

Bailey Boys Must Be Counted

In "Who Won The War" List

May 10, 1945



---

The pictures shown herewith are of the five fighting sons of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bailey, of the Latona community. Shown in the order of their appearance are: Top Row — Pvt. Ernest Bailey, 29, wounded twice in Italian fighting; S/Sgt. Chester Bailey, 26, wounded twice in fighting in France and Germany. Second Row — Sgt. Melvin Bailey, 31, awarded Purple Heart for heroic action in Germany; Pfc. Harvey Bailey, 20 serving in India. At right — Private Hansel Bailey, 18, in training at Camp Hood, Texas. They have one brother not in the service and three sisters at home.

---



# Five Brothers From Latona Family Wearing U. S. Uniforms

---

If you begin trying to figure out "who won the war" don't overlook the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bailey of Latona.

Five of the Bailey boys — Ernest, Chester, Melvin, Harvey and Hansel — have been doing their bit to bring the peace that was announced this week, and according to their records, they have been doing a pretty neat job of it.

Two of the boys, Ernest and Chester have received two wounds each, the last to be reported was the second round of wounds received by Ernest in Italy on April 22.

The parents of these fighting Bailey boys also have a purple heart citation that has been awarded their son, Melvin, for heroic action on the western front, as a member of the Ninth Army's famed tank batallion.

Starting with Ernest, the last to be reported wounded, let's have a look at the records of the Bailey boys:

Ernest is a buck private in the 473 Infantry Division. He is 29 years of age and had been in the service three years on last January 12. He went across the Atlantic the 26th of last October, his mother tells you without referring to any notes or records of date. She has the exact date concerning each of her five sons without thumbing through letters or guessing which date applies to what boy. Ernest was reported wounded on February 22 and returned to duty in a short time to resume slugging it out with the Nazis on the northern Italian front until he was put out of action by a second wound on April 22.

Chester is a staff sergeant and has been serving during the bitter campaigns waged by the First Army on the western front. He is 26 years of age. He was wounded during the early fighting in France and soon returned to his outfit. His second wound was received in Germany on February 3. He has been in the service four years and has been overseas two years. Following his last wounds which consisted of a bullet wound through his arm and thigh, he was invalided home and is now in the Army's general hospital in Memphis, Tenn.

Tenn.

Melvin is 31 years of age and is a Sergeant in the Ninth Army Tank corps. He has been in service three years and was sent overseas last August. It was to him that the Purple Heart citation was awarded by Major General A. R. Bolling, commanding the 9th tank batallion. This citation, which explains itself reads:

"Award of Bronze Star Medal Citation — Sergeant Melvin Bailey 36054-506, 111st Tank Batallion (attached to the 84th Infantry Division) United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in Germany, 3 March, 1945. The tank in which Sgt. Bailey was gunner received three direct hits from enemy tank fire. A few minutes after the crew had abandoned the tank it was discovered that the driver had not escaped. Sgt. Bailey realizing the tank was exposed to enemy fire and that an explosion was possible, returned to it to help remove the driver and carry him to safety. He returned a second time to retrieve the small arms that were left in the tank when the crew abandoned it. Sgt. Bailey's quick thinking and cool courage reflect great credit on himself and the armed forces of the United States."

The fourth of these Bailey Boys is in India. He is Pfc. Harvey who is serving in the quartermaster's truck corps. Harvey is only 20 years of age but has been in service for two years. He was shipped to India in three months after being inducted into the service and has never had a furlough home.

Hansel, who is only 18 years of age, is the fifth of the brothers. He has only been in service since January 9, and is in training now at Camp Hood, Texas.