



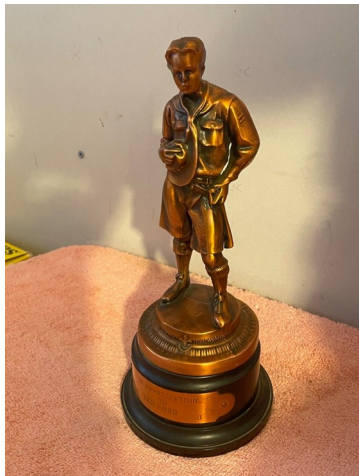
Leo Ford
Mgr. Men's Wear

Leo Francis Ford

1894 - 1973

[Leo Francis Ford](#), who was born on October 25, 1894, in Alton, Illinois, and passed away on March 8, 1973, in Godfrey, Illinois, exemplified a life of dedication and service. His career began in 1906 at the [Hotel Illini as a bell boy and night clerk](#), evolving into a respected men's clothier at [Sessel Stores](#) in Alton, Illinois, for over 45 years. A veteran of World War I, he served at [U.S. Army Base Hospital No. 84 in Périgueux, France](#) in the [Quartermaster Corp.](#) The area where the hospital was located is now known as [Le quartier de Barnabé](#). According to his [WWI draft registration](#), Ford was slender, tall, had blue eyes, and brown hair. In 1936, he [married Esther Barbara "Peg" Corwin](#), and they had a son, [David Corwin Ford, in 1937](#). Ford's involvement with the Boy Scouts of America began with his son's troop in the late 1940s. He was elected to serve as the [Central District Commissioner of the Piasa Bird Council](#) and held this position from 1953 to 1955. His involvement with the Boy Scouts of America spanned more than a decade, with most of his service being at the district level. Ford was known for his love of [fishing](#) and the outdoors. He also participated in and held office in numerous [professional\(2\)](#) and [fraternal](#) organizations. His legacy is carried on through his son, David, an [Eagle Scout](#) and recipient of three [Bronze Stars](#) for his service with the US Army in Vietnam.

Source: Alton Evening Telegraph, Newspapers.com



Leo Ford Named As Scout Council Commissioner

Leo Ford was elected central district commissioner of the Boy Scouts Piasa Bird Council at the annual appreciation dinner and election of the Central District Friday at Onized Club rooms. E. M. Kelley was elected district chairman and Harry Steck, vice-chairman.

Leo F. Ford council commissioner



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Wed, Feb 14, 2024

90 Scouts Attend Chili Supper and Round Table

Ninety Scouters, Scouts and Explorer Scouts Thursday night at Cherry Street Baptist Church attended a chili supper as a feature of the Central District, Piasa Bird Council, monthly roundtable meeting. District Commissioner E. M. Kelley reported today.

Central District is composed of Alton, Godfrey, Milton, Brighton and Clifton area.

Russell Sauvage, district chairman, presided. The Cub Scout section was conducted by James Johnessee and Leo Ford; the Scout roundtable by Ralph Lawrence and Cliff Thomas; Explorer roundtable by Chester Milford and Ed Stone.

Among awards presented was one to Cecil Fones, for meritorious service in the past three years of Scouting.

Leo F. Ford chili supper



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Wed, Feb 14, 2024

FORD ENJOYED THANKSGIVING

Alton Boy Wrote That a Sessel Fur
Overcoat Would Feel Good.

Maurice Sessel is in receipt of a letter from Leo. F. Ford of the Quartermaster's Corps, Hospital Center, in France, under date of November 30, in which he says:

"I am well and having a good time. I hope this letter finds you the same and that you folks are enjoying a good business.

"I sure enjoyed Thanksgiving very much. The main reason was because I had mail from home. I had ten letters, so you see it is bound to make a fellow feel good when he has not had any mail for about two months. We had a good Thanksgiving dinner; chicken, potatoes, tomatoes, celery, apple sauce, cigarettes, candy, nuts and apples. So you see it was pretty good. The only thing I missed was cranberries. We also had pumpkin pie, which was great.

"The weather over here has not been cold, as yet, but it has rained every day for a week. The grass is still green. I don't think it gets very cold here.

"We sure made the Germans quit (all we needed was one of Sessel's force over here for that.) There were some of our boys who certainly paid for this victory with their lives, and others with legs and arms.

"I don't think there is hardly a chance to leave here until all the peace terms have been signed, but at that there is one good thing and that is we are bound to get home some day. One of the boys sure was home last night, talking in his sleep. He told his dad that he had brought home a pair of hobnail shoes for him. He was telling his mother all about it, too, when he rolled out of his bunk and woke up. He wanted to know where he was. He was sure sore when he found out he was still in France. That is the way all the boys are, anxious to get back, but willing to stay and make sure that they do not have to leave the good old U. S. A. again.

"Maurice, I want you to wish all my friends in Alton a Merry Christmas and happy New Year."

Leo F. Ford WWI Thanksgiving letter.



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Thu, Feb 15, 2024

LEO FORD ANXIOUS TO RETURN

Alton Boy in Hospital Service in
France. Tells of Visit to
Versailles, France.

John D. McAdams has received an interesting letter from Leo F. Ford, who is in France, with Group Quarter Master's Hospital Center, at present stationed at Perigueux Dordogne. In the letter, date April 21, Ford says:

"I take this means of thanking you for the letter you wrote on my behalf, and I assure you I appreciate it very much. I ought to help a lot in my getting back to 'Alton Toot Sweet,' (Chicago Tribune Headlines.)

"Not doing very much over here at present. They kept us going for awhile, but now the hospitals are pretty well cleaned out at this center and here is not much to do. We have sent most of them back to the dear old U. S. A.

"Bill Yenny, who went out to Kansas City when I did, is stationed at this center. He is the only one around here from Alton, and you can bet we

are both anxious to get back. It was not so bad when we were busy, but now that things are quiet, time goes slow. After you are in one place in France seven or eight months there is nothing to see. All it did was rain here for six months. For the last two weeks it has been nice weather. Perigueux is 80 miles east of Bordeaux. It's a pretty town and before the war had a population of 25,000. It has several small parks and they keep them looking nice this time of the year.

"I had a nice four-day's leave to Paris last month. It's some place and if I had gone home without seeing Paris I would have missed the best part of France. While in Paris I took the 'Y's' trip to Versailles to the Palace of Louis the Fourteenth. It's sure a wonderful place. I saw some of the greatest paintings I have ever seen there. In the Victory room, in particular, were shown paintings of all the victories of France. Another room of interest is the Mirror Room where the peace treaty will be signed. The fountains are also wonderful works of art."

Leo F. Ford WWI



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Thu, Feb 15, 2024

WW1 Draft Registration

Form No. 2958 REGISTRATION CARD		No. 821
1	Name in full	Leo Francis Ford 2177 21
2	Home address	123 E Broadway Alton Illinois
3	Date of birth	October 25th 1895
4	Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)?	(1) Natural-born citizen
5	Where were you born?	Alton Illinois U.S.A.
6	If not a citizen, of what empire are you a citizen or subject?	
7	What is your present trade, occupation, or office?	Clerk 29
8	By whom employed?	M. Sessel
9	Where employed?	Alton Illinois
10	Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)?	
11	Married or single (which)?	Single Race (specify which)? Caucasian
12	What military service have you had? Rank years Nation or State	no no no
12	Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)?	Student dependent on mother
I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.		
Signature of registrant		Leo Francis Ford

12-6-17-A REGISTRAR'S REPORT				
1	Tall, medium, or short (specify which)?	Tall	Slender, medium, or stout (which)?	Slender
2	Color of eyes?	Blue	Color of hair?	Brown
3	Has he lost arm, leg, hand, foot, or both eyes, or is he otherwise disabled (specify)?	no	Build?	no
I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read his own answers, that I have witnessed his signature, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:				
Signature of Registrar				
James J. Mahoney				
Precinct				
1 Ward 3				
City or County				
Alton				
State				
Illinois				
Date of Registration				
June 5/1917				

U.S. Army Base Hospital No.84



U.S. Army Base Hospital No.84



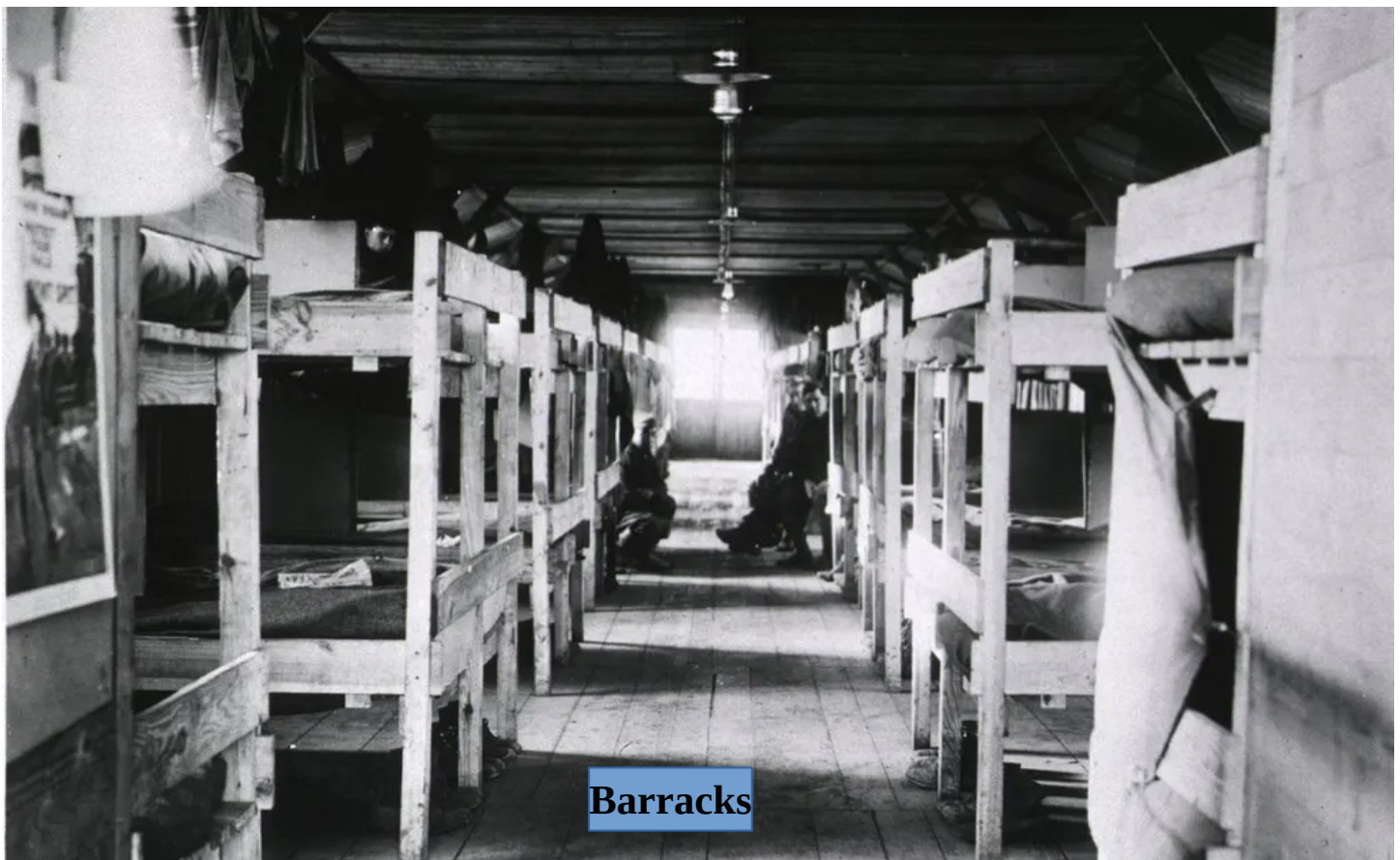
U.S. Army Base Hospital No.84



U.S. Army Base Hospital No.84



Bath House



Barracks

Awards Given Catholic Scouts

Catholic Boy Scouts of Alton gathered Sunday morning for a combined court of honor. Highlight of the awards was the presentation of the rank of Eagle Scout to Explorer David Ford, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leo F. Ford, 1125 Main street.

Leo F. Ford son Eagle Scout



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Sun, Feb 25, 2024

Maj. Ford wins 2 medals

Army Major David C. Ford, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leo F. Ford, 9 Southmoore Place, Godfrey, recently received his third award of the Bronze Star Medal in Vietnam.

Maj. Ford earned the award for outstandingly meritorious service with headquarters company of the Ninth Infantry Divisions Third Brigade.

During the same ceremony, he also received the Air Medal for meritorious service while participating in aerial flight in support of ground operations. He entered the Army in 1959.

Leo F. Ford son awarded bronze star.



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Fri, Feb 16, 2024

BASE HOSPITAL NO. 84, PERIGUEUX, FRANCE^b

Base Hospital No. 84 was organized in April, 1918, at Fort Riley, Kans., from officers and enlisted men of the Army at large. The unit received preliminary training at Fort Riley, and on June 27, was transferred to [Camp Bowie](#), in Fort Worth, TX, where it was attached to the base hospital of that camp for further training. The organization remained at [Camp Bowie](#) until August 25, when it left for the port of embarkation; arrived at Camp Merritt, N. J., August 29; embarked on the [Talthybius](#), August 31; sailed from New York on September 1; arrived at Liverpool, England, September 13; entrained for Southampton; arrived the same day; crossed the English Channel the following night; reached Le Havre, France, September 15. On September 16, the unit entrained for its final destination, [Perigueux, Department Dordogne, France](#), base section No. 2, and arrived there September 18. It was the first hospital unit to arrive at that station, where it functioned as a part of the hospital center there. It occupied a type A unit, of 1,000-bed capacity, the buildings of which had nearly been completed on arrival of the organization.

The first convoy of patients arrived October 18, and up to February 5, 1919, a total of 2,311 patients had been received; of these, 891 were medical and 1,420 surgical cases, with 250 operations.

On February 5, 1919, Base Hospital No. 84 ceased operating; turned over its property and records to Base Hospital No. 95; sailed from Bordeaux May 11, 1919, on the [Otsego](#); arrived in New York, May 26, 1919; was transferred to [Camp Bowie](#), Tex.; and demobilized on July 12, 1919.

COMMANDING OFFICER

Capt. A. E. McReynolds, M. C., April 16, 1918, to July 15, 1918.
Lieut. Col. Peter D. MacNaughton, M. C., July 16, 1918, to September 28, 1918.
Maj. Harry A. Peyton, M. C., September 29, 1918, to October 2, 1918.
Lieut. Col. B. H. Olmstead, M. C., October 3, 1918, to February 2, 1919.
Lieut. Col. James A. Harvey, M. C., February 3, 1919, to demobilization.

CHIEF OF SURGICAL SERVICE

Maj. Harry A. Peyton, M. C.
Capt. Robert D. Gist, M. C.

CHIEF OF MEDICAL SERVICE

Maj. William R. May, M. C.
Capt. Frank D. Gorham, M. C.

^bThe statements of fact appearing herein are based on the "History, Base Hospital No. 84, A. E. F.," by the commanding officer of that hospital. The history is on file in the Historical Division, S. G. O., Washington, D. C.-Ed.

QUARTERMASTER CORP

The Quartermaster Corps had numerous functions and supplied everything from personal equipment, horses, ammunition, automobiles, laundry and bath services to one of its most important functions: **food**.