

UP HIS SLEEVE
 "It's funny how he's so lucky at cards and then loses his winnings at the race track."
 "Funny nothing! They won't let him shuffle the horses."

Youth From Elmira Serve Nation At Varied Posts

By MARGARET C. KENNEDY
 The Marines are getting first place in the column this week. Corporal John N. Braun joined the Marines in September, 1940. His enlistment was for four years and his mother tells us he is going to

enlist for another four years some time this month.

John trained alternately at Paris Island, Cuba, and New River before he was sent into the battle area of the South Pacific. He remained there for over two years and was in most of the battles of the South Pacific Area during the time he was there. Besides having six stars on his campaign ribbon, John has been awarded the purple Heart and two Citations for Meritorious Service.

One of the Citations from General Vandergrift is for the defense of a very strategic point on Guadalcanal. John's battalion held the enemy off for three days, although under extremely heavy artillery barrage. At one time the men of the battalion fought the enemy hand to hand. Finally they were able to make a counter attack which forced the enemy to withdraw leaving half of its men dead on the field.

The Second Citation is a personal one from W. H. Rupertus, Commanding General of John's Division. It is a commendation for meritorious service in action against Japanese forces on Cape Gloucester, New Britain, on Jan. 3, 1944. The Citation states that John, while serving as squadron leader of a machine gun platoon, although wounded earlier in the battle, manned the squad's gun after the gunner had been killed and delivered such accurate fire that he was largely responsible for the repulse of the attack upon that sector of the line.

The Citation further states that Corporal Braun left the gun only when he collapsed from loss of blood. John has just ended a thirty-day furlough spent at his home and is in Brooklyn awaiting further assignment. He was graduated from St. Mary's School and the Southside High School and entered the service soon after completing his High School course.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Braun of 552 Schuyler Ave. and members of the family are parishioners of St. Mary's Parish.

SS. Peter and Paul's Parish was our next stop. From there we heard about Sgt. Richard Davis. Richard enlisted in the Army in October, 1940, and trained in camps in New Jersey, Mississippi, Louisiana and California. During his training, Richard attended the Army Cooking School and was given a certificate on completing the course but he has since transferred to the Ordnance branch.

He was sent to England in January, 1943, and has seen action in all the major battles of the European Area. He took part in the African Invasion, helped liberate Sicily and later Italy.

Richard hasn't said much about the places he has been during the past year but he did mention the Churches in Italy. He says they are the most beautiful ones that he has ever seen. Richard was graduated from No. 1 School and after attending High School for two years, enlisted in the Army.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Davis of 516 Dewitt Ave.

Our next call was at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Grady, 310 West Fifth St. Their son, Capt. Thomas F. Grady, entered the Air Corps in January, 1942. He trained at fields in Alabama and Florida and in November, 1942, received his Wings at Columbus, Miss. He was sent into the South Pacific battle area in June, 1943, and spent about five months there as pilot of a B-24 in the Air Transport Command.

Tom's ship, the 'Killarney Killer,' so named because almost all of the members of the crew were Irish, was forced down and only Tom, the navigator and radio operator were able to make a safe landing. Tom suffered a severe attack of malaria and was returned to this country in November, 1943.

After spending some time recuperating at a rest camp, he was assigned as liaison officer at Langley Field, Va. His wife and eight-month-old son, Michael, are residing with him at his present post. Mrs. Grady is the former Miss Marguerite Furey of Elmira. Tom was graduated from SS. Peter and Paul's School and the Academy. The members of the Grady family are parishioners of St. Patrick's Church.

Our last call for the week was up in St. Casimir's Parish. (We hope Father Cieslinski has noticed we have heeded his warning and have made that last vowel in Casimir an

Catholic missionaries grew the first Magellan, who first sailed round the world, was a Catholic.

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