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WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

MR24 35 GOVT=WUX WASHINGTON DC DEC 29 1023A

RAYMOND E WOODFORD=

524 NORTH C ST OS=

REGRET TO INFORM YOU YOUR SON STAFF SERGEANT CHARLES A
WOODFORD WAS ON TWENTY NINE NOVEMBER SERIOUSLY INJURED IN
ACTION IN THE EUROPEAN AREA PERIOD YOU WILL BE ADVISED AS
REPORTS OF CONDITION ARE RECEIVED=
ULIO THE ADJUTANT GENERAL.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

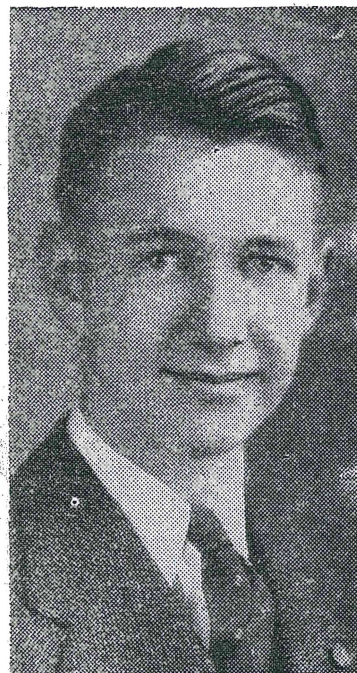
OSKALOOSA DAILY HERALD

3 JAN 44 p. 1

(IOWA)

ish Frontier

Woodford Wounded In Air Battle



S/Sgt. Charles Woodford, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray E. Woodford of Oskaloosa, who has been serving as flight engineer and tail gunner on an American bomber flying over Nazi occupied Europe, has been seriously injured on a mission, according to word received by the parents from the War Department this morning.

Young Woodford was injured on November 29 and has been in an American hospital in England following the return of the bomber from its mission.

No details of the injury were disclosed by the War Department message but letters from Lieut. Harry Poland, pilot, and other members of the crew indicated that Charles was injured during a raid over a German city, with the plane flying in temperatures 65 degrees below zero.

The parents say that one of Charles' greatest disappointments was the fact that he was separated from his crew and was not able to spend Christmas with his buddies. The fact that Charles had received his first Oak Leaf Cluster indicates that the crew was well along on its

REDS HOT ON HEELS OF THE FLEEING FOE

By HENRY SHAPIRO
(U.P. Staff Correspondent)

Moscow, Jan. 3—Russian tanks, cavalry and motorized infantry swept westward across the Ukraine from Poyaski, 12 miles from old Poland, in close pursuit of demoralized German legions today and were expected to cross the frontier before nightfall.

Olevsk in Red Hands.

The almost complete collapse of Nazi resistance under the impact of the greatest Soviet offensive of the war indicated that Olevsk, six miles west of Poyaski and last station on the Kiev-Warsaw railway east of the old Polish border, already was in Russian hands.

Gens. Jodl, Zeitzler Arrive.

(A Moscow broadcast reported by the federal communications commission said Gen. Alfred Jodl, Adolf Hitler's personal chief of staff, and Gen. Kurt Zeitzler, chief of the German general staff, had arrived at the headquarters of Marshal Maanstein, commander of the Ukrainian front.

Hitler May Appear.

The broadcast said Hitler had empowered Jodl to remove Army commanders from their posts if he deemed it necessary. Hitler was said to have planned to visit the front himself, but the defeat at Zhitomir "made him decide to stay at home.")

Hot, Untouched Meals.

Front dispatches said Soviet vanguards were advancing so rapidly on the heels of the fleeing enemy that they found hot, untouched meals on tables and ovens alight in military quarters in some of the 150 towns and villages engulfed west and southwest of Kiev.

12 Miles in 24 Hours.

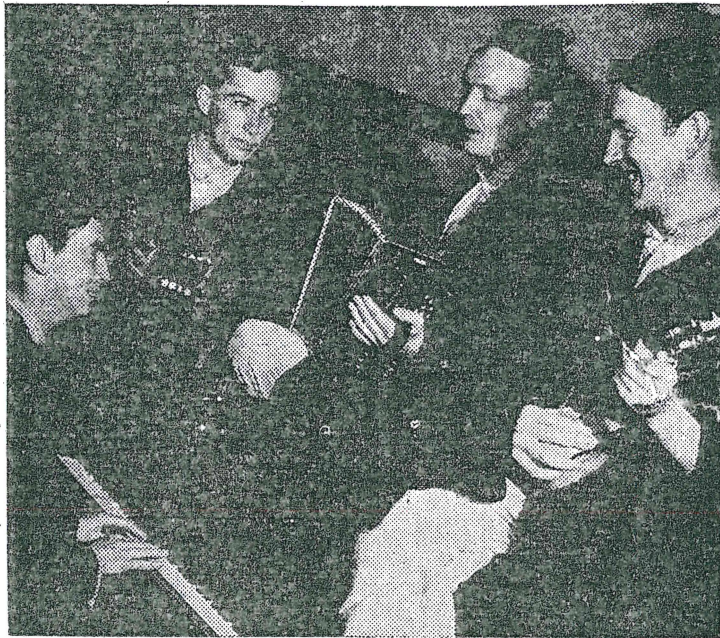
Poyaski fell after a 12-mile Soviet advance in 24 hours.

No Time for Demolition.

German demolition squads had no time to blow up bridges or fire villages to cover their retreat and many units were abandoning all

OSKALOOSA, IOWA, SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 1944.

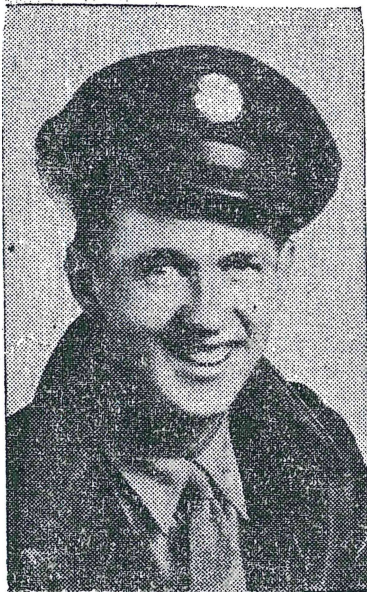
Woodford Recuperating in General Hospital



U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo

Staff Sergeant Charles E. Woodford, (right) son of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Woodford of Oskaloosa, is shown with three other wounded American soldiers relaxing at the Halloran General Hospital at Staten Island, N. Y. Woodford wears the Air Medal with one cluster and was a tail gunner who took part in eleven raids over enemy territory. Others in the picture are Staff Sergeant Walter E. O. Laughlin (seated at the piano) of Indianapolis, Ind., winner of the Air Medal for six raids as a Fortress waist gunner; Private Robert B. Short (left, standing) of Cambridge, Md., who saw action throughout the African campaign until the battle of Tunisia, and Sergeant Wallace J. Payne of Davison, Mich., who holds the Air Medal as a ball turret gunner. Woodford is home on a furlough.

Charles Woodford Out of Army Air Force



S/Sgt. Charles A. Woodford, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Woodford of 524 north C street, has received his discharge from the Army Air Force at Lowry Field, Denver, Colo.

Woodford entered the Army Air Corps Oct. 31, 1942, at Fort MacArthur, Los Angeles, Calif. He received his Army Air Force basic training at Kearns, U., and was then sent to an Armorer's Course at Lowry Field, Colo. In April, 1943, he was graduated from the Flexible Gunnery School at Fort Myers, Fla., and later trained at Walla Walla, Wash., Flight Engineer Army Air Base as an armorer and tail gunner.

Charles left for overseas duty August 1943, and was stationed near Bury St. Edmonds, England, as a tail gunner on the Flying Fortress, "Lady Lillian." In November 1943 Charles was wounded in a raid over Germany and was hospitalized in England.

Woodford was awarded the Air Medal with one Cluster, the Purple Heart, the E. T. O. with one Battle Star for the Aerial Offensive over Europe, the American theater ribbon and the Unit Presidential Citation.

S/Sgt. Woodford returned to the States March 25, 1944, and was hospitalized at Halloran General Hospital, Staten Island and Hot Springs, Ark. He was last assigned to duty at Lowry Field, Colo., as crew chief for engine change for

Melvin C. Briggs Out of Sub Service

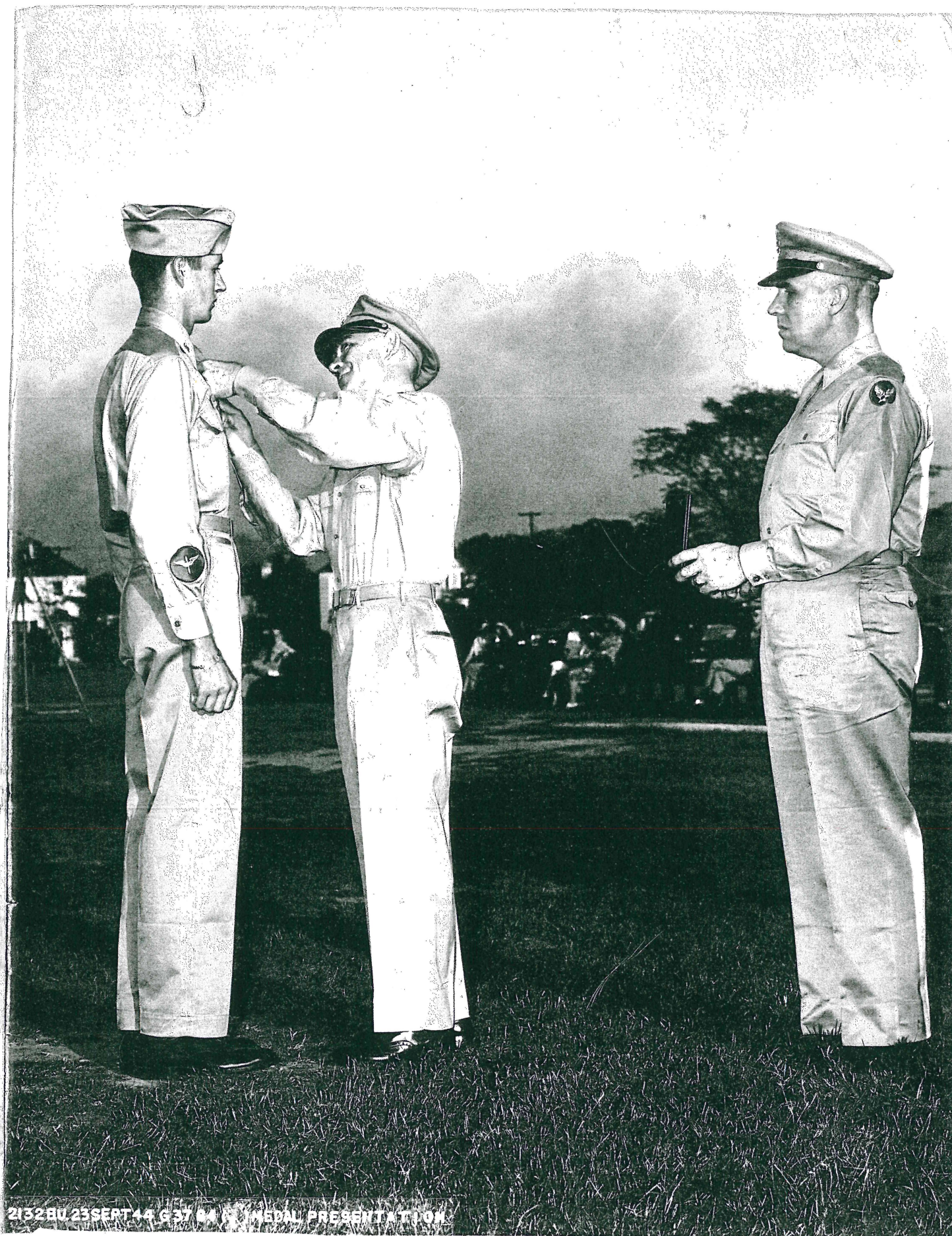


—Kellys' Stud
Quatermaster 2/c Melvin C. Briggs, husband of Mrs. Bett Panelerick Briggs and son of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Briggs of Ne

B-29s and was stationed there until discharged.

Charles is planning to enroll at Iowa State college in the engineering course.

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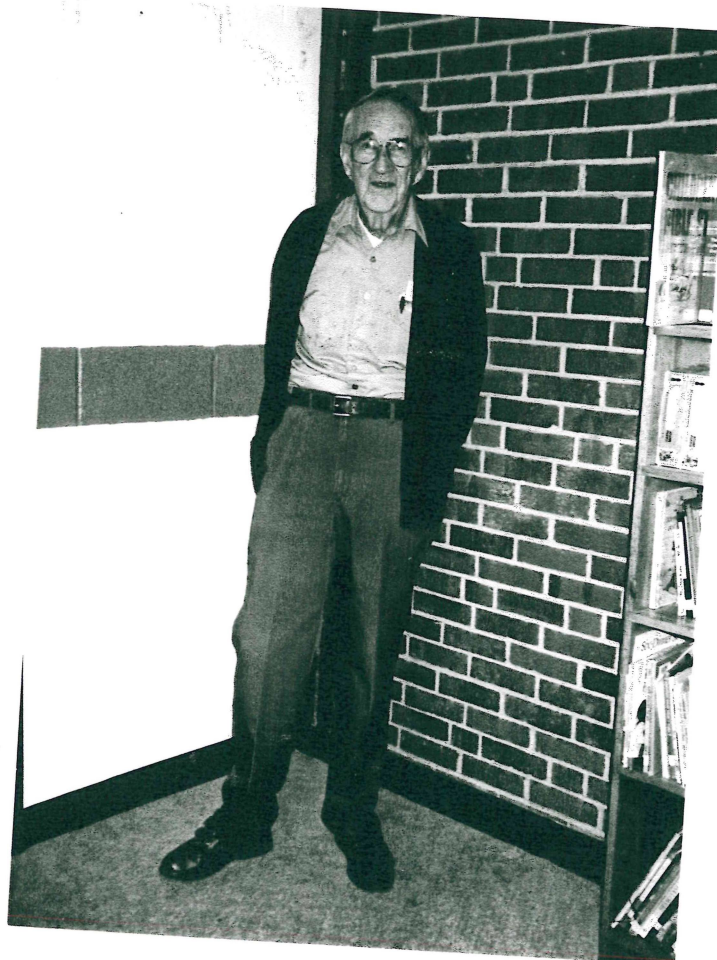


2132BU 23SEPT 44 G 37 84 MEDAL PRESENTATION

Public Relations Office
Maxwell Field, Ala.
25 September 1944

Aviation Cadet Charles A. Woodford, 524 North C. St., Oakaloosa, Iowa, is being awarded the Purple Heart at Maxwell Field, Ala., by Brig. Gen. William S. Gravely, base commanding general. Woodford's Purple Heart came as the result of being wounded over Bremen, Germany. He was a tail gunner on a B-17 Flying Fortress operating from England. Lt. Col. Charles R. Cross, Deputy for Training, AAF Pre-Flight School, is shown at right.

Official U. S. AAF Photo -- By AAF Training Command from
Maxwell Field.



CHARLES A. WOODFORD
B-17 TAIL GUNNER
IN WWII

PHOTO TAKEN 8 NOV 2001
AT HIS CHURCH
(MEETING ROOM)
BELLEVILLE, IL