

Troy Man Missing In Action

Anxiously waiting for word from her son, Pvt. Francis Dunn, who was reported slightly wounded in action in Korea in July 16, Mrs. Katharine Dunn of 22 Mechanic Street, yesterday received a telegram from the Adjutant General of the Army stating that her boy had been missing in combat since the July date.

Mrs. Dunn received a telegram from the Army Nov. 10 that her son was wounded, but it did not mention at what hospital he was stationed.

Now, approximately six months after his reported injury, Mrs. Dunn has received word that he was missing.

The local youth, as the mother stated had been in the habit of writing home at least three times a week.

From July 15 Mrs. Dunn had not received a letter from her son. The first correspondence from the battle area was from the Army reporting that he was wounded. The second, the one she received Wednesday, stated that he was missing in action.

The 21-year-old soldier enlisted in the U. S. Army in August, 1943, and after receiving his basic training, was assigned to the 24th Division. It was with the 24th Division that he saw combat in Korea.

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Sgt. Donald LaDieu, formerly of Headquarters Co., 105th Infantry, who was awarded the Silver Star medal for gallantry in action during the "banzai" attack of the Japanese on Saipan, has been reported "missing in action" in Korea since Dec. 12. His wife who resides at 11-7 Garden Court, 101st Street, has received official word from the Defense Department.

Sergeant LaDieu was one of the Headquarters Co. detachment which, using pickaxes and shovels when ammunition gave out, fought off the fanatical Japanese attack which resulted in the loss of so many lives in the regiment.

Sergeant LaDieu reentered service on Sept. 8, 1949, exactly three years after his return from World War II. Shortly after that he was sent to Japan. Last June his wife, the former Mary Elizabeth Rowan, and their son, Donald Vincent LaDieu who was 4 years old on Tuesday, were to have joined him. The Defense Department delayed their departure and then Mrs. LaDieu was informed that her husband had gone to Korea with the 31st Regiment, Seventh Division.

She last heard from him on Dec. 7 in a letter which was dated Nov. 24, the day after Thanksgiving. His regiment was later trapped by Red Chinese forces in the Chosan Reservoir section. He had taken part in the Inchon landing.

Sergeant LaDieu is a native of this city where he was born 30 years ago and the son of Mrs. Harvey LaDieu, sr., of 28 118th Street, and the late Mr. LaDieu. He was graduated from Lansingburg High School.

Sergeant LaDieu left Troy with the 105th Infantry in October, 1940, trained with the regiment at Fort McClellan and went overseas as platoon sergeant of an intelligence and reconnaissance platoon. He was offered a commission on Saipan but turned it down; his former comrades in the regiment said today. Sergeant LaDieu was awarded both the Silver Star and Bronze Star medals during World War II.

Troy Woman Has Two Relatives Missing In War

For a Troy woman, the Korean War has spelled sorrow, not once, but twice.

Mrs. Vincent Rowan of 896 River Street, Troy on January 13 was notified that her son-in-law, Sgt. Donald A. LaDieu was missing in action since Dec. 12. He was the husband of her daughter, the former Betty Rowan. Notification came to Mrs. Rowan's daughter on the couple's fifth wedding anniversary.

For a second time recently, Mrs. Rowan was told of a relative who was on the Department of Defense "missing" list. He is Ensign James Statia of Granville, a nephew of Mrs. Rowan. Ensign Statia is the son and only child of Postmaster and Mrs. Charles Statia of Granville.

Mrs. Rowan has faith that both young men will turn up. In a conversation with a Troy Observer-Budget reporter, she said, "we are hoping to hear from Donald. He was lost at the Chongjin Reservoir fighting when the Communist forces struck our men there."