

## Buddy of Pfc. Sam W. Giles, Captured, Dies of Broken Heart

Medical records say death was the result of malnutrition, but his buddies say the immediate cause was a broken heart—lack of the will to live. Pfc. Edward Crone, 20-year-old son of the Edward Crones of Syracuse, N. Y., was an only child. He was lonely and scared and he had forced himself to believe that he would never again see the outside of a German prison camp.

At the point of a gun Crone worked for the Germans digging ditches until he collapsed under the strain and was hospitalized. The meagre diet at the camp wasn't sufficient to mend his body and soul and it was there that Pfc. Crone gave up all hope or desire to live. He died on Apr. 12.

### Story Told to Parents

This tragic story was recently related to Crone's parents by one of his buddies in the prison camp. Pfc. Sam W. Giles, who arrived in the states June 20 and is now spending a 60-day furlough with his parents. Mr. and Mrs. Spence L. Giles of 112 School street.

Giles and Crone were captured Dec. 21, 1944 in the battle of the bulge. Members of the 106th Division, the soldiers were first taken to Stalag 4-b in Muhlberg, Germany and later to a work camp near Dresden, where they worked 10 hours a day.

In April, Giles was moved to a farming district at Helensdorf where he and 15 other Allied prisoners escaped one night, infiltrating past the guards one by one. They all reached the American lines in five days and by May 12 were in Pilsen, Czechoslovakia.

### Guards Also Hungry

The daily fare for Allies in the prison camps, Giles said, consisted of a small bowl of thin soup, mostly water, and 225 grams of bread, equivalent to four slices. He stated that contrary to our belief, the German guards also were constantly

hungry as the German food supply was extremely low.

The tough part, he said, was their inability to receive Red Cross parcels due to the badly crippled transportation system. However, Giles has wasted no time since his arrival home in picking up the 50 or more pounds he lost. While over there "I got down to 90 pounds."

Sam was allowed to write four letters to his parents during the six months he was imprisoned, all of which arrived last April. They were the first word his family had had of or from him since he was reported missing in action last November.

### Entered Army in 1943

A graduate of Bradford High school, class of 1943, he entered the Army in Dec. 1943 and went overseas last October. After his furlough, he will report to Asheville, N. C., for further assignment.

Sammy tells us his ambition at the end of the war is to take advantage of the GI Bill of Rights and go to college—"preferably Penn State." He hasn't, however, made up his mind which course he'll take.

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