

Troy Youth Reported Dead In Red Prison

Cpl. Thomas H. Stoliker, a prisoner of war in Korea since Nov. 30, 1950, has been reported dead by the Communists, his mother, Mrs. Alberta Stoliker, of 108 Earl Street, was informed last night.

Mrs. Stoliker said she received a telegram at 9 p.m. yesterday from Maj. Gen. William E. Bergen, adjutant general of the Army, notifying her that the name of her son is included in a list of Americans who, according to the Reds, died while in their custody.

No other details were available, she was advised.

He is the first Troy Area man reported dead by the Reds.

Mrs. Stoliker, mother of 13 children, seven of whom served or are serving the armed forces of the United States, was grief stricken last night, but she still clung to a shred of hope that maybe "Tommy is alive."

Her hope is based on the wording of the telegram, which says in part, "This information has not been verified. Therefore a determination of his status will not be

Mrs. Stoliker, with her 13-year-old son, Howard, trying to console her quietly and at the same time keep back the tears, said she had heard not one word from Tom since Nov. 5, 1950, only three weeks before he was captured by the Communists.

Brokenly, she told bits about her son when he was a boy, and bravely smiled. "I knew him only as a boy because he was not yet 18 years old when he joined the Army."

Corporal Stoliker was born in Green Island, Aug. 21, 1932. He would have been 21 years old next Friday. He was a graduate of St. Joseph's School and then attended Healy High School in Green Island. Prior to his enlisting in the Army, he was a member of the National Guard.

Remembers the Day.

"I remember when he came home that day and said he joined the Army down at Barker Park," his mother recalled. "I had to sign papers for him. He was so determined."

Corporal Stoliker enlisted April 29, 1950, and was sent to Fort Dix, N. J. He went overseas in October of that year.

He was a communicant of St. Joseph's Church, Green Island.

Two brothers currently are in the armed forces. Cpl. William Stoliker, 22, is with the Army in Korea, and in his latest letter informed his mother he expects to return to the States next month. He enlisted in March, 1952, and has been in Korea nine months. Pfc. James Stoliker, 19, is in the Air Force and is stationed at Pensacola, Fla. He enlisted in February 1953.

Four brothers served Uncle Sam during World War II. They are Joseph and David, both of Albar who were in the Army; George Green Island, Navy, and Richard of Troy, Air Force.

Two other brothers are John Wynantskill and Edward of Troy. Three sisters are Mrs. Rose Keefer of Pittstown, Mrs. Anna Mae Hennon of Troy and Alberta, 12, with her mother.

Joy and Sorrow

Colonie P.W. Released; Troy GI Listed as Dead

Joy and sorrow struck two Albany vicinity homes overnight in announcements from Freedom Village in the exchange of prisoners of war.

The family of Pfc. Raymond Bedrosian, 24, of Colonie, rejoiced in his release from the Reds after more than two years' imprisonment.

Kin of Cpl. Thomas H. Stoliker, 18, of Troy, were saddened by a report from Communist authorities that he had died in a prison camp. He had been missing since November, 1950.

However, Mrs. Alberta Stoliker, 108 Earl St., clung to a ray of hope she had held nearly three years for her missing son. The grief-stricken mother cited a part of the Department of Defense telegram that said "This report has not been verified."

Corporal Stoliker, a native of Green Island, where he attended St. Joseph's Academy, enlisted in the Army early in 1950 and went overseas in October of that year.

Pvt Stoliker Of Troy Is Dead, Kin Told

Pvt. Thomas H. Stoliker, 18, missing in action since November, 1950, was reported dead last night in a telegram to Mrs. Alberta Stoliker of 108 Earl St., Troy, the boy's mother. The Department of Defense, which sent the telegram, said he had been reported dead by the Communists.

There were no other details immediately available.

Stoliker was born in Green Island and graduated from St. Joseph's School, Green Island, and later enlisted in the Army in 1950. He was stationed at Fort Dix and went overseas October, 1950.

He was one of 13 children. Two brothers, David J. and Joseph E., live in Albany. Another brother, William, 23, of the Earle St. address, has been in Korea since December.