

Pfc. Edward F. Coiteux ^{1/14/51} Reported Missing In Action In Korea

Mr. and Mrs. Louis G. Coiteux of 333 First Street were notified by the Department of Defense yesterday that their 18-year-old son, Pfc. Edward F. Coiteux is missing in action.

According to the telegram, the young soldier has been missing since December 2.

He was an infantryman assigned to Company A, 32nd Infantry Regimental Combat Team of the Seventh Infantry Division. His unit was one of the first to bear the brunt of the gigantic Chinese Communist assault on American forces in the Chosin Reservoir area in Northeast Korea in early December.

His unit, together with the First Marine Division, made the epic retreat through the cold mountain passes back to the seaport of Hungnam for evacuation.

Young Coiteux's last letter was dated November 20 and he wrote his mother at that time. "I expect our unit will be sent back to Tokyo soon."

Two of the Seventh Division's regiments, the 32nd and the 31st were mentioned in United Press news dispatches on Dec. 3 when Charles Moore, UP Correspondent wrote:

"The Seventh Division men made a bloody retreat down the east side of Chosin Reservoir in northeast Korea to Hagaru at the southern tip. From there, U.S. Marines and Air Force pilots in probably the greatest mercy flight in history flew 1,000 casualties to rear area hospitals.

"The haggard, dirty and often bloodstained American troops had battled their way 20 miles from the village of Sinhung-Ni to Hagaru through Communist roadblocks and past enemy units who swept them with fire from the snow covered hills."

Arthur French Reported Slain In Korea

Mr. and Mrs. Vilroy M. French of 1906 Seventh Avenue have received word that their son, Pfc. Arthur R. French has been killed in action while fighting in Korea.

The telegram from the Secretary of Defense which was received Monday evening by the soldier's parents, followed an earlier telegram of March 26, stating that Private French had been missing in action since March 2.

Private French was born in Mineville and was educated in Mineville schools. He enlisted in the Army in 1949.

He received his basic training at Camp Pickett, Va., and later was sent to Fort Lewis, Wash., where he was assigned to the Second Division of the Infantry.

He was sent to Korea last year and was wounded Aug. 31. After receiving treatment in a government hospital in Japan, he returned to the Korean front in November.

Private French is survived by his parents and three brothers, all servicemen. They are Cpl. Robert W. French of the Air Force, stationed in Korea; Pfc. Richard M. French of the Army, also in Korea; and Francis V. French, seaman 1st class of the Navy, stationed in Maryland. He is also survived by his maternal grandmother, Mrs. John Sharrow of Mineville.