

YANKEE DIVISION SOLDIERS RETURN HOME AS HEROES

By our defense correspondent
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SOLDIERS of the U.S. Army's 26th Division came home to a heroes' welcome yesterday after distinguishing themselves in combat during the World War.

Nicknamed the "Yankee Division," it was one of the first American units to arrive in Europe to fight the Germans after U.S. entry into the war. Organized largely from National Guard troops in Massachusetts and other New England states, the division was sent to France as part of the American Expeditionary Forces.

The same division also fought in one of the last major military offensives that helped bring about

the Allied defeat of Germany. In total, the 26th Division spent more than 200 days in combat and lost more than 1,500 soldiers who were killed in action.

Privates George Dilboy (circled) and Michael J. Perkins—both of whom lost their lives—will be issued the Medal of Honor for their courageous actions "above and beyond the call of duty."

Dilboy, a Greek-American, was singled out by U.S. forces commander General John Pershing for his "super-human heroism." In total, eight soldiers, sailors, and marines connected to Massachusetts received the Medal of Honor, the highest U.S. military decoration.

Sergeant Stubby, a dog that was a regimental mascot, went to



war with the 26th Division and returned a celebrity. Believed to be part Boston Terrier, he is said to be the war's most decorated dog, having saved American soldiers from surprise gas attacks and once catching a German soldier.

Following the bravery of its armed forces, the U.S. has emerged from the war as a world power. But questions remain as to whether such an enormous cost to human life is really worth the sacrifice.