

Hope Grows Ping Safe; Newland Back in Combat

**Man Reported Missing Dec. 20, Writes Dec. 25—
Other Casualties.**

Chances that Pfc. Logan Ping of this city is safe were bright today following receipt by his wife of a letter from him dated Dec. 25, five days after the date on which a War department telegram last week listed him as being missing in Luxembourg. The letter, was postmarked "In Belgium."

Private Ping, employee of Newsum Trucking company at the time he entered service, wrote on Christmas day that he was well and that he was sorry that he had not been able to write for the past week but that he "also had lost his stationery."

The letter reached his wife, Mrs. Margaret Ping of Short Cherry street, Saturday and Mrs. Ping plans to send a copy of it to the War department in hope that they will be able to confirm the fact that her husband is all right.

Outfit Alongside 106th.
Mrs. Ping received a telegram Jan. 16 from the War department reporting that her husband had been missing in action in Luxembourg since Dec. 20.

Ping was serving with Company "G" of the 112th Infantry regiment of the 28th Infantry division. It was this regiment which battled the Germans in their breakthrough at St. Vith, alongside units of the 106th Infantry division and the Ninth Armored division.

An A. P. dispatch Monday reported that the 424th Infantry of the 106th Division was supported on Dec. 19 at St. Vith by one combat command from the Ninth Armored Division, 106th Division engineers and the 112th Infantry of the 28th Division. These units held off the Germans through Dec. 20 and until the night of Dec. 21 when the Nazis occupied the town at 11 p. m.

Coincides With Death.
This fighting coincides with the date that Ping, a member of the 112th, was listed as missing in action and it is highly probable that he became separated from his unit and was subsequently listed as missing.

The letter received by Mrs. Ping indicated that he had lost his belongings but did not give details of the fighting.

Private and Mrs. Ping have three children, a son and two daughters.

Newland Back at Front.

Pvt. William Howard Newland, husband of Mrs. Iona Newland, of 212 Pence street, has returned to action after being wounded July 27 in France and in a letter received from him today wrote that "we are sure giving them 'H' now."

The letter was written Jan. 7 to a sister, Mrs. Stanley Henderson of 706 Reed street. Part of the letter, postmarked in Germany, was as follows:

"Just a few lines to let you know we are all right. We are sure giving them 'H' now. We have been up front for a long time. We are in a German house cellar and we can hardly see, so you know why if you can't read this."

"We have a rag in a bottle for a lamp. I haven't had my shoes off for over 48 hours, but I don't think it will be long now."

He added that he received two letters Jan. 6. He also received two of his Christmas boxes while in a hospital in England.

Private Newland was wounded in the ankle July 27 and returned to duty after being under treatment in England. He is believed to be serving with the Ninth division. His mother, Mrs. Mollie Newland, resides at 348 McKinley avenue.

And Metcalf Wounded.
Pfc. Aud E. Metcalf, husband of Mrs. Helen Metcalf of 1103 Central avenue, is now under treatment in a hospital in Paris after being wounded in Germany.

Private Metcalf, a former resident of Louisville, trained at Camp Atterbury with the 82d Infantry division. He suffered a

back injury in the Normandy invasion and was injured a second time in the fighting in Germany. Mrs. Metcalf also has two sons in service, Bernard L. Sims, serving with the Navy in the South Pacific, and Kenneth Sims serving with the Army in Germany.

Capt. William Robbins, Jr., member of the 106th Division, has been

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1945 FIRST BABY GATHERS GIFTS

**Mary Len Ett Stadtmiller
Receives 'Shower' from
Merchants.**

Little Mary Len Ett Stadtmiller went shopping Monday afternoon by proxy, receiving the gifts offered by local merchants to the first Bartholomew county baby born in 1945.

The gifts were collected by the mother, Mrs. Carl Stadtmiller of Route 2, near Analia, who visited the stores offering gifts to the first baby of 1945. Mrs. Stadtmiller's transportation was provided by Powell Chevrolet company, chauffeured by Dally Powell and accompanied by Dallas F. Robertson, advertising manager of the Evening Republican.

The mother has had experience with baby's needs. She and her husband, who is employed by Cummings Engins company, have four other children, but she explained Monday that nothing quite like this had happened before—the other children weren't born near enough to New Year's day.

Three of the four other children attend school. They are Barbara, 10, Carl Frederick, 9, and Ann, 7. Then there is Joe, 5½, who wants the reporter to be sure and not to forget that Mary, who Joe says is now three weeks old and quite a little lady.

Collected Varied Gifts.

Mary Len Ett arrived in the world at 8:32 a. m. Jan. 1 to become the county's New Year baby.

Her timely arrival resulted in the receipt of a baby toilet set from Carpenter's drug store, a pinafore, socks and toy from the White House, knitted booties, hat and sacque from Penna's infant shoes from Tony Shoe store, flowers from Barabys Flower shop, a baby's rocker from Buchanan and Jones Furniture store, six knitted gowns from Goodman and Jester department store, a blanket from the Glasser store, mattress from Atkins Furniture store, a necklace with Cross from Frank Green, jeweler, chenille bedspread from F. J. Meyer and Son, ring with diamond setting from J. W. O'Bryan, jeweler, and a quart of homogenized milk every other day for two weeks from Thompson's Dairy. Because Mary already had a few of the gifts offered, substitutions were made in the previously announced list.

Mrs. Stadtmiller asked that her appreciation be expressed to the merchants, who could also be sure that Mary Len Ett wished them lots of success and happiness in the New Year.

FAIR SKIES TO STAY AWHILE

Columbus was enjoying one of those rare sunshiny days today and the weather bureau promises that it will be generally fair tonight and Wednesday with not much change in temperature.

The mercury dropped to a low of 29 degrees Monday night, but had climbed to 33 by 1 o'clock this afternoon. It was warm in the sun, although the brisk breeze was not exactly biting.

The high temperature Monday was 36 degrees. Rainfall totalled 1.06 of an inch.

1945_01_23_Hope grows for safety of Ping. 106th MIAs listed

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