Freeport’s WWII War Dead
1941-1945

Representatives of the F.H.S. Band play their traditional part in the Village Memorial Day Service.

Edited and Researched by Don Schultz
Compiled and Researched by Regina G. Feeney
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Revised November 2015
Onorado W. Agnitti

BORN: August 28, 1923
DIED: June 1, 1945
CAUSE OF DEATH: Died of Wounds
WHERE: Pacific Theater Operation, Philippine Islands
BRANCH: US Army
RANK: Private First Class, 6th Grade E-3
OUTFIT OR UNIT: 314th General Hospital, Manila, Philippine Islands
Service Number 32716040
CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Reinterred October 14, 1948
Long Island National Cemetery, Farmingdale, NY
Section H, Site 9524.
LAST RESIDENCE: 59 Leonard Avenue, Freeport, Long Island, NY
RELIGION: Catholic
OCCUPATION: Unknown
ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Unknown
NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes
NOTES: Agnitti was awarded the Purple Heart. He died at the age of 22. He was originally interred at Manila, Philippine Islands.
Sources:


World War II 1941 to 1945

Norman E. Andersen (Anderson)

BORN: 1920
DIED: March 8, 1945

CAUSE OF DEATH: Missing in Action/Body Not Recovered
Killed in Action-Downed in Ocean –B-29 Super Fortress

WHERE: South Pacific Theater Operation, off of Japan

BRANCH: US Army Air Force Radar Operator
RANK: Staff Sergeant 3rd Grade E-6

OUTFIT OR UNIT: 883rd Bomber Squadron, 500th Bomber Group, Very Heavy,
73rd B Wing-Saipan  Service Number 32626535

CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Tablets of the Missing at Honolulu Memorial
Honolulu, HI
"Courts of the Missing" Honolulu, HI
Gerald B H Solomon National Cemetery Schaylerville
New York

LAST RESIDENCE: 618 East 34th Street, Brooklyn, NY; 506 Archer Street, Freeport

RELIGION: Protestant

OCCUPATION: Unknown

ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS Unknown:

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes

NOTES: Andersen’s aircraft, Su-Su Baby ran out of fuel. 6 men died in the crash (11 crew and 1 passenger). Plane broke apart upon impact and began flooding. Andersen never made it out of the aircraft. Andersen died at the age of 25. He was awarded the Air Medal and the Purple Heart. Next of kin listed as Jennie Andersen. Sister-in-law was Helen Andersen.
1. 2nd Lt. Alvis L. Sparks, Nav  2. 1st Lt. Robert E. Schring, Jr., Flt/Eng
3. 1st Lt. Theodore B. Holmes, AC  4. 1st Lt. Gilbert F. Easton, Pilot
11. S/Sgt. Charles L. Mohn, Ring Gunr

**Holmes Crew**

Z Square 46 Aircraft "Susu Baby"

**NOTES:** AIRCRAFT ARRIVED SAIPAN EARLY NOVEMBER 1944 WAS DITCHED BY LT. HOLMES 3/7/45 WHILE ON A WEATHER MISSION. FOUR MEN WENT DOWN WITH THE PLANE. HOLMES, GRANGER, FISHER AND ANDERSON. POPE AND COLLINS SUFFERED SHOCK AND RETURNED TO DUTY AFTER R AND R, EASTON, SEBRING, LIETZ AND MOHN RECEIVED SEVERE INJURIES AND WERE SENT STATESIDE. SPARKS AND GAY DIED OF INJURIES AND WERE PRONOUNCED DEAD ABOARD THE RESCUE SHIP THE USS HUDSON (DD475).

Source: http://bobrosssr.tripod.com/475wiseb29rescue.html
Sources:


*Last Mission for Z-Square 46* (website), http://b-29.org/73BW/500BG/z-square-46.html
John Edward Berdich

BORN: April 6, 1900 in Pennsylvania
DIED: August 30, 1944

CAUSE OF DEATH: Non-Battle / Body Recovered (pneumonia)

WHERE: Walter Reed Hospital, Washington, DC

BRANCH: US Army Field Artillery
RANK: First Lieutenant 0-2

OUTFIT OR UNIT Coastal Artillery Corps
Service Number 0-204484

CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA
Section 10 Marker 10828
Interred September 2, 1944

LAST RESIDENCE: New Jersey (lived at 190 W. Lena Avenue, Freeport)

RELIGION: Unknown

OCCUPATION: Worked for Bankers Trust and the American Superpower Company (Wilmington, DE)

ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Unknown

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes

NOTES: Berdich died at the age of 44. His wife was Jessica Berdich. She later moved to Alexandria, VA.
Sources:


Charles John Beresheim

BORN: August 12, 1894 in Long Island City, NY

DIED: June 2, 1942

CAUSE OF DEATH: Missing in Action/Killed in Action
Body not Recovered

WHERE: American Theater Operation, Caribbean Sea (400 miles northeast of Puerto Rico).

BRANCH: US Merchant Marines

RANK: 3rd Mate, Position not a rate.

OUTFIT OR UNIT: Merchant Ship Freighter, S.S. Illinois, torpedoed and sunk by U-boat. Merchant Marines did not have a Service Number.

CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Marine Memorial. Wiggins Park, Camden, NJ

LAST RESIDENCE: 25 Cottage Court, Freeport, Long Island, NY

RELIGION: Catholic

OCCUPATION: Merchant Marine

ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Unknown

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: No

NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: No

NOTES: Beresheim died at the age of 48. The S.S. Illinois was sunk by U-boat 159. 36 died and there were only 6 survivors.
Sources:


*S.S. Illinois* (originally called *Las Vegas*)

Seven Gold Stars
In Redeemer Flag

Church Remembers
Lieut. W. F. McGinley
Killed in Crash

There are already seven gold stars in the service flag of Our Holy Redeemer R. C. Church. They are for Francis Buwen, Charles Beresheim, William Ensor, John Gildea, Frank Mulholland, jr., Walter Wascher, jr., and Lieut. Wilbur F. McGinley, who was killed on Thursday, March 16, in a plane crash at Moody Field, Valdosta, Ga.

Lieut. McKinley was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. McGinley, 175 Whaley St. He was an instructor in advanced blind instrument flying. He had taken up a student for instruction when the fatal accident happened.

He was 23 years old and a member of the Varsity football team of Freeport High School from which he was graduated in 1938. He attended the Rhode Island State College for a year, after which he became an employee of the Grumman Aircraft Engineering Co., of Bethpage. He was sent to Norfolk, Va., by this company to instruct in the installation of tank planes.

The lieutenant was inducted into the Army in January 1943, and assigned to the air forces, receiving his training at Maxwell Field, Ala., Moody Field, Ga., and Randolph Field, Tex., where he took his instructor's course. After receiving his wings early this year, he came home on furlough. He and Miss Mildred Semson were married on Jan. 10, and she lived at Valdosta until he was killed.

Lieut. McGinley's brother, Thomas R. McGinley, jr., is midshipman in the Navy.
The U.S. Merchant Marine was a part of government service. Merchant ships were operated by private shipping companies, and the Merchant Marine was responsible for transporting 95% of the troops, munitions, and supplies used to support the Allies in World War II. Many ships served in the Battle of the Atlantic, and in 1942, the Allied shipping lane between the United States and the United Kingdom was attacked more than any previous shipping lane in all of World War II. The Merchant Navy and the U.S. Navy worked closely together. Many of the ships served in the North Atlantic and in the Pacific. In one battle, Admiral Nimitz said, "Many ships were lost, but the U.S. Navy and Merchant Marine cooperated in the battle of the Atlantic." The U.S. Navy was responsible for the defense of merchant ships, and the Merchant Marine was responsible for the transportation of troops. The Merchant Marine also provided services to the U.S. military, including medical and dental care, and the Merchant Marine was responsible for the transportation of troops.

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The U.S. Government officially recognized the Merchant Marine as a part of government service in 1966. The Merchant Marine was responsible for the defense of merchant ships, and the Merchant Marine was responsible for the transportation of troops. The Merchant Marine also provided services to the U.S. military, including medical and dental care, and the Merchant Marine was responsible for the transportation of troops.
Robert H. Bergmann

BORN: September 4, 1919
DIED: June 6, 1944 Died attending wounded

CAUSE OF DEATH: Killed in Action
Body Recovered

WHERE: European Theater Operation, Normandy, France

BRANCH: US Army Medic
RANK: Technician 5th Grade E-4, Service Number 32335562

OUTFIT OR UNIT: D-Day June 6, 1944 Invasion of Europe
Company A, 116th Infantry Division

CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Long Island National Cemetery, Farmingdale NY
Section H, Site 11946
Reinterred December 10, 1947

LAST RESIDENCE: 423 South Main Street, Freeport, Long Island, NY
RELIGION: Unknown
OCCUPATION: Skilled mechanic/repairman

ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Graduated Freeport High School in 1939

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes

NOTES: Bergmann enlisted on May 13, 1942. He died at the age of 25 and was
awarded the Purple Heart. He was originally interred at St. Laurent, France.
His mother was Amelia Bergmann.
Sources:


World War II 1941 to 1945

Saul W. Berson

BORN: June 10, 1917
DIED: August 31, 1943
CAUSE OF DEATH: Killed in Action
WHERE: European Theater Operation over Germany
BRANCH: US Army Air Force
RANK: Second Lieutenant 0-1
OUTFIT OR UNIT: 323 Bomber Squadron B-17, 91st Bombardment Group, 8th Air Force, Service Number 0-727970
CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Reinterred 01/18/1949
Long Island National Cemetery, Farmingdale NY
Section J, Site 14512
LAST RESIDENCE: 246 B 105th Street, Rockaway Beach, Long Island, NY
RELIGION: Jewish
OCCUPATION: Unknown
ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Unknown
NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes
NOTES: Berson was awarded the Purple Heart. He died at the age of 26. His enlisted service number was 32012776. He was originally interred in Great Britain.
Sources:

“Army Reports 904 Dead and Injured: 384 Killed Fighting in Four Battle Areas -- 520 Are Wounded on 2 Fronts 112 are from NY New Jersey and Connecticut Represented on List by Thirty-four” *NY Times*. 30 Nov. 1943, p. 6.


Daniel Charles Binneweg

BORN: July 13, 1919 Mineola, NY

DIED: December 23, 1942

CAUSE OF DEATH: Killed in Action
Body Recovered

WHERE: Mediterranean Theater Operation, Algiers, North Africa

BRANCH: US Army Air Force

RANK: Second Lieutenant 0-1, P-40 Pilot

OUTFIT OR UNIT: 60th Fighter Squadron, “Fighting Crows,” 33rd Fighter Group
Service Number 0-659640

CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Long Island National Cemetery
Farmingdale, NY
Section J, Site 16569
Re-interred March 8, 1949

LAST RESIDENCE: 11 Weberfield Avenue, Freeport, Long Island, NY

RELIGION: Lutheran

OCCUPATION: Actor

ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Graduate Freeport High School in 1937

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes

NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes

NOTES: Binneweg enlisted on September 25, 1941. He died at the age of 23 and was awarded the Purple Heart.
Sources:


“Binneweg Citation Received by Widow.” *The Leader*. 25 Mar. 1943, p. 3.


Clippings from local newspapers [Freeport Memorial Library].


Binneweg Citation
Received by Widow

Punctumous award of the Order of the Purple Heart to Second Lieutenant Daniel C. Binneweg, killed in action in North Africa last December 23, has been made to his young widow, Mrs. Grace Binneweg, of 75 Grafton pl.

A letter from the Adjutant General in Washington accompanying the decoration, gave no details of the action in which Lieut. Binneweg, a 23-year-old pilot, lost his life, but said he had "made the supreme sacrifice in defense of his country."

Mrs. Binneweg, the former Grace Sheldon, has been working with the Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corp., in Bethpage, since her husband's death. She is living with her mother, Mrs. Charles Lambert at the Grafton pl. address. Lieut. Binneweg's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Marcel Binneweg, reside at 11 Weberfield ave.

BINNEWEG—LAMBERT

Miss Grace Leonora Lambert, daughter of Mrs. Charles Lambert, of Independence avenue, was married to Second Lieut. Daniel Charles Binneweg, son of Mr. and Mrs. Marcel Binneweg of Weberfield avenue, last Friday night in Christ Lutheran Church. The pastor, the Rev. D. G. Jakheim, officiated.

Miss Marvera Binneweg was maid of honor, while Paul Canezino was best man; and the ushers were Charles Friend, of Freeport; Frank Bruscino, of Westbury, and Charles Hart of Lindenhurst.

There was a reception at the Binneweg home.

Legion Has Rites
At Memorial Service

Dr. John W. Dodd, superintendent of schools, gave the principal address at the memorial exercises for Lieut. Daniel C. Binneweg in Christ Lutheran Church Sunday night.

Lieut. Binneweg, a member of the U. S. Army Air Corps, was killed in action during an engagement in the African Middle Eastern theatre of operations according to a message from Maj. Gen. George G. Stratemeyer, chief of the air corps, read at the exercises. The Rev. David G. Jakheim, pastor, presided.

William W. Davis, a commander of William Clinton Story Post, A. L., attended with the color guard of the post and a guard of honor, the members of which stood throughout the exercises.

"Dr. Jakheim read a telegram from Congressman Leonard W. Hall, who wired: "Dan Binneweg laid his life upon the altar of America. He gave it willingly, bravely for all of the nation and his sacrifice, like that of many of our brave men, no matter what their name or their station, cemented closer our common bond as kin in the family of America."

Another telegram was received from Charles O. Miller, alumni secretary of Colgate University, which Lieut. Binneweg attended for three years, on behalf of 7,000 Colgate men, 1,300 of whom are in the service.

Dr. Dodd spoke of his close relationship with Lieut. Binneweg while he was a student at Freeport High School and later, he recalled that when the flyer was home last October he dropped into the office with his bride and the three chatted for about three quarters of an hour. He said that as a student Binneweg ranked very high in his class work having been especially outstanding in mathematics. He had a high rating in cooperation, self-reliance, leadership, initiative and character. Dr. Dodd added, and could be depended on to do a good job. He always got along well with everyone, he continued.

The superintendent spoke of Binneweg's three years as a member of the high school varsity football team and said he gave all that was in him. He pointed out especially that he never let his athletic activities...
Memorial Rites
For Lt. Binneweg

Services for Flyer
Slain in Africa
Planned Sunday

Memorial services for Lieut.
Daniel C. Binneweg, an aviator
in the U. S. Army who was
killed in action on Dec. 21 in
North Africa will be conducted
in Christ Lutheran Church Sun-
day at 7:30 p.m. The pastor, the
Rev. David G. Jaxheimer, will
preside and William Clinton Story
Post, A.L., and the Boy Crus-
ders of America will participate.

Lieut. Binneweg was born in
Mineola, 23 years ago, the son
of Mr. and Mrs. Marcel Bin-
neweg who live at 11 Weberfeld
avenue. He was graduated from
Freeport High School in 1937
and after spending three years
at College University, enlisted
in the army in October 1941.
He and Miss Grace Sheldon
were married last May. After
completing his preliminary train-
ing, he was at Randolph Field
and Foster Field, both in Texas,
and received his "wings" and his
commission as a "second lieu-
tenant" at the latter place.

He was among the first to be
landed with the American Ex-
peditionary forces in North Af-
rica. Some weeks ago his folks
received a letter from an Army
chaplain who wrote that Lieut.
Binneweg had been killed in ac-
tion. His wife went to Wash-
ington to investigate but could get
no definite information concern-
ing him. A few days ago, how-
ever, they received a War De-
partment telegram confirming the
facts contained in the chaplain's
letter.

Lieut. Binneweg's name is on
the honor roll of Christ Church.
He was one of the leaders of the
Crusaders of America, having
served as a field commissioner.
Besides his wife and parents, the
lieutenant leaves a sister, Mar-
cella Binneweg.

Binneweg, Daniel C., second lieu-
tenant; wife, Mrs. Daniel C., Bin-
neweg, 50 Independence Ave., Box
12, Freeport.

New York Times. 2 March 1943
World War II 1941 to 1945

Robert W. Bliss

BORN: June 30, 1923
DIED: June 4, 1944

CAUSE OF DEATH: Killed in Action / Body Recovered
Plane shot down as a result of enemy anti-aircraft fire
WHERE: Mediterranean Theater Operation over Italy

BRANCH: US Army Air Force Gunner
RANK: Staff Sergeant 3rd Grade E-6

OUTFIT OR UNIT: 454th Mediterranean Bomber Group, 15th Air Force,
737th Bomb Squadron
Beulieu, England B-26, Service Number 12147810

CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Long Island National Cemetery, Farmingdale, NY
Section H, Site 10433
Reinterred January 25, 1950

LAST RESIDENCE: 190 Washington Street, Freeport, Long Island, NY
RELIGION: Unknown
OCCUPATION: Aircraft industry—Grumman, Bethpage, NY
ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Graduated Freeport High School in 1941

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes

NOTES: Bliss enlisted on September 28, 1942. He died at the age of 21 and was awarded the Purple Heart and the Air Medal with Three Oak Leaf Clusters. Bliss was originally interred in Follenica, Italy. He was an Aerial Engineer on a B-24 Heavy Bomber based in Italy. His plane left from San Giovanni, Italy and its target was in Genoa.
Sources:

Latest Casualties of War as Reported by Both the Army and the Navy


“Robert Bliss Killed In Air Over Italy.” [Copies of Local Newspaper Clippings from WWII, Freeport Memorial Library].

Robert Bliss Killed In Air Over Italy

Staff Sgt. Robert Bliss, previously reported missing was killed in action over Italy on June 4, according to advice received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Bliss of 190 Washington St., Freeport. Formerly employed in Dept. 17, Plant 1, Sergeant Bliss, an aerial-engineer on a B-24 Liberator based with the 15th Air Force in Italy, was killed by anti-aircraft fire while on a bombing mission.

Sergeant Bliss was a graduate of the Freeport high school and worked for Grumman until entering the air force in September, 1942. He was sent overseas last December and had not told his family on how many missions he had been. However, he had been on enough to earn him a furlough for which he was preparing when he went on his last raid.

His parents were informed that he had been awarded the Air Medal with Three Oak Leaf Clusters.
ROBERT W BLISS
NEW YORK
S SGT
454 AAF BOMB GP
WORLD WAR II
JUNE 30 1923
JUNE 4 1944
Robert W. Boyle

BORN: August 29, 1920
DIED: December 2, 1944
CAUSE OF DEATH: Killed in Action/Body Recovered
WHERE: European Theater Operation, Belgium
BRANCH: US Army Field Artillery
RANK: Second Lieutenant 0-1
OUTFIT OR UNIT: Field Artillery Service Number 0-179308 47th Armored FA Bn 5th Armored Division
CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Long Island National Cemetery, Farmingdale, NY
Section H Site 11608
Reinterred November 12, 1947
LAST RESIDENCE: 83 Madison Avenue, Freeport, Long Island, NY
RELIGION: Baptist
OCCUPATION: Actor
ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Graduated Freeport High School in 1939
NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes
NOTES: Boyle enlisted on July 16, 1942. He died at the age of 24 and was awarded the Purple Heart. He was originally interred in Belgium. He was married.
Sources:

“He Aims or Navy Career: Joins the Navy on 17th Birthday.” 25 March 1942. [Copies of Local Newspaper Clippings from WWII, Freeport Memorial Library].


World War II 1941 to 1945

Thomas Edward Brittingham

BORN: May 2, 1903  Broadkill Hundred, DE
DIED: February 5, 1942, Life raft was pulled under
CAUSE OF DEATH: Missing in Action/Killed in Action 
Body Not Recovered
WHERE: North Atlantic, 20 miles off Cape May, New Jersey
BRANCH: US Merchant Marine
RANK: 1st Engineer, Equivalent in US Navy to Lieutenant 03
OUTFIT OR UNIT: Merchant Ship Tanker S.S. India Arrow, Torpedoed/Sunk by U-103 Korvetten-Kapitän
Merchant Marine did not have Service Numbers
CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: American Merchant Marine Memorial
Wiggins Park, Camden, New Jersey
Memorial Room, Freeport Memorial Library
Freeport, NY
LAST RESIDENCE: 2 Filmore Place, Freeport, Long Island, NY
RELIGION: Presbyterian
OCCUPATION: Engineer at the Freeport power plant
ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Unknown
NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes—small plaque
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: NO

NOTES: In 1988, members of the Merchant Marines who served on ocean-going merchant ships between Dec. 7, 1941, and Aug. 15, 1945, were granted veteran status. In 1944, his wife Mildred left Freeport and remarried. Through her perseverance, the American Legion dedicated a small plaque on Veterans Day 1988, honoring Brittingham’s service to his county. His wife wrote his biography and
researched his genealogy. A copy is available in the Freeport Authors’ Collection at the Freeport Memorial Library. Brittingham died at the age of 39.

Sources:

American Legion [files from Freeport Memorial Library archives; correspondences with Mildred Tucker, wife of Thomas Brittingham, circa 1988].


John Paul Gildea
Killed in Action

Freeport Marine
Probably Slain
In Solomons Fight

Freeport has lost another of its sons in this World War II. He was First Class Private John Paul Gildea, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Gildea of 20 East Lincoln place. He was killed in action with the Marine corps, his parents were advised by the Government.

While the brief telegram did not tell where he made the supreme sacrifice, he is believed to have lost his life while fighting somewhere in the Pacific, perhaps in the Solomon Island area.

Mr. Gildea enlisted in the Marine corps last January 5. A brother, Walter, 23, joined with him and they went through five weeks training together. Walter, however, was discharged because of physical debility. Private Gildea was with the fleet marine force, the unit that engages in the actual combat work, as in landing parties and other tasks. He was in training at Portage Island, S. C., until February 18, from where he was shifted to New River, N. C., the fleet marine base, then to San Francisco and overseas.

Mrs. Gildea received a letter a week ago Monday from the Marine advising her he was getting along fine, had seen action and felt well. His family said he had been with Major Harry Torgerson of Lynnbrook, recently cited for bravery and wounded in action in the Solomon Islands.

Gildea was born in Valley Stream where he attended the Central High School. He would have been twenty-five in November. Another brother, Joseph M. Gildea probably will leave with the next selective service contingent from Freeport.

Three Freeport residents were reported as missing in action by the Navy Department in a casualty list involving the crews of ships sunk by enemy submarines between Sept. 1, 1941 and Aug. 1. Their names follow:

THE

President of the United States of America.

To all who shall see these presents, greeting:

Know Ye, that reposing special trust and confidence in the Patriotism, Valor, Fidelity, and Abilities of THOMAS EDWARD BRITTINGHAM, I do appoint him

LIEUTENANT (JUNIOR GRADE)

in the Naval Reserve of The United States Navy, to rank from the Twenty-first day of September 1940. He is therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duties of such office by doing and performing all manner of things thereunto belonging.

And I, strictly charge and require all Officers, Seamen and Marines under his command to be obedient to his orders. And he is to observe and follow such orders and directions from time to time as he shall receive from me, or the future President of The United States of America, or his Superior Officer set over him, according to the Rules and Discipline of the Navy.

This commission to continue in force during the pleasure of the President of the United States for the time being.

Done at the City of Washington this Twenty-ninth day of October, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty and of the Independence of the United States of America, the One Hundred and Sixty-fifth.

By the President:

[Signature]

Secretary of the Navy
Mrs. Brittingham Says Post Tablet Overlooked Mate

Editor, Nassau Daily Review-Star:

A tablet was given to the village of Freeport by the William Clinton Story post, called the Freeport Honor Roll of local boys in service and was unveiled on Sunday April 15, at 3 p.m.

This tablet did not have the name Lieut. Thomas Edward Brittingham of the U. S. N. R. printed on it in black as a memorial. Mr. Brittingham lost his life as the result of the sinking of S. S. "India Arrow" by enemy torpedo on the evening of February 4. He was a former employee of the Village of Freeport for over six years, had his commission from the U. S. N. R. since October, 1940, two honorable discharges from the U. S. Army for foreign and home service. He died just as much a hero's death for his country by giving the supreme sacrifice as if in actual combat.

Mr. Brittingham was the first local Freeport man to die as the result of the present state of war, was tutored in all the loyalty of the U. S. Army's training and duties of the merchant marine besides being a good citizen, a beloved husband and father and a home owner. These qualities, however, seemed to have failed to bring even the privilege of having his name engraved on a cold stone tablet let alone to hope for the warmth of some recognition of his services. Just because he was not in the active navy but only a member of the naval reserve and restrictions aboard the ship, his name will be absent from the roll of honor.

What do you think and what is your opinion of the decision of the committee who seems to think they must draw a line between active and reserve men who were a vital part of the nation's defense and who have died as a result?

MILDRED E. BRITTINGHAM
2 Filmore Place
Freeport, Long Is.

April 10, 1942.

(Editor's Note: If Mrs. Brittingham will take up this question with the Freeport draft board it will be investigated and if the name should have been in the list the board will see that it is added to the honor roll.)

[Signature]
Unica Village employee. From Robert Brittingham, Engineer.