

ALUMNUS GIVES LIFE FOR COUNTRY

The students of Britton High School extend their sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Meeker and family who have received word that their son, Bernard, was killed in action on December 19. They were notified January 2 that he was missing in action in Belgium, and on the following Monday, they learned that he had given his life for his country.

In school, Bernard was very well known and liked by all. He was very active in athletics, having been outstanding in basketball, football, and track. Mixed Chorus, Boys' Glee Club, and the Junior play were other activities which he entered during high school.

Bernard graduated from high school in 1943 and volunteered for the army in October. He entered the service on November 19 of the same year, at the age of 18 years. He went overseas in May and saw action in Holland, Belgium, and Germany.

Last October he was promoted from private to sergeant and two weeks later he was made a staff sergeant and platoon leader. This rapid promotion serves to show us that he was a remarkable soldier as well as an all-round student.

When he was in Germany-- Bernard visited his brother, Sergeant Virgil Meeker, three times, as they were both in the Ninth Army.

BERNARD MEEKER KILLED IN ACTION DURING GERMAN PUSH

**FIRST REPORTED MISSING,
THEN AS KILLED, BRITTON
BOY IS MOURNED.**

The war is brought to a closer realization to many in Britton and community as the casualty list grows. Most recent loss came to Mr. and Mrs. Adelbert Meeker, of Britton, when they received the dread message from the war department announcing the death of their son, Bernard, just 19 years of age last August.

Sgt. Bernard D. Meeker had previously been reported as missing in action. A later report, received last Friday, announced that he was killed in action on December 19 in Belgium.

Bernard was a platoon leader in the 117th Regiment, which is a part of the 30th "Old Hickory" infantry division. The 30th infantry saw action in Normandy, Holland, Belgium and Germany. They were the first Allied infantry in Holland and Belgium. They spearheaded the break-through at St. Lo and smashed the Siegfried line north of Aachen and altogether have made a remarkable record for accomplishment in World War Two.

Bernard was born August 8, 1925 in Britton. He graduated from the Britton high school in 1943. He always took an active part in school and community athletics.

He volunteered for the Army in October 1943 and entered the service November 19, 1943. Bernard took his basic training at Camp Wheeler, Ga. He came home on furlough April 13, 1944 and reported back to Ft. Meade, Md., going overseas in May 1944.

He arrived in England and in July 1944 he first saw action in Holland, Belgium and Germany. In October he was promoted from a private to a sergeant and two weeks later was made a Staff Sgt. and platoon leader. Few soldiers receive such rapid promotion and the recognition given Bernard is ample evidence that he made an excellent and efficient soldier.

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30th DIVISION

*Bernard's
patch.*

BERNARD MEEKER KILLED IN ACTION

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In his home and in his school contacts Bernard was held in high regard by all his associates. This was particularly in evidence in school sport activities.

While in Germany, Bernard had the opportunity of visiting his brother, Sgt. Virgil Meeker, three times. Virgil is in the 104th Division Artillery and both boys were in the Ninth Army.

Her Boy

"Somewhere in a distant, man-made hell,
Fighting for Humanity he fell...
God's angels saw him and they wept...
God's finger touched him...and he slept."

**WIRE RECEIVED TUESDAY
SAYS LAST SEEN DEC. 19
IN BELGIUM.**

Mr. and Mrs. Adelbert Meeker received a message from the war department Tuesday stating that their son, Bernard, was missing in action in Belgium since December 19th. It is presumed that he was engaged in the fierce combat which accompanied the attempted drive against the American lines, and which was later repulsed.

Bernard was in the 117th Infantry and his brother, Virgil, is in a headquarters battery of the field artillery. Mr. and Mrs. Meeker have not heard from Virgil in about a month.