

JOHN B. TROTTER DEAD IN ACTION, TELEGRAM SAYS

Former Teacher First Reported Missing Now Listed as Killed.

IN FLASH, SOUND UNIT

Believed Serving With Artillery When Slain—Grandmother Gets Word.

Pvt. John B. Trotter, 24, local soldier and former teacher at Flatrock high school, who had been listed as missing in action in the European area since June 20, 1944, has now been listed as killed in action on that date, according to a War department telegram received Saturday.

The telegram was received by his grandmother, Mrs. Zora B. Trotter of Route 1. It stated:

"I am deeply distressed to inform you corrected report just received states your grandson, Pvt. John B. Trotter, who was previously reported missing in action, was killed in action June 20, 1944, in the European area. The Secretary of War asks that I express his deep sympathy in your loss and his regret that unavoidable circumstances made necessary the unusual lapse of time in reporting your grandson's death to you. Confirming letter follows."

The telegram was sent from the office of Maj. Gen. J. A. Uilo, the adjutant general.

C.E.S. and Purdue Graduate.

Word that Private Trotter had been listed as missing in the European area was first received in a War department telegram to a sister, Miss Joanne Trotter, last Aug. 6. No further word had been received until the telegram which arrived Saturday.

Trotter was a graduate of Columbus high school and Purdue university in 1941. He was teaching at Flatrock high school when he withdrew to be inducted in the Army in October, 1943. He left here Nov. 10, 1943, for start of training and was first stationed at Fort Sill, Okla. It was believed that he was serving overseas with the flash and sound section of an artillery unit.

He was a son of the late Raymond A. Trotter and stepson of Mrs. Gayle Trotter, northeast of the city. He was home in the fall of 1943 for a 10-day furlough at the time of the death of his father, who also had been a teacher. The father taught in Columbus high school in 1930 and 1931 and at Flatrock in 1942.

Miller Seriously Wounded.

William H. Miller has been seriously wounded in action with an infantry division of the Third army in Germany, according to notification received by his mother, Mrs. Annabelle Miller of Flatrock. He was graduated from Flatrock high school in 1943.

Staff Sgt. Merle Allen of Detroit, earlier reported missing in action since Dec. 22 in Belgium with the 106th Division, has been learned to be a prisoner of war. Mrs. Allen's father telephoned the word Sunday to Mrs. Joe Warner, 112 Washington street, at whose home sergeant and Mrs. Allen resided while the 106th was at Camp Atterbury.

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