pacific Theater



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DEER

RUSSELL

**Address:**

MAPLEWOOD AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 84TH MEDICAL BATTALION

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private Russell Deer honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **DEGMAN**

**EARL**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* NAVY

*Rank:* A.S.

*Unit / Squadron:*

SECTION "B", COMPARTMENT "D", U.S.M.T.S. (UNITED STATES MILITARY TELEGRAPH SERVICE)

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

Apprentice Seaman Earl Degman honorably served in the United States Navy

*Base Assignments:*

Sheepshead Bay Maritime Service Training Station (Brooklyn, New York) - Opened on 1 September 1942, the Sheepshead Bay Station was the largest maritime training station during World War II and was equipped to train 30,000 merchant seamen each year

*Miscellaneous:*

An Apprentice Seaman was knowledgeable in naval drill duties, knots, steering and signaling / Also stood watch and handled gunnery duties

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DEGNAN**

**EDWARD**

**W.**

**Address:** 174 CLOVERSIDE DRIVE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST ACADEMIC COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL    PURPLE HEART

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Edward W. Degnan honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Edward Degnan was wounded in action during the Italian Campaign / After recovering from his wounds, Sergeant Degnan became a Paratrooper Instructor at Fort Benning, Georgia

**Base Assignments:**

Ft. Benning, Georgia - In late 1918, the U.S. Army established a new camp for the Infantry School of Arms south of Columbus on the Bussey Plantation / The camp was named in honor of Henry Lewis Benning, a Columbus native who served as a Confederate general during the American Civil War and later as a justice of the Georgia Supreme Court

**Miscellaneous:**

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DELLWARDT**

**HARVEY S.**

**Address:** 29 WILLINK STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** 2ND LT.

**Unit / Squadron:**

561ST BOMBER SQUADRON, 388TH BOMBER GROUP (HEAVY)

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Second Lieutenant Harvey Steven Dellwardt honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force / 2LT Harvey Dellwardt was Killed in Action (KIA) on 31 July 1944 when his B-17 Flying Fortress Bomber (nicknamed "Devil's Luck") was hit by enemy Anti-Aircraft fire while on a mission over Munich, Germany / Lieutenant Dellwardt had served as the navigator onboard the bomber

Second Lieutenant Harvey S. Dellwandt was interred at Ardennes American Cemetery (Liège, Belgium)

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Harvey S. Dellwardt was a graduate of Bryant & Stratton Business Institute / Prior to joining the service on 28 February 1943, Dellwardt was employed by the Worthington Pump & Machinery Corporation / Harvey Steven Dellwardt was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at the Ardennes American Cemetery and Memorial, Liège, Belgium

The Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress was a four-engine heavy bomber aircraft primarily used in the daylight precision strategic bombing campaign of World War II against German industrial and military targets / During World War II, the B-17s dropped 640,036 tons of bombs on European targets

A bombardment group or bomb group was a group of bomber aircraft the United States Army Air Forces (USAAF) during World War II / It was the equivalent of an infantry regiment in the Army Ground Forces / A bombardment group was the key tactical control and administrative organization for bombers in all theaters of operation / U.S. bomb groups were numbered and classified into four types: Very Heavy (VH), Heavy (H), Medium (M), and Light (L) / Groups which combined bombers of differing categories into a single administrative



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organization were designated "Composite" groups

During World War II, the 388th Bombardment Group (Heavy) was an Eighth Air Force B-17 Flying Fortress unit stationed at RAF Knettishall, England / The group earned four Distinguished Unit Citations, flying over 300 combat missions (17 August 1943 - Regensburg; 26 June 1943 - Hanover; 12 May 1944 - Brux and 21 June 1944 on a shuttle mission to Russia) / It also conducted Aphroditie radio-controlled B-24 Liberators as test guided bombs.

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II / The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DELLWARDT**

**WILLIAM**

**J.**

**Address:** 29 WILLINK STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** T/5

**Unit / Squadron:**

A.G.F. REPLACEMENT DEPOT NO. 1 (ARMY GROUND FORCES)

5TH SIGNAL COMPANY, 5TH DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Technician 5th Grade (Corporal) William J. Dellwardt honorably served in the United States Army / T/5 William Dellwardt was a Radio Operator and served in Central Europe and the Rhineland

William Dellwardt received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army on 24 April 1946

**Base Assignments:**

Ft. George G. Meade, Maryland - Fort Meade became an active Army installation in 1917 and was named in honor of Major Gen. George Gordon Meade, whose victory at the Battle of Gettysburg proved a major factor in turning the tide of the Civil War in favor of the North / Fort Meade became a training center during World War II and its ranges and other facilities were used by more than 200 units and approximately 3,500,000 Soldiers between 1942 and 1946. The wartime peak of military personnel at Fort Meade was 70,000 / In September 1943, the first shipment of 1,632 Italian and 58 German prisoners arrived at the POW facility at Fort Meade / By the end of the war, Fort Meade housed about 4,000 German and Italian POWs during World War II

**Miscellaneous:**

Corporal William J. Dellwardt enlisted in the Army on 25 September 1943 / William Dellwardt was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post 2940

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The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II. The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **DENI**

**WILLIAM**

**J.**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* (UNKNOWN)

*Rank:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

William J. Deni honorably served in the United States Military

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **DENNIS**

**JOSEPH**

**E.**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* (UNKNOWN)

*Rank:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

Joseph E. Dennis honorably served in the United States Military

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DEPPELER JR.**

**CHARLES J.**

**Address:** 990 MINERAL SPRINGS ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION

82ND AIRBORNE, COMPANY A, PARACHUTE INFANTRY

**Medals / Citations:**

|  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL | 2 BATTLE STARS                     |
| WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL                     | PRESIDENTIAL CITATION W/CLUSTER    |
| ARMY OF OCCUPATION MEDAL                       | MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT - RIFLE |
| MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT - MACHINEGUN        |                                    |

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Charles J. Deppeler Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / Charles Deppeler joined the Army on 28 July 1944 and served as a driver of heavy trucks / PFC Deppeler was also trained on the M-1 rifle / PFC Charles Deppeler Jr. participated in combat action in Central Europe with the 101st Airborne Infantry / While attached to the 82nd Airborne, Deppeler was part of the Honor Guard for General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe, in Frankfort, Germany / Deppeler also served as a part-time interpreter / PFC Deppeler earned two Battle Stars for action in Belgium and Forrdigerre / Charles Deppeler Jr. was Honorably Discharged from the Army on 24 June 1946.

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Charles Deppeler graduated from Canisius High School / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Deppeler worked as an electrical lineman for E.W. Noblett / Charles Deppeler joined the West Seneca Police Department, where he started as an officer and worked his way up to desk lieutenant, retiring in 1989 after 37 years of service / Charles J. Deppeler Jr. passed away on 17 January 2005 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at Union Cemetery, Elma Center, New York

Airborne forces are military units, usually light infantry with non-armored vehicles and guns, set up to be moved by aircraft and "dropped" into battle / They can be placed behind enemy lines, and have the capability to deploy almost anywhere with little warning / The basic premise of airborne forces is that they can arrive with such speed that a coherent defense cannot be mounted quickly / The paratroopers must either use the supplies of



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Town of West Seneca, New York

the enemy, be continuously resupplied by air or wait to be relieved by ground troops

The 82nd Division was organized on 25 August 1917, at Camp Gordon, Georgia / Since its initial members came from all 48 states, the unit acquired the nickname All-American, which is the basis for its famed "AA" shoulder patch / 82nd Airborne participated in combat operations in Sicily, Salerno, Normandy, Operation Market Garden in the Netherlands and the Battle of the Bulge / During World War II, 1,619 Airborne soldiers were killed in action and 6,560 soldiers were wounded in action

The 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) ("Screaming Eagles") is a light infantry division of the United States Army that specializes in air assault operations / It can plan, coordinate, and execute multiple battalion-size air assault operations to seize terrain / These operations can be conducted by mobile teams covering large distances, fighting behind enemy lines, and working in austere environments with limited or degraded infrastructure / Established in 1918, the 101st Division was first constituted as an airborne unit in 1942 / During World War II, it gained renown for its role in Operation Overlord (the D-Day landings and airborne landings on 6 June 1944, in Normandy, France); Operation Market Garden; the liberation of the Netherlands; and its action during the Battle of the Bulge / The 101st Airborne was allotted to the Regular Army in June 1948 and reactivated as a training unit at Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky the following July, only to be inactivated the next year / It was reactivated in 1950 following the outbreak of the Korean War, again to serve as a Training Center at Camp Breckenridge until inactivated in December 1953 / From 1965 to 1967, the 1st Brigade operated independently as sort of a fire brigade and earned the reputation as being called the "Nomads of Vietnam" / They fought in every area of South Vietnam from the Demilitarized Zone up north all the way down the Central Highlands / The rest of the 101st was deployed to Vietnam in November 1967 and the 1st Brigade rejoined its parent division / The 101st was deployed in the northern I Corps region, operating against the People's Army of Vietnam (PAVN) infiltration routes through Laos and the A Shau Valley for most of the war / Notable among these were the Battle of Hamburger Hill in 1969 and Firebase Ripcord in 1970 / The division began withdrawing from South Vietnam on 15 May 1971 with the departure of the 3rd Battalion, 506th Infantry / Most major units of the Division had redeployed by January 1972 / In the seven years that all or part of the division served in Vietnam, it suffered 4,011 killed and 18,259 wounded in action / The division, during this time, participated in 12 separate campaigns and 17 of the division's Medal of Honor recipients are from this period of time – all this giving the 101st Airborne Division a combat record unmatched by any other division

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

Battle (Combat) Stars were presented to military personnel who were engaged in specific battles in combat under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty,



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or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Army of Occupation Medal was a military award of the United States military which was established by the United States War Department on 5 April 1946 / The medal was created in the aftermath of the Second World War to recognize those who had performed occupation service in Germany, Italy, Austria, or Japan / The original Army of Occupation Medal was intended only for members of the United States Army, but was expanded in 1948 to encompass the United States Air Force shortly after that service's creation / The Navy and Marine equivalent of the Army of Occupation Medal is the Navy Occupation Service Medal

A Marksmanship Badge is a military badge of the United States Armed Forces presented to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course or high placement in an official marksmanship competition / The U.S. Military's Marksmanship Qualification Badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): Expert, Sharpshooter, and Marksman

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DERMOTT**

**LEE**

**J.**

**Address:**

**UNION ROAD**

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE

**Rank:** LT.

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Lieutenant Lee J. Dermott honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force

**Base Assignments:**

Frederick Air Field (Frederick, Oklahoma) - Frederick Field was one of the numerous airfields in Oklahoma built for training pilots and aircrews of Army-Air Force (AAF) fighters and bombers or as major maintenance and supply centers

**Miscellaneous:**

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DESMOND**

**JOSEPH**

**J.**

**Address:** 53 KIRKWOOD DRIVE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

221ST MILITARY POLICE COMPANY

712TH MILITARY POLICE

**Medals / Citations:**

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER - RIFLE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT - PISTOL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Joseph J. Desmond honorably served in the United States Army / Sergeant Joseph Desmond enlisted in the Army on 18 September 1935 and served in the Panama Canal Zone from 27 October 1935 until 9 October 1939 / Desmond was transferred from the Panama Canal Zone in October 1939 to Mitchell Field, Long Island where he served with the 10th Ordnance Service Company / Sergeant Desmond was Honorably Discharged on 11 July 1940

Wanting to help his country, Desmond re-enlisted on 16 February 1942 and assigned to the 712th Military Police Battalion in Buffalo until 18 November 1942 / He was then transferred to the 221st Military Police Company in Fort Custer, Michigan until 2 January 1943 / Sgt Desmond transferred to the Nashville Auto Diesel College in Nashville, Tennessee for special training courses in automotives until 24 March 1943 / After completing the automotive courses, Desmond was sent back to the 221st Military Police Company in Camp Miles Standish, Massachusetts on 18 April 1943 to take over duties guarding German Prisoners-of-War (POW) as they disembarked at Boston, Massachusetts / Sergeant Joseph Desmond was Honorably Discharged from the Army on 27 October 1943

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Custer, Michigan - Camp Custer was built in 1917 for military training during World War I. Named after Civil War cavalry officer General George Armstrong Custer, the facility trained or demobilized more than 100,000 troops during World War I / On 17 August 1940, Camp Custer was designated Fort Custer and became a permanent military training base / The primary mission of the camp was to function as a Military Police Replacement Training Cent / More than 300,000 troops trained at Fort Custer and new troops received their equipment before being sent by train to Basic Training or other duty assignments / Fort Custer served as a Prisoner-of-War (POW) camp for 5,000 German soldiers until 1945



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

## Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

Camp Myles Standish, Massachusetts - The camp opened on 8 October 1942 and was named in honor of Myles Standish who was the first military commander in the Old Colony region / The camp functioned as the port of departure for about a million U.S. and Allied soldiers / The camp also served as a Prisoner-of War (POW) detention center for captured German and Italian soldiers

### *Miscellaneous:*

The Military Police provides expertise in police, detainment and stability operations in order to enhance security and enable mobility / In World War II, Military Police soldiers moved traffic along the Burma Road, supported amphibious operations on Normandy beachheads, and managed enemy prisoners of war from Italy to the South Pacific

A Marksmanship Badge is a military badge of the United States Armed Forces presented to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course or high placement in an official marksmanship competition / The U.S. Military's Marksmanship Qualification Badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): Expert, Sharpshooter, and Marksman

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DIBELLO**

**VITO**

**J.**

**Address:** 69 THORNDALE

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** WT1C

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS CANBERRA (CA-70/CAG-2)

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

NAVY EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN MEDAL

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NAVY GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Watertender First-Class (WT1C) Vito J. Dibello Honorably served in the United States Navy / WT1C Vito Dibello was Killed in Action (KIA) on 13 October 1944 when the USS Canberra, patrolling in the Pacific ocean, was hit below the ship's armor belt by a air-dropped torpedo from a Japanese aircraft off Formosa

At the start of October 1944, Canberra joined Task Force 38, tasked with performing air raids on Okinawa and Taiwan, in preparation for the landings at Leyte / On 13 October, an air-dropped torpedo from a Japanese aircraft hit the cruiser below her armor belt / The explosion killed 23 personnel and exposed the engineering spaces to the ocean, stalling the ship / USS Wichita took Canberra under tow for a rendezvous with the tug USS Munsee, which took over the tow after putting a salvage crew aboard / After temporary repairs, the USS Canberra sailed under her own power to Boston Navy Yard / The cruiser was docked for repairs, which lasted from February to October 1945 / The cruiser was deployed to the west coast of the United States in late 1945

Watertender First-Class Vito James Dibello was originally interred in the 6911 - USAF Cemetery, Finschaffan #2, British New Guinea and was later interred in Cheektowaga, New York / American Legion, West Seneca Post 735 conducted the military service

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Vito James Dibello was 22 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

A Watertender is a crewman aboard a steam-powered ship who is responsible for tending to the fires and



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

## Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

boilers in the ship's engine room / Maintained, repaired, and overhauled boiler system

USS Canberra (CA-70/CAG-2) was a Baltimore-class cruiser originally to be named USS Pittsburgh and was commissioned 14 October 1943 / The ship was renamed before launch to honor the loss of the Australian cruiser HMAS Canberra during the Battle of Savo Island / USS Canberra was the first USN warship named after a foreign warship or a foreign capital city / The ship entered service in 1943, and served in the Pacific theater of World War II until she was torpedoed during the Aerial Battle of Taiwan-Okinawa and forced to return to the United States for repairs / Placed in reserve after the war, Canberra was selected for conversion into the second guided-missile carrying warship in the US Naval fleet / Following the conversion, she was host to the ceremony for selecting the Unknown Soldier representing World War II in 1958, undertook an eight-month round-the-world cruise in 1960, participated in the Cuban Missile Crisis naval blockade in 1962, and was deployed to the Vietnam War on five occasions between 1965 and 1969 / The USS Canberra was decommissioned in 1970, struck in 1978, and broken up in 1980

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military awarded to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945 / The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal awarded Bronze service stars to all services for participation in designated campaigns and a bronze arrowhead device was awarded for participation in designated Army amphibious and airborne combat assaults

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II / The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

The Navy Expeditionary Medal is a military award of the United States Navy which was established in August 1936 / The medal is awarded to officers and enlisted men of the Navy who were confirmed to have landed on foreign territory and engaged in operations against armed opposition, or operated under circumstances which, after full consideration, shall be deemed to merit special recognition and for which service no campaign medal has been awarded

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses

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**Name:** DIETL

FRANKLIN E.

**Address:** 402 COLLINS AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE      **Rank:** CPL

**Unit / Squadron:**

2542ND ARMY-AIR FORCE (AAF) BASE UNIT, SECTION "C", PLATOON #1

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Franklin E. Dietl honorably served in the Army-Air Force

**Base Assignments:**

Waco Army Air Field (Waco, Texas) - Waco AAF opened on 5 May 1942 and was the headquarters of the Army Air Force Central Instructors' School during World War II

**Miscellaneous:**

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DIETL

ROBERT

F.

**Address:** 50 KLAS AVENUE

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** S1C

**Unit / Squadron:**

GROUP 3, U.S.N.A.T.B. (US NAVAL AIR TRAINING BASE)

LCM FLOTILLA (LANDING CRAFT MECHANIZED)

USS GASCONADE (APA-85)

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

1 BATTLE STAR

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Seaman First-Class (S1C) Robert F. Dietl honorably served in the United States Navy / S1C Robert Dietl served on the USS LCI(L)-578 (Landing Craft Infantry (Large)) which participated in the Leyte landings, 19 to 29 November 1944 and the Ormoc Bay landing 12 to 18 December 1944 / Dietl also served on the Amphibious Attack Cargo ship, the S.S. Morning Light (C2-S-B1 Hull 266) / For his combat action, Seaman First-Class Robert F. Dietl earned 1 Battle Star

**Base Assignments:**

Sampson, New York - In the three-and-a-half years of its operation during World War II, the Sampson Naval Training Station trained 411,429 naval recruits before closing in 1946 / The camp was named in honor of a local Seneca County native, Rear Admiral William T. Sampson, from Palmyra, NY, a hero of the Battle of Santiago during the Spanish-American War

TADCEN (Training and Distribution Center) (Shoemaker, California) - The Navy built facilities at Shoemaker to house, train, deploy and recuperate personnel who would construct, maintain and man ships, bases, depots, camps and facilities in the Pacific theater of war

RS (Recruiting Station), TADCEN (Training and Distribution Center) (San Diego, California) - The base served as a Marine Recruit Station that operated under the jurisdiction of the 12th Marine Corps Recruit District

Amphibious Training Base (ATB) (Ft. Pierce, Florida) - The Fort Pierce Naval Amphibious Training Base was a 19,280.48-acre site that extended approximately 25 miles from near Vero Beach to near Jensen Beach and included North and South Hutchinson Islands / The military acquired the site during World War II for the Navy to



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

create a training facility / The base fulfilled two primary missions during World War II / Its original mission was amphibious training, including training for Naval Underwater Demolition Teams / Amphibious training missions included use of high explosive rockets, bombs, antiaircraft guns and small arms / During 1943, the Joint Army-Navy Experimental and Testing Board was established to develop and test procedures for breaching and removing beach fortifications expected to be encountered in Europe and Japan / Beaches were fortified along the northern portion of the base, and a variety of ordnance was tested against these fortifications / By 1946, the site was no longer needed, and the land was returned to the original owners

Amphibious Training Base (ATB) (Coronado, California) - Naval Amphibious Base Coronado (NAB Coronado) was a naval installation located across the bay from San Diego, California / The base, situated on the Silver Strand, between San Diego Bay and the Pacific Ocean, was formally commissioned in January 1944, and provided a shore base for the operations, training, and support of naval amphibious units on the West Coast /The base has also provided training for Underwater Demolition Teams, United States Navy SEALs, brown-water Navy personnel, and Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps midshipmen / In 1946, the base was renamed Naval Amphibious Base (NAB) Coronado and its primary mission was changed to that of providing major administrative and logistical support to the amphibious units which are located on the base

### *Miscellaneous:*

Robert F. Dietl passed away on 4 April 2009 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Marilla Cemetery, Marilla, New York

Seamen served as members of damage control or emergency and security alert teams / They participated in Navy ceremonies and took part in underway replenishment (transferring supplies from ship to ship at sea), and they worked with qualified personnel to gain job training and experience / A Seaman was knowledgeable in naval drill duties, knots, steering and signaling / Also stood watch and handled gunnery duties

Landing Craft, Mechanized (LCM) were used by amphibious forces to transport cargo, tracked and/or wheeled vehicles and troops from amphibious assault ships to beachheads or piers / LCM's were between 55 feet to 75 feet in length with a speed between 10 mph - 14 mph and equipped with a bow ramp for onload and offload / Depending on size, an LCM could carry from 80 troops to one tank and 200 troops

The USS Gasconade (APA-85) was a Gilliam-class attack transport that served with the US Navy during World War II and was initially assigned to transport duties and consequently did not participate in combat operations / The Gasconade was named after a county in Missouri / Commissioned 11 March 1945 at San Pedro, California and after shakedown, the USS Gasconade departed San Francisco 8 May on a troop transport voyage to the Philippines / Steaming via Pearl Harbor, Eniwetok, and Ulithi, she arrived Samar 3 June / Loaded with mail and cargo, she steamed to San Francisco from 18 June to 6 July; afterwards transported additional troops to the Philippines / Arriving Leyte Gulf 2 August, she served as receiving ship until mid-August when she proceeded to Manila Bay to stage for the Allied occupation of Japan / The USS Gasconade was decommissioned: 28 August 1946 and sunk as a target ship, 21 July 1946

The S.S. Morning Light was commissioned in May 1944 and designated as a Amphibious Attack Cargo and Transport vessel / The ship was sold to civilian owners in 1947 and scrapped in 1970



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



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The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military award to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

Battle (Combat) Stars were presented to military personnel who were engaged in specific battles in combat under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II. The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DIETZ**

**LAWRENCE E.**

**Address:** 64 HARLEM ROAD

**Service Branch:** COAST GUARD

**Rank:** CBM

**Unit / Squadron:**

NAVY 48

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Chief Boatswain's Mate (CBM) Lawrence E. Dietz honorably served in the United States Coast Guard

**Base Assignments:**

Manhattan Beach Training Station (Brooklyn, New York) - USCG Basic Training and Petty Officer Rating Training Facility where 43,000 recruits trained during World War II

Pearl Harbor, Hawaii - In May 1899, Commander John F. Merry established "Naval Station, Honolulu" on 17 November 1899 and on 2 February 1900, this title was changed to "Naval Station, Hawaii" / From 1900 to 1908, the Navy devoted its time to improving the facilities of the 85 acres that constituted the naval reservation in Honolulu / In 1908, the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard was established / In 1917, Ford Island in the middle of Pearl Harbor was purchased for joint Army and Navy use in the development of military aviation in the Pacific.

Atlantic City, New Jersey

**Miscellaneous:**

Boatswain's Mates trained, directed and supervised personnel in ship's maintenance duties in all activities relating to marlinspike (a tool used to help tie large knots), deck, boat seamanship painting, upkeep of ship's external structure, rigging, deck equipment and boats / Boatswain's Mates took charge of working parties; performed seamanship tasks; acted as petty officer-in-charge of picketboats, self-propelled barges, tugs, and other yard and district craft / Directed salvage operations

The Japanese attacked the U.S. Naval base in Hawaii on December 7, 1941 / The assault took American forces by surprise early in the morning as the first wave of Japanese fighters fired on the island at 7:55 a.m. Hawaiian time and five additional attacks followed throughout the day, until 9 p.m. / More than 2,400 Americans sailors,



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

soldiers, and civilians died during the attack and another 1,000 were wounded / Nearly 20 American naval vessels were destroyed in the attack, including eight massive battleships / More than 300 airplanes were also lost

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DILLON**

**JOHN**

**E.**

**Address:** 55 LIND AVENUE

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** S1C

**Unit / Squadron:**

U.S.N.T.C. (UNITED STATES NAVAL TRAINING CENTER)

USS P.C 585 (PATROL CRAFT)

USS WENATCHEE (AT-118)

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

ATLANTIC THEATER / PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Seaman First-Class John E. Dillon honorably served in the United States Navy / S1C John Dillon served on the S.S.J. W. Reese and the S.S.J. Frank Cooper which were screening vessels

**Base Assignments:**

Sampson, New York - In the three-and-a-half years of its operation during World War II, the Sampson Naval Training Station trained 411,429 naval recruits before closing in 1946 / The camp was named in honor of a local Seneca County native, Rear Admiral William T. Sampson, from Palmyra, NY, a hero of the Battle of Santiago during the Spanish-American War

**Miscellaneous:**

Seamen served as members of damage control or emergency and security alert teams / They participated in Navy ceremonies and took part in underway replenishment (transferring supplies from ship to ship at sea), and they worked with qualified personnel to gain job training and experience / A Seaman was knowledgeable in naval drill duties, knots, steering and signaling / Also stood watch and handled gunnery duties

Naval Training Centers introduced recruits to "boot camp" training and indoctrination / The recruits were given a battery of tests to determine their educational and skill levels, then trained in indoctrination, ordnance and gunnery, seamanship, fire fighting, physical training, military drill and shipboard duties

Patrol Craft (P.C.) 585 was commissioned 6 September 1942 and deployed to the Pacific in 1943-44 / Patrol craft were typically around 100 ft. in length and usually carried a single medium caliber artillery gun as main armament, and a variety of lighter secondary armament such as machine guns or a close-in weapon system /



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

## Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

Depending on its role, vessels in this class may also have more sophisticated sensors and fire control systems that would enable them to carry torpedoes / PC-585 was decommissioned in August 1946 and sold for scrap in July 1948

USS Wenatchee (AT-118), was a Abnaki-class tugboat commissioned on 24 March 1945 / The fleet tug performed ocean towing and screening duties supporting the 3d Fleet's drive against the Japanese homeland and, after hostilities ended, participated in the initial occupation of Japan / She was present in Tokyo Bay on 2 September 1945, the day of Japan's formal surrender / That autumn, she engaged in salvage work at the former Japanese naval base at Yokosuka / The Wenatchee operated there through the end of 1945 and into the following year, finally departing that port bound for Hawaiian waters / Reaching Pearl Harbor on 3 March 1946, the Wenatchee stayed there for over a month before she sailed for Bikini atoll on 13 April to take part in Operation "Crossroads" / As part of Task Unit 1.8.1, a repair and service unit, Wenatchee supported the atomic test operations there into the summer and then left Kwajalein on 20 August 1946 and headed back to Pearl Harbor / AT-118 was decommissioned and placed in reserve on 19 May 1947 / the USS Wenatchee earned one battle star for her World War II operations supporting the 3d Fleet

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military awarded to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II. The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DIMARTINO**

**ANTHONY J.**

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Anthony J. DiMartino honorably served in the United States Army / Anthony DiMartino served in France during 1943-44

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **DISSEK**

**PHILIP**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* (UNKNOWN)

*Rank:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

Philip Dissek honorably served in the United States Military

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DISSEK, JR.

BASIL

**Address:** 1926 UNION ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

TRANSPORTATION CORPS.

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private Basil Dissek, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Basil Dissek, Jr. passed away on 21 April 1991 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at Saint Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

The Transportation Corps was a combat service support branch of the U.S. Army and responsible for the movement of personnel and material by truck, rail, air, and sea during World War II / By the end of the war, the Transportation Corps had moved more than 30 million soldiers within the continental United States; and 7 million soldiers plus 126 million tons of supplies overseas

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

## Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DITTMANN**

**JOHN**

**D.**

**Address:** 153 AURORA AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** T/5

**Unit / Squadron:**

633RD ORDNANCE COMPANY, A.M. (AUTOMOTIVE MAINTENANCE)

19TH BOMB DISPOSAL SQUADRON (ORDINANCE)

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL 5 BATTLE STARS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Technician Fifth-Grade (Corporal) John D. Dittmann honorably served in the United States Army / T/5 John Dittmann received battle stars for action in Normandy, Northern France, the Ardennes, Central Europe and the Rhineland

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The U.S. Army Ordnance Corps mission was to support the development, production, acquisition, and sustainment of weapon systems, ammunition, missiles, electronics, and ground mobility material during World War II to provide combat power to the U.S. Army

Bomb disposal is the process by which hazardous explosive devices are rendered safe / Bomb disposal is an all-encompassing term to describe the separate, but interrelated functions in the military fields of Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) and Improvised Explosive Device Disposal (IEDD)

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

Battle (Combat) Stars were presented to military personnel who were engaged in specific battles in combat



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DITTMANN**

**RALPH E.**

**Address:** 153 AURORA AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "D", 359TH INFANTRY, 90TH DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PURPLE HEART

4 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

EXPERT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Ralph E. Dittmann honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Ralph Dittmann received the European-African-Middle Eastern Service Medal with Arrowhead for participating in the Invasion of Normandy, France on June 6, 1944 / Sgt Dittmann also received 4 Battle Stars for combat action in the battles of Normandy, Central Europe, Northern France and the Rhineland / Sgt. Dittmann received the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in battle

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The 359th Infantry was activated on 25 March 1942 at Camp Barkeley, Texas / The 359th Infantry participated in the campaigns for Normandy, Northern France, the Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace and Central Europe / The regiment received 2 Presidential Unit Citations for their combat action and also received the French Croix de Guerre with Palm for action in France / The 359th Infantry Regiment was inactivated on 26 December 1945

Infantry refers to soldiers moving and fighting on foot, armed with hand weapons such as rifles, machine guns, grenades, mortars, etc.

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

Battle (Combat) Stars were presented to military personnel who were engaged in specific battles in combat under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II / The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946

The Expert Infantryman Badge was created during World War II to enhance the morale and prestige of service in the infantry / Specifically, it recognizes the inherent sacrifices of all infantrymen, and that, in comparison to all other military occupational specialties, infantrymen face the greatest risk of being wounded or killed in action

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DOBSTAFF

GERALD

**Address:** 231 AURORA AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "M", INFANTRY

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: MARKSMAN

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private Gerald Dobstaff honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Infantry refers to soldiers moving and fighting on foot, armed with hand weapons such as rifles, machine guns, grenades, mortars, etc.

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A Marksmanship Badge is a military badge of the United States Armed Forces presented to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course or high placement in an official marksmanship competition / The U.S. Military's Marksmanship Qualification Badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): Expert, Sharpshooter, and Marksman



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DOBSTAFF

WILLIAM

**Address:** 48 THORNDALE AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** CPL

**Unit / Squadron:**

1750TH ENGINEER UTILITY DETACHMENT, FIRE FIGHTER PLATOON

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: MARKSMAN

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Technician Fifth-Class William Dobstaff honorably served in the United States Army / William Dobstaff was a Technician Fifth Class and addressed as a Corporal

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Niagara, New York - Served as an induction center during World War II and later a POW camp for 1,200 German soldiers captured in North Africa

**Miscellaneous:**

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

successful completion of a weapons qualification course or high placement in an official marksmanship competition / The U.S. Military's Marksmanship Qualification Badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): Expert, Sharpshooter, and Marksman

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DODD

EDGAR

V.

**Address:** 1198 CENTER ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

SERVICE BATTERY, 542ND F.A. BATTALION (FIELD ARTILLERY)

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private Edgar Dodd honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Sill, Oklahoma - Fort Sill was founded in 1869, under the original name Camp Wichita / Fort was later renamed in honor of Brigadier General Joshua W. Sill, who was killed during the American Civil War / The Field Artillery School trained its own fixed wing pilots as field artillery spotters

Sheppard Field (Wichita Falls, Texas) - Sheppard Field officially opened as an Army Air Corps training center on 17 October 1941 and was named in honor of Senator John Morris Sheppard of Texas (1875–1941), chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee from 1933 until his death on 9 April 1941 / During World War II, Sheppard Field conducted basic training, and it also trained glider mechanics, technical and flying training instructors and B-29 Superfortress flight engineers. In addition to the basic flying training, the base also provided advanced pilot training

**Miscellaneous:**

The Field Artillery is the branch of the army whose mission is to support the infantry by artillery fire, destroying, neutralizing or suppressing the enemy elements that threaten land forces / Increased mobility; fire direction centers, which enhanced their firepower; aerial observation; and radio communications increased the efficiency and accuracy to support ground forces



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DODGE**

**WAYNE**

**A.**

**Address:** 195 CENTER ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private Wayne A. Dodge honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

Princeton, New Jersey - Princeton University opened its doors to the United States military where the Army Specialized Training program taught commissioned officers courses in engineering and languages

**Miscellaneous:**



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DODSON**

**RALPH**

**H.**

**Address:** 60 BURCH AVENUE

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** PO2C

**Unit / Squadron:**

U.S.N.T.C. (UNITED STATES NAVAL TRAINING CENTER), SEARCH RADAR, SHIPS COMPANY  
USS INDIANA (BB-58)

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

7 BATTLE STARS

CAPTAIN'S COMMENDATION

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SMALL ARMS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Petty Officer Second-Class Ralph H. Dodson honorably served in the United States Navy / PO2C Ralph Dodson was assigned sea duty for 17 months and 19 days in the South Pacific / Dodson served on a battleship and participated in the capture and defense of Guadalcanal in February 1943 / PO2C Dodson also participated in Naval Operations on Rennell Island (January 1943), New Georgia Group operations (16 June 1943 through October 1943), occupation of Rendova (June 1943), raid on Marcus Island (November 1943), Gilbert Islands operation (November 1943) and the Marshall Islands occupation (February 1944) / For his actions in combat in the Pacific Theater, Petty Officer Ralph H. Dodson was awarded 7 Battle Stars / PO2C Dodson was later transferred back to the United States to report for duty as a Radar Instructor and rated as a Radarman Second-Class

**Base Assignments:**

NAVTRASCOLS (Navy Training School) (Fort Lauderdale, Florida) - The United States did not enter World War II until 1941, but Fort Lauderdale felt the effect of the war sooner than most of the rest of the country / In December 1939, a British cruiser chased the German freighter Arauca into Port Everglades, where she remained until the United States seized her in 1941, when Germany declared war on the US / By the end of the war, the station had trained thousands of Navy pilots, including future congressman, UN Ambassador, Director of Central Intelligence, and President of the United States George H. W. Bush

NPSC (NPSC, Naval Personnel Separation Center) (Lido Beach, New York) - When the Navy occupied Long Beach Island during World War II, the Lido Beach Towers Hotel became an amphibious base and discharge center

**Miscellaneous:**



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

## Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

Navy chief petty officers serve a dual role as both technical experts and as leaders, with the emphasis being more on leadership

USS Indiana (BB-58), a South Dakota-class battleship, was the third ship of the United States Navy named in honor of the 19th state / Her keel was laid down on 20 November 1939 by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company of Newport News, Virginia and commissioned on 30 April 1942, Captain, later Vice Admiral, Aaron Stanton Merrill in command / During the invasion of New Georgia, the battleship force, which now included Indiana, North Carolina, and Massachusetts, was assigned to cover the invasion fleet against possible Japanese attacks / Indiana supported the carrier task force that raided Marcus Island on 31 August – 1 September / She took part in the invasion of Tarawa on 20–23 November and provided gunfire support to the Marines that stormed the island / During operations in the area, Indiana's anti-aircraft gunners claimed their first Japanese aircraft / On 8 December, Indiana, four other battleships, and twelve destroyers bombarded Japanese positions on Nauru / Between the five battleships, a total of 810 sixteen-inch shells were fired at the island / In late January, Indiana took part in operations to prepare for the invasion of Kwajalein in the Marshall Islands / On 29 January, the ship attacked Maloelap Atoll, along with Washington and the aircraft carriers Enterprise and Yorktown, and the following day the ships began bombarding Kwajalein to soften Japanese defenses / In August, Indiana began operations as a unit of Task Group 38.3 (TG 38.3), bombarding the Palau Islands, and later the Philippines / She screened strikes on enemy shore installations from 12–30 September, helping to prepare for the coming invasion of Leyte Island in the central Philippine Islands / Returning to the US soon after the Japanese surrender, Indiana was placed in reserve status in September 1946 / The USS Indiana earned 9 battle stars during World War II and was decommissioned on 11 September 1947 and sold for scrap in October 1963

Naval Training Centers introduced recruits to “boot camp” training and indoctrination / The recruits were given a battery of tests to determine their educational and skill levels, then trained in indoctrination, ordnance and gunnery, seamanship, fire fighting, physical training, military drill and shipboard duties

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military award to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

Battle (Combat) Stars were presented to military personnel who were engaged in specific battles in combat under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II / The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DOERFLER**

**NORMAN**

**A.**

**Address:** 91 EDSON STREET

**Service Branch:** COAST GUARD

**Rank:** S. 1/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

PF-61

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Seaman First-Class Norman A. Doerfler honorably served in the United States Coast Guard

**Base Assignments:**

Manhattan Beach Training Station (Brooklyn, New York) - USCG Basic Training and Petty Officer Rating Training Facility where 43,000 recruits trained during World War II

**Miscellaneous:**

Seamen served as members of damage control or emergency and security alert teams / They participated in Navy ceremonies and took part in underway replenishment (transferring supplies from ship to ship at sea), and they worked with qualified personnel to gain job training and experience / A Seaman was knowledgeable in naval drill duties, knots, steering and signaling / Also stood watch and handled gunnery duties

Manitowoc (PF-61) was a 304-foot Coast Guard frigate and had a crew of 180 sailors

Operating as part of the United States Navy, the United States Coast Guard was given the mission to patrol and protect the shores of the United States, with a large role looking for enemy German submarines in the Atlantic Theater / The Coast Guard also rescued survivors from naval vessels near the U.S coast whether it be attacked merchant ships or sunken German U-Boats



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DOERING**

**WILLIAM**

**E.**

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

102ND ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY BATTALION AUTOMATIC WEAPONS  
AIR TRANSPORTATION PORTABLE, BATTERY D

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

4 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

PHILIPPINE LIBERATION MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER - RIFLE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant William E. Doering honorably served in the United States Army / SGT William Doering served from November 1940 to July 1945 / Sergeant Doering was in charge of an anti-aircraft machine gun crew in Australia, New Guinea and the Philippines / Sergeant Doering received 4 Combat Stars for combat action in the Dutch East Indies, Battle for Papua, New Guinea and Southern Philippines / Doering caught malaria while serving in the South Pacific, but survived the illness

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The New Guinea campaign of the Pacific War lasted from January 1942 until the end of the war in August 1945. During the initial phase in early 1942, the Empire of Japan invaded the Australian-administered territories of the New Guinea Mandate (23 January) and Papua (8 March) and overran western New Guinea (beginning 29/30 March), which was a part of the Netherlands East Indies / During the second phase, lasting from late 1942 until the Japanese surrender, the Allies (consisting primarily of Australian and US forces) cleared the Japanese first from Papua, then the Mandate and finally from the Dutch colony

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military award given to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

Battle (Combat) Stars were presented to military personnel who were engaged in specific battles in combat under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

The American Defense Service Medal (also referred to as the Pre-Pearl Harbor Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty between 8 September 1939 and 7 December 1941

The Philippine Liberation Medal was a military award of the Republic of the Philippines presented to any service member, of both Philippine Commonwealth and allied militaries, who participated in the liberation of the Philippine Islands between the dates of 17 October 1944 and 2 September 1945 / The Philippine Liberation Medal is intended to recognize military service in the last days of World War II when the military of Japan was driven from the Philippines and then to eventually surrender in September 1945 / To be awarded the medal, a service member must have served in the Philippines for at least thirty days during the eligible time period

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The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DOERR

FREDERICK C.

**Address:** 99 KLAS AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** CPL

**Unit / Squadron:**

QUARTERMASTER DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Frederick C. Doerr honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

Camp Lee, Virginia - The fort is named for Confederate General Robert E. Lee / The camp was designated as the Quartermaster Replacement Training Center (QMRTC) / A full program of courses was conducted, including Officer Candidate School / By the end of 1941, Camp Lee was the center of both basic and advanced training of Quartermaster personnel and held this position throughout the war

**Miscellaneous:**

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DOLL

GORDON

F.

**Address:** 36 DIRKSON AVENUE

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** W.T. 3/C

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS CHARGER (CVE-30), "A" DIVISION

USS PHILADELPHIA (CL-41)

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

ATLANTIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Watertender Third-Class Gordon F. Doll honorably served in the United States Navy

The brother of Gordon Doll, Radarman Third-Class Joseph E. Doll also served in the United States Navy and was Killed in Action

**Base Assignments:**

USNTS (Naval Training Station) (Sampson, New York) - In the three-and-a-half years of its operation during World War II, the Sampson Naval Training Station trained 411,429 naval recruits before closing in 1946 / The camp was named in honor of a local Seneca County native, Rear Admiral William T. Sampson, from Palmyra, NY, a hero of the Battle of Santiago during the Spanish-American War

NTS (Naval Training Station) (Newport, Rhode Island) - The U.S. Naval Base at Newport served as a PT-Boat (Patrol Torpedo) training center, a torpedo training school and a Naval Air Training Center

**Miscellaneous:**

Gordon F. Doll passed away on 15 January 2005 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at Saint Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

A Watertender is a crewman aboard a steam-powered ship who is responsible for tending to the fires and boilers in the ship's engine room / Maintained, repaired, and overhauled boiler system

The USS Charger (CVE-30) was an Escort Carrier commissioned on 3 March 1942 and decommissioned on 15 March 1946 / The Charger's area of operations throughout World War II was Chesapeake Bay, and assigned the



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

## Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

basic task of training pilots and ships' crews in carrier operations

USS Philadelphia (CL-41) was a Brooklyn class cruiser and was commissioned on 23 September 1937 / The Philadelphia took part in the US occupation of Iceland, "Operation Torch" (invasion of North Africa), the invasion of Sicily and the landings at Salerno, Anzio and in the south of France / She was decommissioned on 3 February 1947 and sold to the country of Brazil, before being scrapped in 1974 / The USS Philadelphia received five battle stars for World War II operations

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DOLL

JOSEPH

E.

**Address:** 36 DIRKSON AVENUE

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** RDM3C

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS HENRICO (APA-45), "N" DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

PURPLE HEART

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Radarman Third-Class (RDM3C) Joseph E. Doll honorably served in the United States Navy / RDM3 Joseph Doll was Killed in Action (KIA) in April 1945 near Okinawa while serving aboard the USS Henrico

Assigned to the Kerama Retto attack group under Rear Admiral Kiland, USS Henrico began the landing on 26 March 1944 / The Kerama Islands were needed as a staging area for the invasion of nearby Okinawa and were secured on 30 March 1944 / The ship retired at night during the operation, and Japanese air attacks were nearly constant / While retiring on 2 April 1944, the ship was attacked by a fast Yokosuka P1Y "Frances" attack bomber, configured as a kamikaze, diving out of a cloud formation / Although Henrico quickly brought her guns to bear, the suicide bomber crashed into the bridge on the starboard side, her bombs exploding below / The ship lost power, but her fire parties soon brought the flames under control. Forty-nine officers and men, including Radarman Third-Class (RDM3C) Joseph E. Doll, were killed in the attack

The brother of Joseph Doll, Watertender Third-Class Gordon F. Doll, also served in the United States Navy

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Joseph Doll was a graduate of West Seneca High School / Prior to entering the service on 18 August 1943, Joseph E. Doll was employed by the Buffalo Arms Corporation / Joseph E. Doll was 30 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

The Radarman was required to operate and maintain the installed radar and electronic warfare equipment / Radarmen were specially trained in emergency repair procedures, as their assigned vessels went into combat areas



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

The USS Henrico (APA-45) was a Bayfield-class attack transport , named for one of Virginia's oldest counties, serving in both the Atlantic and Pacific campaigns / The Henrico participated in the Normandy Invasion, landing assault troops on Omaha Beach on D-Day, 6 June 1944 / The Henrico, in support of her assault landing troops, expended more than 380 rounds of ammunition from her two 5-inch guns and nearly 9,000 rounds from her 40mm guns / In 1945, the ship engaged in amphibious exercises leading to the invasion of Okinawa / In April 1945, the USS Henrico was attacked by a Japanese Kamikaze (suicide bomber) / Forty nine officers and men were killed in this attack, including Henrico's captain, her embarked division commander, and the two troop commanders / Commissioned on 24 June 1943 and decommissioned 14 February 1968

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military awarded to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DOMBROWSKI**

**CHESTER**

**Address:** 129 TUDOR BOULEVARD

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

19TH PHOTOGRAPHIC CHART SQUADRON

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private Chester Dombrowski honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force

**Base Assignments:**

Buckley Air Field (Aurora, Colorado) - The Buckley Air Field was established by the U.S. Army in 1943 and named in honor of World War I Army pilot 1st LT John Harold Buckley / On 1 July 1942, the U.S. Army Air Corps Technical Training School there opened / It consisted of bombardier and armorer training for air crewmen on the B-17 Flying Fortress and B-24 Liberator bombers / During WWII, Buckley Field also trained over 50,000 airmen in initial basic training

**Miscellaneous:**

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DOMBROWSKI**

**EUGENE L.**

**Address:** 129 TUDOR BOULEVARD

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** T/SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

10TH REPAIR SQUADRON, 10TH A.D.G. (AIRCRAFT DELIVERY GROUP)

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Technical Sergeant Eugene Leo Dombrowski honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force

Eugene L. Dombrowski also served in the Korean War

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Eugene Leo Dombrowski passed away on 21 December 1980 at the age of 62 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DOMON**

**DONALD**

**F.**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* (UNKNOWN)

*Rank:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

Donald F. Domon honorably served in the United States Military

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

Donald F. Domon passed away on 11 September 2009 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Cemetery, Elma, New York



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DONAHUE

DONALD

N.

**Address:** 2573 SENECA STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "F", 2ND BATTALION, 504TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private Donald N. Donahue honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The parachute infantry regiments were among the most highly decorated US Army units of World War II / The parachute infantry regiments were the first U.S. troops to liberate a town in France; spearhead the invasion of Sicily in the first American mass combat jump to fight at the forefront of six major campaigns (Sicily, Naples-Foggia, Normandy, Rhineland, Ardennes, and Central Germany); and to jump into Normandy during the invasion of France by Allied troops

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DONAHUE

GIRARD

C.

**Address:** 2573 SENECA STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

CASUAL SQUADRON, "A3"

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Girard C. Donahue honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DONAHUE

ROBERT

E.

**Address:** 2573 SENECA STREET

**Service Branch:** COAST GUARD

**Rank:** BM1C

**Unit / Squadron:**

PORTSMOUTH NAVAL YARD

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Boatswain's Mate, First-Class (BM1C) Robert E. Donahue honorably served in the United States Coast Guard

**Base Assignments:**

Portsmouth, New Hampshire - Established on 12 June 1800 during the administration of President John Adams, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is the oldest continuously-operating shipyard in the United States Navy / During World War II, 70 submarines were constructed at the yard, with a record of 4 launched in a single day / When the war ended, the shipyard became the Navy's center for submarine design and development

**Miscellaneous:**

Boatswain's Mates trained, directed and supervised personnel in ship's maintenance duties in all activities relating to marlinspike (a tool used to help tie large knots), deck, boat seamanship painting, upkeep of ship's external structure, rigging, deck equipment and boats / Boatswain's Mates took charge of working parties; performed seamanship tasks; acted as petty officer-in-charge of picketboats, self-propelled barges, tugs, and other yard and district craft / Directed salvage operations / Operated and maintained equipment used in loading and unloading cargo, ammunition, fuel, and general stores / Took charge of and supervised Underway Replenishment procedures and equipment / Were integral to ship's navigation and served as ship's Helmsman

Operating as part of the United States Navy, the United States Coast Guard was given the mission to patrol and protect the shores of the United States, with a large role looking for enemy German submarines in the Atlantic Theater / The Coast Guard also rescued survivors from naval vessels near the U.S coast whether it be attacked merchant ships or sunken German U-Boats



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DONAHUE

WESLEY

J.

**Address:** 2573 SENECA STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** CPL

**Unit / Squadron:**

A.S.N. SERVICE COMPANY, P.B.S.

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL      GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Wesley J. Donahue honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Wesley J. Donahue passed away on 26 March 1999 at the age of 82 years old and is interred at Hillcrest Cemetery and Mausoleum, Hamburg, New York

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DONLON**

**PETER J.**

**Address:** 28 BENSON AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** 1ST LT.

**Unit / Squadron:**

365TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, 358TH FIGHTER GROUP  
9TH AF THUNDERBOLT UNIT

**Medals / Citations:**

|  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL | DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS       |
| PURPLE HEART                                   | AIR MEDAL W/13 OAK LEAF CLUSTERS |
| AERIAL GUNNER MEDAL                            | GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL               |

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

First Lieutenant Peter J. Donlon honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force / 1LT Peter Dolan joined the Army-Air Force in November 1942

As a crew member of a Thunderbolt fighter-bomber, the crew named their aircraft the "Patsy Ann", in honor of Lieutenant Donlon's 13-year-old sister

Lieutenant Donlon was piloting his P-47 fighter when he was hit by enemy gunfire over France on 23 December 1944 / Lieutenant Peter Donlon was Killed in Action (KIA) when he was unable to control his aircraft and crash landed in a French field / First Lieutenant Peter J. Donlon had flown 74 missions

First Lieutenant Peter J. Donlon is interred at Lorraine American Cemetery (Lorraine, France)

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Peter J. Donlon was a graduate of the Little Seminary of St. Joseph's and the Little Flower / Prior to enlisting in the Army, Peter Donlon had worked as a postal clerk for the United States Post Office

The Republic P-47 Thunderbolt was one of the main United States Army Air Forces (USAAF) fighters of World War II and was one of the largest and heaviest fighter aircraft in history to be powered by a single piston engine / It was heavily armed with eight .50-caliber machine guns, four per wing / When fully loaded, the P-47 weighed up to eight tons, and in the fighter-bomber ground-attack roles could carry five-inch rockets or a significant



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

## Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

bomb load of 2,500 pounds; it could carry over half the payload of the B-17 bomber on long-range missions

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

The Distinguished Flying Cross is a military decoration awarded to any officer or enlisted member of the United States Armed Forces who distinguishes himself or herself in support of operations by "heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight, subsequent to November 11, 1918

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Air Medal is awarded to anyone who, while serving in any capacity in or with the Armed Forces of the United States, and has distinguished themselves by meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight / Subsequent awards are annotated with the traditional oak leaf clusters

The United States Army Air Force Aerial Gunner Wing medal (1939-1945) were awarded to graduates of the Army Air Force bombardier training school

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DOREMUS**

**PHILIP**

**B.**

**Address:** 3435 CLINTON STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

BATTERY "D", 768TH A.A.A. BATTALION (ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY)

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Philip B. Doremus honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Philip Doremus entered the Army prior to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor/ PFC Doremus served in the Aleutian Islands, part of the Alaskan Territory

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

With much of World War II fought in the air, anti-aircraft weapons were weapons that could specifically direct their offense against air targets / The mission of the Anti-Aircraft Artillery units were to detect hostile aircraft and destroy them / Radar aided anti-aircraft gunners by providing accurate information about the range, speed, and altitude of incoming enemy planes

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military award given to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DOSTER**

**ARNOLD**

**R.**

**Address:** 1908 UNION ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** T/5

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "B", 709TH TANK BATTALION

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL    AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL  
GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Technician Fifth-Grade (Corporal) Arnold Richard Doster honorably served in the United States Army / T/5 Arnold Doster saw combat action in the Ardennes, Central Europe, Normandy, Northern France and the Rhineland

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Two brothers of Arnold Doster, Arthur and Edwin, served in the Army during World War II / Arnold Doster joined the West Seneca Police Department in 1948 as a Patrolman and became Captain of the West Seneca Detective Bureau in the early 1970s, retiring in 1983 after 35 years of service / Arnold Doster was one of the Town's first Police Officers to patrol on motorcycle and he is also credited with starting the department's photo lab / Arnold Doster was Past Master of West Seneca Lodge #1111 F&AM / Arnold Richard Doster passed away on 4 February 2000 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at Saint Johns Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

The 709th Tank Battalion was constituted 13 January 1941 and committed to combat in the European Theater of Operations and landed in France on 11 July 1944 / The battalion participated in the campaigns for Normandy, Northern France, the Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace and Central Europe / The unit was at Eger, Germany at the end of World War II / The 709th Tank Battalion was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II / The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DOSTER**

**ARTHUR**

**W.**

**Address:** 1908 UNION ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

BATTERY "B", 62ND A.A.A. GUN BATTALION (ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY)

BATTERY "D", 108TH ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL 8 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

MARKSMAN: M-1 RIFLE

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Arthur William Doster honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Arthur Doster earned 8 Battle Stars serving in the combat areas of Algeria (French Morocco), Central Europe, the Rhineland, Rome, Arno, Sicily, Southern France and Tunisia (North Africa)

Sergeant Arthur W. Doster received his Honorable Discharge on 10 September 1945

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Arthur W. Doster was inducted into the Army on 25 February 1941 / Two brothers of Arthur Doster, Arnold and Edwin, served in the Army during World War II / Arthur Doster was a charter member of West Seneca Kiwanis Club / Arthur William Doster passed away on 15 May 2005 at the age of 86 years old and is interred in Saint Johns Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

With much of World War II fought in the air, anti-aircraft weapons were weapons that could specifically direct their offense against air targets / The mission of the Anti-Aircraft Artillery units were to detect hostile aircraft and destroy them / Radar aided anti-aircraft gunners by providing accurate information about the range, speed, and altitude of incoming enemy planes

The 108th Air Defense Artillery Brigade traces its lineage to the 514th Coast Artillery Regiment (Antiaircraft), which was formed in Schenectady, New York in October, 1923 / The Regiment was reorganized as the 108th Coast Artillery Group (Antiaircraft) on 3 January 1943 at Camp Davis, North Carolina, and again reorganized as



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

the 108th Antiaircraft Artillery Group, in May of the same year / The brigade deployed to Europe during World War II, and participated in the landings at Normandy, going ashore at Utah Beach on 28 June 1944 / The 108th then went on to provide antiaircraft defense for the city and port of Cherbourg, for eleven months, and then moved forward to the cities of Rheims and Rouen / The brigade was moved forward to Germany on 2 May 1945, and was stationed in Kaufhueren on 20 August 1945 / The Group was deactivated there on 14 December 1945, and returned to the Army reserve

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

Battle (Combat) Stars were presented to military personnel who were engaged in specific battles in combat under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action

The American Defense Service Medal (also referred to as the Pre-Pearl Harbor Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty between 8 September 1939 and 7 December 1941

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DOSTER**

**CARLTON H.**

**Address:** 830 RESERVE ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

226TH BATTALION, SECTION "A", RADIO OPERATIONS  
72ND FIGHTER WING  
261ST ARMY AIR FORCE BASE UNIT (BU)

**Medals / Citations:**

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

INTERIOR UNIT CITATION WREATH

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER - PISTOL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER - RIFLE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Carlton H. Doster honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force / PFC Carlton Doster enlisted in the Army - Air Force in September 1943 and served as a radio operator and mechanic / PFC Doster was also assigned to a P-47 Pilot Training Section and Radar Flight Control Units

**Base Assignments:**

Majors Field (Greenville, Texas) - Field was named in honor of Lieutenant Truett Majors, who was killed in the 1942 Battle of the Philippines in January 1942 / The base began operations on 26 June 1942 as a site for the USAAF basic flight-training center / Majors Field also was a major training base for the Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASP)s / Flying training was performed with Fairchild PT-19s as the primary trainer

Fort Sumner Army Air Field (Fort Sumner, New Mexico) - The airfield was opened in February 1941, and was rebuilt in 1942 by the United States Army Air Forces as a World War II training airfield. It was assigned to the AAF Flying Training Command West Coast Training Center / The flying cadets at the airfield were trained in advanced twin engine aircraft as phase three of their pilot training

**Miscellaneous:**

Carlton H. Doster was an abstractor prior to joining the military (An abstractor of title is a person who prepares and certifies the condensed history (known as an abstract of title) of the ownership of a particular parcel of real estate, consisting of a summary of the original grant and all subsequent conveyances and encumbrances affecting the property)

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II / The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

A Marksmanship Badge is a military badge of the United States Armed Forces presented to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course or high placement in an official marksmanship competition / The U.S. Military's Marksmanship Qualification Badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): Expert, Sharpshooter, and Marksman

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DOSTER**

**EDWIN**

**E.**

**Address:** 1908 UNION ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** T/5

**Unit / Squadron:**

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 125TH ARMORED ENGINEER BATTALION  
14TH ARMORED DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL 2 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Technician Fifth-Grade (Corporal) Edwin Elmer Doster honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Edwin Doster earned 2 Battle Stars for action in combat

**Base Assignments:**

Camp Campbell, Kentucky - Constructed in January 1942, The camp is named in honor of Union Army Brigadier General William Bowen Campbell, the last Whig Governor of Tennessee / Through World War II, Camp Campbell was the training ground for the 12th, 14th and 20th Armored divisions, Headquarters IV Armored Corps and the 26th Infantry Division

**Miscellaneous:**

Two brothers of Edwin Doster, Arthur and Arnold, served in the Army during World War II / Edwin Elmer Doster passed away on 24 April 2002 at the age of 80 years old and is interred in Saint Johns Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

Engineering Battalions performed many engineering tasks, including demolitions, obstacle emplacement, fortification, and light bridge building / Engineer general service regiments and battalions performed construction, repair, and maintenance duties of all kinds behind the front lines / When needed, combat engineers also could act as infantry

The 14th Armored Division was an armored division of the United States Army assigned to the Seventh Army of the Sixth Army Group during World War II / The 14th Armored Division was constituted and added to the roll of the US Army on 28 August 1942; it was activated on 15 November in a ceremony at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas / It was organized initially as a heavy division with two armored regiments (the 47th and 48th) and one armored



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

infantry regiment, the 62nd Infantry Regiment / It was reorganized from a heavy division to a light division on 20 September 1943 / The 14th Armored Division saw combat action in the Rhineland and Central Europe / The division is officially nicknamed the "Liberators"

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

Battle (Combat) Stars were presented to military personnel who were engaged in specific battles in combat under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II / The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DOSTER**

**RAYMOND H.**

**Address:** 80 BURCH AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE **Rank:** SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

411ST AAF (ARMY-AIR FORCE) BASE UNIT, SECTION "B"

**Medals / Citations:**

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Raymond H. Doster honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force / SGT Raymond Doster was assigned as an airplane mechanic

**Base Assignments:**

Brookley Field (Mobile, Alabama) - The Brookley Army Air Field was established in 1938 / During World War II, Brookley Army Air Field became the major Army Air Forces supply base for the Air Material Command in the southeastern United States and the Caribbean

Lowry Field, Colorado - Lowry was an Army-Air Corp. training base during World War II and was named on 11 March 1938 for 2d Lt Francis Lowry, the only Colorado pilot killed in World War I combat / Lowry training for Boeing B-29 Superfortress pilot qualification and for B-29 operational crew readiness began in 1943, and the base had a July 1943–Jan 1944 clerical school / In 1944 expansion of Lowry's airfield was planned and Lowry gained B-29 Flight Engineer training / Lowry Air Force Base was designated on 24 June 1948 and on 26 August 1948 established all Lowry training organizations under the 3415th Technical Training Wing / Lowry AFB was officially closed on 30 September 1994

**Miscellaneous:**

Raymond H. Doster married and moved to Mobile, Alabama

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II / The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DRABIK

FRANCIS

A.

**Address:** 1490 CENTER ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

BATTERY "B", 461ST A.A.A. (ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY), A.W. BATTALION (AIR WARNING)

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

5 BATTLE STARS

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Francis A. Drabik honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Francis Drabik earned 5 Battle Stars for action in combat and participated in the Battle of the Bulge during December 1944 - January 1945

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

With much of World War II fought in the air, anti-aircraft weapons were weapons that could specifically direct their offense against air targets / The mission of the Anti-Aircraft Artillery units were to detect hostile aircraft and destroy them / Radar aided anti-aircraft gunners by providing accurate information about the range, speed, and altitude of incoming enemy planes

The Battle of the Bulge, also known as the Ardennes Counteroffensive, was the last major German offensive campaign on the Western Front during World War II, and took place from 16 December 1944 to 25 January 1945 / It was launched through the densely forested Ardennes region of Wallonia in eastern Belgium, northeast France, and Luxembourg / The offensive was intended to stop Allied use of the Belgian port of Antwerp and to split the Allied lines, allowing the Germans to encircle and destroy four Allied armies and force the Western Allies to negotiate a peace treaty in the Axis powers' favor / The Germans achieved a total surprise attack on the morning of 16 December 1944, due to a combination of Allied overconfidence, preoccupation with Allied offensive plans, and poor aerial reconnaissance due to bad weather / American forces bore the brunt of the attack and incurred their highest casualties of any operation during the war / The battle also severely depleted Germany's armored forces, and they were largely unable to replace them. German personnel and, later, Luftwaffe aircraft (in the concluding stages of the engagement) also sustained heavy losses / The Germans had



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

## Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

attacked a weakly defended section of the Allied line, taking advantage of heavily overcast weather conditions that grounded the Allies' overwhelmingly superior air forces / Fierce resistance on the northern shoulder of the offensive, around Elsenborn Ridge, and in the south, around Bastogne, blocked German access to key roads to the northwest and west that they counted on for success / Columns of armor and infantry that were supposed to advance along parallel routes found themselves on the same roads / This, and terrain that favored the defenders, threw the German advance behind schedule and allowed the Allies to reinforce the thinly placed troops / The furthest west the offensive reached was the village of Foy-Nôtre-Dame, south east of Dinant, being stopped by the US 2nd Armored Division on 24 December 1944 / Improved weather conditions from around 24 December permitted air attacks on German forces and supply lines, which sealed the failure of the offensive / On 26 December the lead element of Patton's US Third Army reached Bastogne from the south, ending the siege / 19,000 American soldiers were killed making the Battle of the Bulge as the largest and bloodiest single battle fought by the United States in World War II

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

Battle (Combat) Stars were presented to military personnel who were engaged in specific battles in combat under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946

A Marksmanship Badge is a military badge of the United States Armed Forces presented to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course or high placement in an official marksmanship competition. The U.S. Military's Marksmanship Qualification Badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): Expert, Sharpshooter, and Marksman

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DRABIK

JOSEPH

M.

**Address:** 1490 CENTER ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "A", 11TH ARMORED INFANTRY

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Joseph M. Drabik honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Armored infantry is infantry equipped with armored personnel carriers (APCs) or infantry fighting vehicles (IFVs) for transport and combat

Infantry refers to soldiers moving and fighting on foot, armed with hand weapons such as rifles, machine guns, grenades, mortars, etc.

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DRABIK

STEPHEN

W.

**Address:** 1490 CENTER ROAD

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PFC

**Unit / Squadron:**

71ST ENGINEERS COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Stephen W. Drabik honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Stephen W. Drabik passed away on 18 September 1983 at the age of 62 years old and is interred at Saint Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

Engineering Battalions performed many engineering tasks, including demolitions, obstacle emplacement, fortification, and light bridge building / Engineer general service regiments and battalions performed construction, repair, and maintenance duties of all kinds behind the front lines / When needed, combat engineers also could act as infantry

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **DRAKE**

**DONALD**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* ARMY

*Rank:* PFC

*Unit / Squadron:*

CANNON COMPANY, 357TH INFANTRY

*Medals / Citations:*

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

EUROPEAN THEATER

*Service Notes:*

Private First-Class Donald Drake honorably served in the United States Army

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

Infantry refers to soldiers moving and fighting on foot, armed with hand weapons such as rifles, machine guns, grenades, mortars, etc.

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DRESCHER

FRANKLIN

E.

**Address:**

UNION ROAD

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** S2C

**Unit / Squadron:**

U.S.N.T.C. (US NAVAL TRAINING CENTER), UNIT G-16

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Seaman Second-Class Franklin E. Drescher honorably served in the United States Navy / S2C Franklin Drescher was assigned as a Trainer of Troops

**Base Assignments:**

Sampson, New York - In the three-and-a-half years of its operation during World War II, the Sampson Naval Training Station trained 411,429 naval recruits before closing in 1946 / The camp was named in honor of a local Seneca County native, Rear Admiral William T. Sampson, from Palmyra, NY, a hero of the Battle of Santiago during the Spanish-American War

United States Naval Training Center (Bainbridge, Maryland) - The center was activated on October 1, 1942 and named after Commodore William Bainbridge, who commanded the frigate Constitution when it defeated the British frigate HMS Java during the War of 1812 / Used as a Naval Training Center, a total of 24,484 recruit graduates were trained and graduated during World War II

U.S.N.T.C. (Bainbridge, Maryland) - United States Naval Training Center, Bainbridge (USNTC Bainbridge) was the U.S. Navy Training Center at Port Deposit, Maryland / By the end of World War II, the center had trained 244,277 recruits who transferred to various ships and stations throughout the world

**Miscellaneous:**

Franklin Drescher worked for East Aurora High School as a Physical Teacher, Coach and Athletic Director / Franklin E. Drescher passed away on 17 April 2000 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at Mount Hope Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

Seamen served as members of damage control or emergency and security alert teams / They participated in Navy ceremonies and took part in underway replenishment (transferring supplies from ship to ship at sea), and they worked with qualified personnel to gain job training and experience / A Seaman was knowledgeable in



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

naval drill duties, knots, steering and signaling / Also stood watch and handled gunnery duties

Naval Training Centers introduced recruits to “boot camp” training and indoctrination / The recruits were given a battery of tests to determine their educational and skill levels, then trained in indoctrination, ordnance and gunnery, seamanship, fire fighting, physical training, military drill and shipboard duties

*Name:* **DRONCKOWSKI**

**HENRY**

**J.**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* (UNKNOWN)

*Rank:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

Henry J. Dronckowski honorably served in the United States Military

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

Henry J. Dronckowski passed away on 15 February 1979 at the age of 63 years old and is interred at Saint Stanislaus Roman Catholic Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms

## Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DRUMB**

**EDWARD**

**Address:** 1726 CENTER ROAD

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** WT2C

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS BORUM (DE-790)

USS NORTH CAROLINA (BB-55)

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

ATLANTIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Watertender Second-Class (WT2C) Edward Drumb honorably served in the United States Navy

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

A Watertender is a crewman aboard a steam-powered ship who is responsible for tending to the fires and boilers in the ship's engine room / Maintained, repaired, and overhauled boiler system

The USS Borum (DE-790) was a Buckley-class destroyer escort and commissioned on 30 November 1943 and named in honor of Lieutenant (junior grade) John R. Borum (1907–1943) / The Borum spent her entire World War II service in the U.S. Atlantic Fleet / She served as an escort vessel along the east coast and in the Caribbean, as well as a training vessel in Chesapeake Bay / The USS Borum received one battle star for her participation in the invasion of Normandy / Commissioned on 30 November 1943 and decommissioned on 15 June 1946

The USS North Carolina (BB-55) was the lead ship of North Carolina-class battleships and commissioned on 9 April 1941 / She was the first newly constructed American battleship to enter service during World War II, and she took part in every major naval offensive in the Pacific Theater of Operations to become the most highly decorated American battleship of World War II, accumulating 15 battle stars / The North Carolina joined the long island-hopping campaign against the Japanese by assisting in the landing of U.S. Marines on the islands of Guadalcanal and Tulagi on 7 August 1942 / She was the only battleship in the naval force in the South Pacific, escorting the aircraft carriers Saratoga, Enterprise, and Wasp, surrounded by their cruisers and destroyers

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

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**Name:** DRYDEN

WILLIAM

M.

**Address:** 28 NORTH AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE

**Rank:** SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

UNIT HEADQUARTERS

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant William M. Dryden honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force

**Base Assignments:**

Page Field (Fort Myers, Florida) - The field was active during World War II as a Third Air Force training airfield / Page Field was named to honor Captain Richard Page, a World War I aviator who was credited with three German aircraft destroyed in combat and was the recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross along with the French Croix de Guerre and other awards

**Miscellaneous:**

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DUBKE**

**CARL**

**N.**

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE

**Rank:** S/SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

405TH SQUADRON, 38TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

ARMY GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Staff Sergeant Carl Nathan Dubke honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force / SSG Carl Dubke was the Gunner on the B-25J #44-2882-, 405th Bomber Squadron / SSG Carl Dubke was Killed in Action (KIA), along with 5 other crew members, on 30 December 1944 when his plane crashed in North Maluku, Indonesia

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Carl N. Dubke was employed by a manufacturing firm prior to enlisting in the Army-Air Force on 8 April 1943 / Carl Nathan Dubke was 28 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Little Rock National Cemetery, Little Rock, Arkansas

A bombardment group or bomb group was a group of bomber aircraft the United States Army Air Forces (USAAF) during World War II / It was the equivalent of an infantry regiment in the Army Ground Forces / A bombardment group was the key tactical control and administrative organization for bombers in all theaters of operation / U.S. bomb groups were numbered and classified into four types: Very Heavy (VH), Heavy (H), Medium (M), and Light (L) / Groups which combined bombers of differing categories into a single administrative organization were designated "Composite" groups

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military awarded to any member of the United States Military



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946

The American Campaign Medal (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II / The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DUBKE**

**HERBERT**

**C.**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* ARMY

*Rank:* PFC

*Unit / Squadron:*

COMPANY "B", 470TH INFANTRY BATTALION

*Medals / Citations:*

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

EUROPEAN THEATER

*Service Notes:*

Private First-Class Herbert C. Dubke honorably served in the United States Army

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

Herbert C. Dubke passed away in 1988 at the age of 69 years old and is interred at Saint Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

Infantry refers to soldiers moving and fighting on foot, armed with hand weapons such as rifles, machine guns, grenades, mortars, etc.

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DUDLEY

WALTER

W.

**Address:** 59 LIND AVENUE

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE

**Rank:** CPL

**Unit / Squadron:**

15TH AIR FORCE, 55TH BOMB WING

781ST BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON, 465TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (HEAVY)

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

7 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

DISTINGUISHED UNIT BADGE W/1 CLUSTER

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Walter W. Dudley honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force / CPL Walter Dudley served in Italy and earned 7 Battle Stars for combat action / While in Italy, Corporal Dudley was stationed at Pantanella Air Base

**Base Assignments:**

Pantanella Air Base (Cerignola, Apulia, Italy) - Opened in February 1944, the Air Base became home to two Heavy Bomber Groups of the 15th Air Force, composed of 6 squadrons in total / Both Bomb Groups (464BG(H) and 465BG(H)) flew the B-24 Liberator and participated in both strategic and tactical bombing missions throughout southern and eastern Europe / Over time both Groups earned two Distinguished Unit Citations / Airfield remained in operation until end of war, closing in July 1945

**Miscellaneous:**

A bombardment group or bomb group was a group of bomber aircraft the United States Army Air Forces (USAAF) during World War II / It was the equivalent of an infantry regiment in the Army Ground Forces / A bombardment group was the key tactical control and administrative organization for bombers in all theaters of operation / U.S. bomb groups were numbered and classified into four types: Very Heavy (VH), Heavy (H), Medium (M), and Light (L) / Groups which combined bombers of differing categories into a single administrative organization were designated "Composite" groups

Bomber aircraft assigned to the "Heavy" Bombardment group consisted of the B-17 Flying Fortress and B-24 Liberator aircraft



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

Battle (Combat) Stars were presented to military personnel who were engaged in specific battles in combat under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II / The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

The Distinguished Unit Citation was established on February 26th 1942, making it possible for the Secretary of War to issue citations in the name of the President of the United States to units of US Armed Forces and their Allies for heroism in action against an armed enemy from December 7th 1941 onwards / The unit must display such gallantry, determination, and esprit de corps in accomplishing its mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions as to set it apart and above other units participating in the same campaign

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **DUFFY**

**HOWARD**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* (UNKNOWN)

*Rank:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

Howard Duffy honorably served in the United States Military

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DUMBOLTON, SR.**

**JOEL**

**A.**

**Address:** 2068 UNION ROAD

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** MM1C

**Unit / Squadron:**

82ND N.C. BATTALION (NAVAL CONSTRUCTION), COMPANY "B", 1ST PLATOON

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Machinist's Mate First-Class Joel A. Dumbolton, Sr. honorably served in the United States Navy / MM1C Joel Dumbolton was assigned to the Navy Seabees

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The job of a Motor Machinist's Mate was to operate, maintain, and repair (organizational and intermediate level) ship propulsion machinery, auxiliary equipment, and outside machinery, such as: steering engine, hoisting machinery, food preparation equipment, refrigeration and air conditioning equipment, windlasses, elevators, and laundry equipment / Operated and maintained (organizational and Intermediate level) marine boilers, pumps, forced draft blowers, and heat exchangers; perform tests, transfers, and inventory of lubricating oils, fuels, and water / Maintained records and reports, and performed duties in the generation and stowage of industrial gases

Navy Seabees / After the attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941, and the use of civilian labor in war zones became impractical so the Navy created Construction Battalions (from which the abbreviation "C.B." became Seabees) / The Seabees have a history of building bases, bulldozing and paving thousands of miles of roadway and airstrips, bridges, roads, gasoline storage tanks, and Quonset huts for warehouses, hospitals, and housing

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military awarded to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DURST

EDWIN

W.

**Address:** 4992 SENECA STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE

**Rank:** T/SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

394TH SERVICE SQUADRON

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Technical Sergeant Edwin W. Durst honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

An Air Service Squadron would service one combat group, and to operate a base complete with finance service, fixed communications, medical dispensaries, interior guard, utilities, firefighting and motor transport

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DUSCH

CLIFFORD J.

**Address:** 3438 CLINTON STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY, 893RD A.A.A. A.W. BATTALION (ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY) (AIR WARNING)

62ND A.A.A. BATTALION (ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY)

**Medals / Citations:**

EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL      6 BATTLE STARS  
AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL                              GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

NORTH AFRICAN THEATER / EUROPEAN THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Clifford J. Dusch honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Clifford Dusch was stationed in England, Africa, Italy, France, and Germany / Sergeant Dusch earned his 6 Battle Stars during combat action in Algeria-French Morocco, Tunisia, Sicily, Rome-Arno, Southern France and the Rhineland / Sgt Dusch shipped to Europe on the USS Monterey and returned back to the United States by airplane

Brothers of Clifford Dusch, PVT Myron Dusch served in the United States Army-Air Force and SSGT Elmer Dusch served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Clifford J. Dusch passed away on 12 July 2004 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at Saint Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

With much of World War II fought in the air, anti-aircraft weapons were weapons that could specifically direct their offense against air targets / The mission of the Anti-Aircraft Artillery units were to detect hostile aircraft and destroy them / Radar aided anti-aircraft gunners by providing accurate information about the range, speed, and altitude of incoming enemy planes

The USS Monterey was an ocean liner that saw service as a troopship in World War II

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

Battle (Combat) Stars were presented to military personnel who were engaged in specific battles in combat under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action

The American Defense Service Medal (also referred to as the Pre-Pearl Harbor Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty between 8 September 1939 and 7 December 1941

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DUSCH

ELMER

P.

**Address:** 3438 CLINTON STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** S/SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "B", 131ST ORDNANCE MAINTENANCE BATTALION

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Staff Sergeant Elmer Dusch honorably served in the United States Army

Brothers of Elmer Dusch, PVT Myron Dusch served in the United States Army-Air Force and Sgt Clifford Dusch served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Polk, Louisiana - Fort Polk was located approximately ten miles east of Leesville, Louisiana and was named in honor of the Right Reverend Leonidas Polk, the first Episcopal Bishop of the Diocese of Louisiana, and a distinguished Confederate general in the American Civil War / While primarily a training facility, Camp Polk also served as a military prison for Germans captured during World War II / The first prisoners of war (POWs), who began arriving in Louisiana in July 1943, were from the Afrika Korps, Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's troops who fought in North Africa

**Miscellaneous:**

The U.S. Army Ordnance Corps mission was to support the development, production, acquisition, and sustainment of weapon systems, ammunition, missiles, electronics, and ground mobility material during World War II to provide combat power to the U.S. Army



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DUSCH

MYRON

**Address:** 3438 CLINTON STREET

**Service Branch:** ARMY - AIR FORCE

**Rank:** PVT

**Unit / Squadron:**

384TH SERVICE GROUP, 608TH SQUADRON

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Private Myron Dusch honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force

Brothers of Myron Dusch, SSGT Elmer Dusch served in the United States Army and Sgt Clifford Dusch served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

Lakeland Air Field (Lakeland, Florida) - Constructed in 1942, Air Service Command (ASC) used the base station as a staging area for organizing, training and deploying Service Groups to overseas theaters

**Miscellaneous:**

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DUSCHEN

EARL

M.

**Address:**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SGT

**Unit / Squadron:**

BATTERY "D", 102ND A.A.A. (ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY), AIR WARNING BATTALION

**Medals / Citations:**

ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON

4 BATTLE STARS

AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

PHILIPPINE LIBERATION MEDAL

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

PACIFIC THEATER

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Earl M. Duschen honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Earl Dushen earned his 4 Battle Stars during combat action in the East Indies, Papua, New Guinea and the Philippine Islands Sergeant served from 10 December 1940 to 11 June 1945

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Earl Duschen was a retiree of the West Seneca School System, a member of the Holy Name Society at Annunciation Church and a lifetime member of the West Seneca Fire Company / Earl M. Duschen passed away on 8 September 1998 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at Saint Adalberts Cemetery, Lancaster, New York

With much of World War II fought in the air, anti-aircraft weapons were weapons that could specifically direct their offense against air targets / The mission of the Anti-Aircraft Artillery units were to detect hostile aircraft and destroy them / Radar aided anti-aircraft gunners by providing accurate information about the range, speed, and altitude of incoming enemy planes

The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Medal) was a military awarded to any member of the United States Military who served in the Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1945

Battle (Combat) Stars were presented to military personnel who were engaged in specific battles in combat under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action

The American Defense Service Medal (also referred to as the Pre-Pearl Harbor Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces intended to recognize those military service members who had performed



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

military duty between 8 September 1939 and 7 December 1941

The Philippine Liberation Medal was a military award of the Republic of the Philippines presented to any service member, of both Philippine Commonwealth and allied militaries, who participated in the liberation of the Philippine Islands between the dates of 17 October 1944 and 2 September 1945 / The Philippine Liberation Medal is intended to recognize military service in the last days of World War II when the military of Japan was driven from the Philippines and then to eventually surrender in September 1945 / To be awarded the medal, a service member must have served in the Philippines for at least thirty days during the eligible time period

The American Campaign Medal/Ribbon (also known as the (ATO) American Theater of Operations Ribbon) was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The ribbon was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II. The requirements for the American Campaign Ribbon were for service within the American Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946. The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only for the entirety of the Second World War, and was only made a full-sized medal in 1947

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# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DYKSTRA**

**GEORGE**

**H.**

**Address:** 1419 UNION ROAD

**Service Branch:** COAST GUARD

**Rank:** S1C

**Unit / Squadron:**

CAPTAIN OF THE PORT

**Medals / Citations:**

**Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Seaman First-Class George H. Dykstra honorably served in the United States Coast Guard

**Base Assignments:**

Washington, D.C

**Miscellaneous:**

Seamen served as members of damage control or emergency and security alert teams / They participated in Navy ceremonies and took part in underway replenishment (transferring supplies from ship to ship at sea), and they worked with qualified personnel to gain job training and experience / A Seaman was knowledgeable in naval drill duties, knots, steering and signaling / Also stood watch and handled gunnery duties

Operating as part of the United States Navy, the United States Coast Guard was given the mission to patrol and protect the shores of the United States, with a large role looking for enemy German submarines in the Atlantic Theater / The Coast Guard also rescued survivors from naval vessels near the U.S coast whether it be attacked merchant ships or sunken German U-Boats



# West Seneca Answers the Call to Arms Residents in World War II



Town of West Seneca, New York

*Name:* **DYLONG**

**HENRY**

**J.**

*Address:*

*Service Branch:* (UNKNOWN)

*Rank:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

*Medals / Citations:*

*Theater of Operations / Assignment:*

*Service Notes:*

Henry J. Dylong honorably served in the United States Military

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

(NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE)

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