

My darling wife where ever you are,  
 The sun is always shining.  
 A thousand miles away I am,  
 Always thinking of you.

For the one I miss,  
 Love me ever,  
 The happiest man,  
 Always near.

In this USA,  
 I am alone,  
 She is waiting,  
 I want to come back home.

I am waiting sweetheart,  
 There is nothing else to do,  
 For some day your husband,  
 Is coming back to you.

I would travel with no gear,  
 Content,  
 You with me,  
 I want to write,  
 I can't write,  
 I can't write.



**The Front as Counter-Attack Opened**



**Bravest  
 OF THE  
 Brave**



# 95th KO's 47,000 Germans in 145 Days of ETO Combat

During the 95th Division's 145 days of ETO combat operations, men of the Victory Division inflicted a conservatively estimated 47,264 casualties on opposing Germans, conquered 728 square miles of France and Germany and captured 439 French and German cities, towns and villages.

A review of the statistics which have been compiled on the Victory Division's operations shows that the Germans suffered casualty losses of from 4 to 1 in one campaign to 36 to 1 in another. In opposing the 95th, the enemy always paid a much higher price than he exacted.

The total of 47,264 Nazi soldiers knocked out of action makes an average

of 326 daily. Of the total, 31,933 were prisoners of war, 15,276 were killed and wounded.

(The PW figures are an exact count, but the statistics on German killed and wounded are highly conservative estimates made daily throughout the Division's operations.)

During the 14 days of the fierce fighting for Metz and its ring of forts, the Germans lost a total of 11,205 officers and men to the Victory Division, including 5,123 killed and wounded and 6,082 prisoners.

## Saar More Costly

The swift drive to the Saar and the protracted fighting in Saarlautern's West-wall suburbs lasted a month and a half, and was even more costly to the German forces. Enemy casualties in this campaign exceeded 11,000, including an estimated 7,400 killed and wounded.

The Ruhr pocket battle was a comparatively cheap one from the standpoint of Division casualties. But the Germans suffered heavily, losing an estimated 2,399 men in dead and wounded in the 11-day battle. And from this pocket the 95th Division extracted nearly 20,000 prisoners, including Franz von Papen, Germany's ace diplomat; his son, an SS captain, and the diplomat's son-in-law, at whose estate he was taken.

Dortmund, Germany's eleventh largest city and second city of the Ruhr with a pre-war population of 537,000, fell to the hard-fighting Victors, as did Hamm, the Reich's largest rail marshalling center and a primary target for Allied bombers for more than five years.

Soest, Werl, Kamen, Unna and other smaller industrial cities of the Ruhr region also fell before Division troops. In all, the 95th drove the German army out of 256 cities, towns and villages in the 432-square-mile area which was conquered by the Division during this campaign.

Most significant of all, the Division and its attachments cleared one-third of the entire Ruhr pocket during the 11-day operation.

The full extent of the huge masses of enemy equipment and material destroyed and captured by the Division during all ETO operations may never be known, but a conservative score kept on the Ruhr pocket operation serves as an example. 13,500 Rifles.

## Taylor Cited For Heroic Achievement

Ahoskie. — Pfc. Johnnie L. Taylor, husband of the former Helen White of Ahoskie has been cited recently for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on January 23, 1945, in Germany.

"When a direct hit by a German artillery shell shattered the building in which Pfc. Taylor's observation post was located, Taylor, although severely shaken by the blast, proceeded to extricate an injured comrade who had been pinned down by fall timber. After rescuing his companion from the wreckage, Taylor returned to his post. His courageous devotion to duty and disregard for his own safety reflect great credit on Pfc. Taylor and exemplify high traditions of the military service," the citation stated.

Pfc. Taylor operated a store at Hexalena before entering the service.

## 95th Doughs Capture Six Crated Airplanes

WITH 95TH INF. DIV.—When G Co. of the 379th Regt. whipped through from Flscheim to the northeast corner of Krefeld-Uerdingen in a double-time all-night battle, it incidentally overran the German airfield on the outskirts of Krefeld.

But the boys noted that the Flugplatz was barren of airplanes.

A few minutes later, galloping through the railroad yards, they discovered the missing airplanes neatly crated on flat cars—four ME109s, one Spitfire and one P51 Mustang.

Capt. Alfred Rickey, of Providence, R.I., posted a guard over the railborne air fleet, and took off with his troops.

March 1, 1945.

## Pfc. Johnnie Taylor Decorated in Europe

Pfc. Johnnie L. Taylor, son of John R. Taylor and the late Mrs. Taylor of Route 4, Ahoskie, has been awarded the Expert Combat Infantryman badge. He also received the Purple Heart for slight injury received in

fighting in Germany recently, according to his wife, the former Miss Helen White, who lives in Ahoskie.

Pfc. Taylor has returned to combat duty and is now in Belgium.