

## Guy Alford, Part Two

In the last issue you were introduced to Guy Alford. He did much Alford research in the 1950s. Before we begin publishing part of Guy Alford's actual work, one more article in the way of introduction is being provided readers.

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### 53-YEAR-OLD GEORGIA GI TAKES WAR IN HIS STRIDE

By Wright Bryan  
Journal Staff Correspondent



LONDON, May 27—(By Press Wireless)—Technical Sergeant Guy Alford, a Swainsboro, Ga., lawyer, is taking this war in his stride. Sergeant Alford is a 53-year-old G. I. who did seven and a half years in the old regular Army and came out of the last war as a captain, and re-enlisted in the ranks soon after Pearl Harbor.

He had hoped to receive a commission again but somehow it got lost in

the shuffle and Alford is wasting no tears on spilt milk. Instead, he is devoting what spare time he can find to his hobby of historical research exploring libraries here for source material on General Edward Oglethorpe's life.

Several years before the war, Alford had more or less retired from law to do historical writing. He is the historian of Emanuel County and his principal ambition is to do biographies of Governor David Emanuel and General Oglethorpe.

He feels that most historians have slighted Oglethorpe and that even Georgia histories fail to do him full justice.

### True Old Soldier

Alford looks the "true old soldier," despite 23 years in civil life between World Wars. As a boy he wanted to be a soldier, but, in deference to his mother's wishes, waited until he was 21 years old to enlist. Before he was 25 he was a first sergeant and perhaps the youngest "top kicvk" [*sic*] in the small but tough army of those before World War I.

In the Mexican border campaign in 1916 he served in the Third Infantry where Lieutenant General Walter Kreuger was then first lieutenant.

Then came the first World War. When it looked like Alford's outfit might not get to France, he applied for a transfer and so served with the aviation section of the Signal Corps, which was the fine forerunner of today's giant air force. He was not a flying man but, even then, ground force personnel was important. He helped keep flying all the pioneer military planes of that day. He must have some queer memories as he watches thousands of giant bombers and swift fighters in the sky over the European theater of operations today.

In 1919, he left the Army and took

up the practice of law in Swainsboro, but in August, 1942, he volunteered again.

### In New Branch

Today he is serving in another new branch, the Transportation Corps. He is working for the intelligence officer of the outfit which handles all American personnel and material at one British port. Like so many units in various branches, this outfit is kept on a mobile basis so with little warning it could move to some other port in Britain or on the Continent should it be needed to handle troop and supply movements elsewhere.

Alford was in London Saturday and came by my room to talk about Georgia. He is stoutish but military in his bearing with close-cropped gray hair and steel-rimmed spectacles. On his blouse, he wears the ribbons of the Mexican border campaign, the First World War, and the Good Conduct Medal. On his sleeve were two gold service chevrons, each representing six months's service in the First World War and three hash marks, each representing three years of enlisted service.

His son, Winston, now working in a Brunswick shipyard, was born on Armistice Day in 1926. His wife is teaching at Tallulah Falls School while he is overseas. ♦

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