



Army Ordnance Corps  
Insignia



**Russel Llewellyn Bieber**  
**First Sergeant U.S. Army**  
**12 March 1941 – 14 June 1945**

Russel was born on 12 March 1918 in Rockland Township near New Jerusalem, Pennsylvania. He attended grammar school in Krimsville and Alburts, Pennsylvania, until moving with his family to Wescosville, Pennsylvania, in 1928, finishing grade school there. He then attended William Allen High School in Allentown, Pennsylvania, from which graduated in 1936. After graduating from high school, Russel worked for Mack Trucks, Inc., in Allentown as a Receiving Checker until he was drafted into the Army on 12 March 1941. He entered the Army as a Private in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. He underwent basic training and training as an Ordnance Clerk in the Army Ordnance Corps before being ordered to the Southwestern Pacific Theater. He was assigned to the 37th Ordnance Maintenance Company and left the States on 1 March 1942, arriving in Australia on 10 April 1942. His Company later participated in the New Guinea Campaign where his brother **Harold Jeremiah Bieber** was serving at the time. Russel rose to the rank of First Sergeant and held the position of First Sergeant of the Company. Russel was awarded the American Defense Service Medal and the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal. He left New Guinea on 14 April 1945 and returned to the States on 1 May 1945, and was discharged at Fort Dix, New Jersey, on 14 June 1945. After his discharge, Russel went back to work for Mack Trucks in Allentown where he became a Production Control Leader until his retirement in 1979. After he retired, he conducted tours for Mack Trucks at their plant in Macungie, Pennsylvania, for 15 years. Russel married **Beatrice Althea Dotterer** (17 March 1922 – 2 September 1997) on 18 February 1942 in Mississippi just prior to leaving for overseas. When he returned home from the war, he and Beatrice eventually settled in Krocksville, Pennsylvania. They had two sons, **Glenn Bieber** and **Dean Bieber**. Throughout his retirement, Russel was very active in community affairs including: serving on the Council of Jordan Lutheran Church in Orefield, Pennsylvania; Representative for Boy Scouts Troop 72 and Cub Scouts Pack 72, both in Fogelsville, Pennsylvania; President of the Wescosville Playground Association; member of the Wescosville Fire Company; Superintendent and Teacher at Krocksville Sunday School; 32nd degree Mason in both the Lehigh Masonic Lodge 326 in Trexlertown and the Rajah Temple in Reading, Pennsylvania; member and Program chairman of the Kuhnsville area Lions Club; member of American Legion Post 29 in Allentown; and Records Secretary and Newsletter Editor for the 37th Ordnance Group Association's National World War II Reunion Organization. Russel received the Mack Truck Four Chaplains Award for his charitable community work over the years. Russel died on 11 October 2004 in Allentown, and is buried with Beatrice at Jordan Lutheran Cemetery in Orefield. His parents were **Charles Joel Bieber** (6 January 1893 – 26 April 1968) and **Clara Mabel Meitzler** (26 October 1894 – 1 November 1959). Besides his brother Harold Jeremiah, Russel had three other brothers who served in the Army: **Herbert John** during the Korean War, **Forrest Charles** during World War II, and **Leon Earl** during the mid-1950s. Russel's brother-in-law **Edward Francis Henry**, husband of his sister **Naomi Clara Bieber**, served in the Navy during World War II.