

John Frank Winkley, Class of 1939.



Parents Told of Son's Death at N. Orleans

Mr. and Mrs. Winkley Sr., 1460 Boxweed, were notified yesterday that the body of Frank Winkley Jr., 25, machinist's mate 3-c in the Navy, was recovered early Saturday from the Mississippi River near New Orleans.

Mrs. Winkley said that altho the telegram said the body was recovered at 9:30 a.m. Saturday,

they did not receive the notification until 6:30 p.m. yesterday. It was dated 2:30 p.m. yesterday from New Orleans.

Machinist's Mate Winkley was first reported a straggler, then on Feb. 8 a deserter, and then the Navy notified his parents he had fallen overboard the night of Sunday, Jan. 27, while taking pictures on board ship at New Orleans.

FOUL PLAY?

Mr. and Mrs. Winkley believe their son was the victim of foul play. His sister, Miss Pauline Winkley of New Orleans, saw him Friday night before his disappearance and, at that time, he had more than \$300 in cash and a government check for \$200, all of which he told her he was going to send home. Investigation showed the government check was cashed Friday night. Mrs. Winkley said, and, after his disappearance, his wallet,

containing only \$160 was found on ship. No trace of the remaining \$340 has been found. His camera and flashlight equipment also were missing, but the case for the camera remained on the ship.

Mrs. Winkley said she believes he may have been robbed and thrown overboard.

PARENTS VISIT SHIP

Repeated inquiry and a visit to the ship by Mr. and Mrs. Winkley elicited only the information that an "inexperienced young officer" was responsible for the notice that Winkley was a deserter. The Navy reported that young Winkley had been taking pictures with Navy companions on board ship from 2 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. when he went to his quarters on the night of his disappearance.

Capt. C.A. Chappell, assistant chief of staff of personnel of the Eighth Navy District, New Orleans, wrote: "I am sure in my own opinion that no foul play was connected with your son's disappearance due to the fact that he was well-liked and his money (referring apparently to that in the wallet) was not touched.

Winkley had served 27 months overseas as a Diesel engineer. He went to New Orleans a short time before his disappearance after a visit home. He was to have been eligible for discharge from the service in February.

Born in Memphis, he was educated at Catholic school and graduated from Tech High School. Before entering the Navy he was employed at the Fisher plant. While home on his last visit he made plans to entering business for himself after his discharge.

He leaves his parents; his brother, Charles Winkley, Memphis, and two sisters, Mrs. William Boone, Memphis, and Miss Pauline Winkley, New Orleans.

Information from The Memphis Press-Scimitar, Monday, April 15, 1946.