



The QUAN



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A Tribute To Our Nurses



Nurses 1985

New Guidelines Promote Patient Safety

The health of our veterans is the number one priority of the VA Stars & Stripes Healthcare Network. For this reason, we encourage you to use us for all of your health care. We realize, however, that for some health care needs you may prefer to continue to see your community provider.

For those situations, VA recently established new guidelines for both patients and VA providers that will help ensure you receive the safest, most effective care. Under the new guidelines, if you want a prescription filled at a VA pharmacy, a VA provider must manage your care for the condition that requires the medication. For example, if you are taking blood pressure medication ordered by your community provider and getting the prescription filled at a VA pharmacy, you will also need to have your blood pressure managed by your VA primary care provider in order to continue receiving the medication from VA.

"Patient safety was the motivation for the new guidelines," explains Dr. Michael Adelman, chief of staff at the Erie VA Medical Center. "For instance, patients who only want medications from VA have only a portion of their medical records in the VA system. This creates the potential for dangerous drug interactions." In addition, he says, private providers many times prescribe a medication that isn't on VA's formulary, which can result in confusion for the patient.



Madeline M. Ullom, Paul Reuter and Harold E. Feiner

Dr. Adelman recommends discussing the new guidelines and your health needs with your VA primary care provider before making any decisions about who will provide your care. "We are encouraging veterans to be thoughtful about who will manage their care," says Dr. Adelman. "It's important to have only one provider managing a problem so that patients clearly understand what their plan of treatment is."

Veterans should feel confident turning to VA for all or a large portion of their health care, not just for prescriptions, adds Dr. Adelman. "The quality of care remains excellent and access for our existing patients continues to improve."

ADBC Web Site Grows

The ADBC Web Site continues to grow and now contains more than 700 pages of helpful information. You can visit our Site by entering the following URL into your browser:

<http://adbc-pow.org>

We invite you to visit our Site and meet some old friends, make some new ones, send us your biographical sketch (digital photos welcome). Read about future conventions, reunions and meetings; find out how you can find help with your VA claim; many more things. Go there for names and addresses of all of your elected and appointed officers. Send us your e-mail address, etc. so we can post your name on the Web Site.

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The QUAN

Dedicated to those persons both living and dead who fought against overwhelming odds against the enemy at the outbreak of World War II.
Official Publication of the

AMERICAN DEFENDERS OF BATAAN & CORREGIDOR, INC.
(INCLUDING ANY UNIT OF FORCE OF THE ASIATIC FLEET, PHILIPPINE ARCHIPELAGO,
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Mary Josephine Oberst Earns Degree

Dear Mr. Vater,

In the July 2003, V58 #1 page of **The Quan** you mentioned that Madeline Ullom was the only "angel" to earn a Master's Degree.

Mary Josephine Oberst, also one of the "Angels of Bataan and Corregidor" earned a Bachelor's Degree and a Master's Degree (BSNE and MSN) from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Miss Oberst was on the committee that started the Kappa Chapter of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing at Catholic U.

In fact, two of her nurses from St. Mary's School of Nursing in Evansville, Indiana, where Miss Oberst was assistant director of nurses told her they saw her name on a plaque on the wall at Catholic U.

Miss Oberst is one of the few angels still living and is as you know a resident at Nazareth Home in Louisville, KY having suffered three strokes. Mary is unable to care for herself physically, but is still mentally quite sharp.

Miss Oberst always enjoys **The Quan**. Keep it coming.

Sincerely,
Sister Dorothea, SCN

Looking Forward

Now that Albuquerque is history, we must look forward to 2004. We will have a good program planned around "A Tribute to Our Nurses", our Angels.

Place: Orlando Airport Marriott
Dates: Tuesday, May 4, 2004 to Saturday, May 8
Returning Home: Sunday, May 9, 2004
Cost: Your loose change
Rates: \$72.00 s/d.
Rates good for two days forward or back

I bet Mary Joe would like cards from you.

Ms. Mary J. Oberst
200 Newburg Road
Louisville, KY 40205

Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Prisoners of War

A Summary of Issues and Recommended Actions October, 2002

1. **Outreach to Former POWs: A Continuing Problem:** As recommended by Dr. Roswell, we support the concept of forming a "Think Tank" to explore and develop all possible means for reaching former POWs not yet receiving care and/or benefits in the DVA system.
2. **"Inreach": Ratings Not Necessarily Reflective of Actual Disabilities:** We recommend screening of existing records of former POWs rated at 50% or lower, with an eye to including all presumptive conditions that might apply to each former POW.
3. **Centers of Excellence: Centers or Processing the Full Spectrum of Services for Former POWs:** We support unequivocally the institutionalization of the Jackson, MS/Seattle, WA model as the criterion measure of Centers of Excellence.
4. **Special Examining Unit Teams: Regional Specialists (A.K.A. Centers of Excellence) for Management of Former POWs:** We endorse this concept as key to significant improvement in the processing of the cases of former POWs.
5. **Cardiovascular Disease as a New Presumptive Condition: Evidence of a Clear Connection Between the POW Experience and Later Development of Cardiovascular Disease:** We recommend *immediate* recognition of this condition and that Cardiovascular Disease be established as a new Presumptive Condition for former POWs.
6. **Medical Claims Statistics: Significant Disparities Exist Between Numbers of Former POWs Registered at Department Level as Opposed to Those Registered at the RO Level:** We recommend a detailed review to eliminate differences between the numbers of registered former POWs at the Regional level and the National level.
7. **Fraudulent Claims: Opportunities Exist for Identifying Fraudulent Claims:** We recommend that DVA compare lists from, inter alia, NAMPOWS, Inc., with its own internal records to isolate and, if appropriate, prosecute frauds. Upon request, NAMPOWS, Inc. will make available to the Department their list of fraudulent claims of service as POWs during the Vietnam conflict.
8. **Long Term Health Care for Former POWs: A Reflection of a Nation-wide Problem:** We recommend that this committee be provided a detailed briefing on existing and planned programs within, or companion to, DVA programs or plans. We request that this update be an agenda item at our Spring 2003 meeting in Washington, D.C.
9. **Certification of Service-Connected Disabilities: Benefits Available to Disabled Veterans:** We recommend that letters to Regional Offices charge the ROs with issuing appropriate documents certifying eligibility for, for example, commissary access.
10. **Tiger Teams: Excellent Work but More Can be Done:** We recommend that in cases where claims of former POWs have been denied, that such cases be forwarded to one of the Centers of Excellence for review by medical and claims processing professionals trained in, and sensitive to, POW-peculiar problems.
11. **Tiger Team Training:** Apropos the previous recommendation, we recommend that all Tiger Team members charged with processing claims of former POWs successfully complete appropriate specialized training targeting the unique aspects of ex-POW claims. This matter is of particular importance when processing claims which fall within the framework of Presumptive Conditions.
12. **Training Seminars: A Significant Opportunity Bypassed, and Possibly At-Risk:** We recommend that all medical staff, VISN staff and VBA staff responsible for treatment and processing of former POWs be required to attend at least one of these training seminars. Further, we recommend that training seminars be fully funded and that they be scheduled in each geographic region, at least initially, on an annual basis.
13. **The National Academies: The Medical Follow-up Agency (MFUA): 50 Years of Contributions, and 30 Years of Service by Charles A. Stenger, Ph.D.:** We recommend that the Department continue to fund this unique research. We also need actively to seek a *successor* to Dr. Stenger; for, indeed, we recognize that he could never be "replaced."
14. **Report of The Robert E. Mitchell Center: A National Resource:** We recommend that the importance of the contributions of military medical professionals to future evaluations of POWs and other veterans be addressed in future joint DOD/DVA discussions. We believe that carefully chosen personnel should be included in future POW Learning Seminars.
15. **Report of the History of the Center or POW Studies: A Lasting Legacy Much Appreciated:** We recommend that the Secretary take special note of the remarkable contributions of the Center for POW Studies and, in particular, those of Edna Jo Hunter-King, Ph.D.

Tentative Schedule Orlando, Florida

Tuesday, May 4, 2004

7:00 PM-11:00 PM Hospitality Host Bar

Wednesday, May 5, 2004

8:00 AM Church Service

9:00 AM-3:00 PM Registration

10:00 AM-1:00 PM Executive Board Meeting

7:00 PM-11:00 PM Hospitality Host Bar

Thursday, May 6, 2004

8:00 AM Church Services

9:00 AM-3:00 PM Registration

9:00 AM Bus Schedule to Bataan Memorial & Back

1:00 PM Tentative Shopping Bus
7:00 PM-11:00 PM Reception Host Bar

Friday, May 7, 2004

8:00 AM Church Service

9:00 AM-3:00 PM Registration

9:30 AM-12:00 Membership Meeting

12:00 Widows Luncheon

7:00 PM-11:00 PM Quan Party & Dance Host Bar

Saturday, May 8, 2004

8:00 AM Church Service

10:00 AM-11:30 AM Memorial Service

6:30 PM Head Table Reception

7:00 PM Banquet

You need seat assignment when you register so we know how many dinners to order.

Operation Olympic

An invasion not found in history books

By James Martin Davis

Deep in the recesses of the National Archives in Washington, D.C., hidden for nearly four decades, lie thousands of pages of yellowing and dusty documents stamped "Top Secret." These documents, now declassified, are the plans for Operation Downfall, the invasion of Japan during World War II.

Only a few Americans in 1945 were aware of the elaborate plans that had been prepared for the Allied invasion of the Japanese home islands. Even fewer today are aware of the defenses the Japanese had prepared to counter the invasion had it been launched.

Operation Downfall was finalized during the spring and summer of 1945. It called for two massive military undertakings to be carried out in succession and aimed at the heart of the Japanese Empire.

Olympic

In the first invasion — code-named Operation Olympic — American combat troops would land on Japan by amphibious assault during the early morning hours of Nov. 1, 1945 — 58 years ago. Fourteen combat divisions of soldiers and Marines would land on heavily fortified and defended Kyushu, the southernmost of the Japanese home islands after an unprecedented naval and aerial bombardment.

Coronet

The second invasion March 1, 1946 — code-named Operation Coronet — would send at least 22 combat divisions against 1 million Japanese defenders on the main island of Honshu and the Tokyo Plain. Its goal: the unconditional surrender of Japan.

With the exception of a part of the British Pacific Fleet, Operation Downfall was to be a strictly American operation. It called for using the entire Marine Corps, the entire Pacific Navy, and elements of the 8th Army Air force, the 8th Air Force (recently deployed from Europe), the 20th Air Force and the American Far Eastern Air Force.

More than 1.5 million combat soldiers, with 3 million more in support — more than 40 percent of all servicemen still in uniform in 1945 — would be directly involved in the two amphibious assaults.

Casualties were expected to be extremely heavy.

Admiral William Leahy estimated that there would be more than 250,000 Americans killed or wounded on Kyushu alone. Gen. Charles Willoughby, chief of intelligence for Gen. Douglas MacArthur, the Supreme Commander of the Southwest Pacific, estimated American casualties from the entire operation would be 1 million men by the fall of 1946. Willoughby's own intelligence staff considered this to be a conservative estimate.

During the summer of 1945, America had little time to prepare for such an endeavor, but top military leaders were in almost unanimous agreement that an invasion was necessary.

While a naval blockade and strategic bombing of Japan was considered to be useful, MacArthur, for instance, did not believe a blockade would bring about an unconditional surrender. The advocates for invasion agreed that while a naval blockade chokes, it does not kill; and though strategic bombing might destroy cities, it leaves whole armies intact.

So on May 25, 1945, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, after extensive deliberation, issued to MacArthur, Admiral Chester Nimitz and Army Air Force Gen. Henry "Hap" Arnold, the top secret directive to proceed with the invasion of Kyushu.

The target date was set for after the typhoon season.

Surrender

President Truman approved the plans for invasions July 24. Two days later the United Nations issued the Potsdam Proclamation, which called upon Japan to surrender unconditionally or face total destruction. Three days later, the Japanese governmental news agency broadcast to the world that Japan would ignore the proclamation and would refuse to surrender.

During this same period it was learned — via monitoring Japanese radio broadcasts — that Japan had closed all schools and mobilized its school children, was arming its civilian population and was fortifying caves and building underground facilities.

Operation Olympic called for a four-pronged assault on Kyushu. Its purpose was to seize and control the southern one-third of that island and establish naval and air bases, to tighten the naval blockade of the home islands, to destroy units of the main Japanese army and to support the later invasion of the Tokyo Plain.

The preliminary invasion would begin Oct. 27 when the 40th Infantry Division would land on a series of small islands west and southwest of Kyushu. At the same time, the 158th Regimental Combat Team would invade and occupy a small island 28 miles south of Kyushu.

On these islands, seaplane bases would be established and radar would be set up to provide advance air warning for the invasion fleet, to serve as fighter direction centers for the carrier-based aircraft and to provide an emergency anchorage for the invasion fleet, should things not go well on the day of the invasion.

Navy

As the invasion grew imminent, the massive power of the Navy — the Third and Fifth Fleets — would approach Japan.

The Third Fleet, under Admiral William "Bull" Halsey, with its big guns and naval aircraft, would provide strategic support for the operation against Honshu and Hokkaido.

Halsey's fleet would be composed of battleships, heavy cruisers, destroyers, dozens of support ships and three fast carrier task groups. From these carriers, hundreds of Navy fighters, dive bombers and torpedo planes would hit targets all over the island of Honshu.

The 3,000-ship Fifth Fleet, under Admiral Raymond Spruance, would carry the invasion troops.

Several days before the invasion, the battleships, heavy cruisers and destroyers would pour thousands of tons of high explosives into the target areas. They would not cease the bombardment until after the landing forces had been launched.

During the early morning hours of Nov. 1 the invasions would begin. Thousands of soldiers and marines would pour ashore on beaches all along the eastern, southeastern, southern and western coasts of Kyushu.

Waves of Helldivers, Dauntless dive bombers, Avengers, Corsairs and Hellcats from 66 aircraft carriers would bomb, rocket and strafe enemy defenses, gun emplacements and troop concentrations along the beaches.

Beach names

The Eastern Assault Force, consisting of the 25th, 33rd and 41st Infantry Divisions, would land near Miyasaki, at beaches called Austin, Buick, Cadillac, Chevrolet, Chrysler and Cord and move inland to attempt to capture the city and its nearby airfield.

The Southern Force, consisting of the 1st Cavalry Division, the 43rd Division and Americal Division would land inside Ariake Bay at beaches labeled DeSoto, Dusenberg, Essex, Ford and Franklin and attempt to capture Shibushi and to capture the city of Kanoya and its airfield.

On the western shore of Kyushu, at beaches Pontiac, Reo, Rolls Royce, Saxon, Star, Studebaker, Stutz, Winton and Zephyr, the V Amphibious Corps would land the 2nd, 3rd and

(Continued on Page 5)

(Continued from Page 4)

5th Marine Divisions, sending half of its force inland to Sendai and the other half to the port city of Kagoshima.

On Nov. 4, the reserve force, consisting of the 81st and 98th Infantry Divisions and the 11th Airborne Division, after feigning an attack of the island of Shikoku, would be landed — if not needed elsewhere — near Kaimondake, near the southernmost tip of Kagoshima Bay, at beaches designated Locomobile, Lincoln, LaSalle, Hupmobile, Moon, Mercedes, Maxwell, Overland, Oldsmobile, Packard and Plymouth.

Olympic was not just a plan for invasions, for but conquest and occupation as well. It was expected to take four months to achieve its objective, with three fresh American divisions per month to be landed in support of that operation if needed.

If all went well with Olympic, Coronet would be launched March 1, 1946. Coronet would be twice the size of Olympic, with as many as 28 American divisions landing on Honshu.

All along the coast east of Tokyo, the American 1st Army would land the 5th, 7th, 27th, 44th, 86th and 96th Infantry Divisions along with 1st, 4th and 6th Marine Divisions.

At Sangami Bay, just south of Tokyo, the entire 8th and 10th Armies would strike north and east to clear the long western shore of Tokyo Bay, and attempt to go as far as Yokohama. The assault troops landing south of Tokyo would be the 4th, 6th, 8th, 24th, 31st, 32nd, 37th, 38th and 87th Infantry Divisions, along with the 13th and 20th Armored Divisions.

Following the initial assault, eight more divisions — the 2nd, 28th, 35th, 91st, 95th, 97th and 104th Infantry Divisions and the 11th Airborne Division — would be landed. If additional troops were needed, as expected, other divisions redeployed from Europe and undergoing training in the United States would be shipped to Japan in what was hoped to be the final push.

Defense

Captured Japanese documents and postwar interrogation of Japanese military leaders disclose that information concerning the number of Japanese planes available for the defense of the home islands was dangerously in error.

During the sea battle at Okinawa alone, Japanese kamikaze aircraft sank 32 Allied ships and damaged more than 400 others. But during the summer of 1945, American top brass concluded that the Japanese had spent their air force, since American bombers and fighters daily flew unmolested over Japan.

What the military leaders did not know was that by the end of July the Japanese had been saving all aircraft, fuel and pilots in reserve, and had been feverishly building new planes for the decisive battle for their homeland.

As part of Ketsu-Go — the name for the plan to defend Japan — the Japanese were building 20 suicide take-off strips in southern Kyushu with underground hangars. They also had 35 camouflaged airfields and nine seaplane bases.

On the night before the expected invasion, 50 Japanese seaplane bombers, 100 former carrier aircraft and 50 land based army planes were to be launched in a suicide attack on the fleet.

The Japanese had 58 more airfields on Korea, western Honshu and Shikoku, which also were to be used for massive suicide attacks.

Allied intelligence had established that the Japanese had no more than 2,500 aircraft of which they guessed 300 would be deployed in suicide attacks.

12,725

In August 1945, however, unknown to Allied intelligence, the Japanese still had 5,651 army and 7,074 navy aircraft, for a total of 12,725 planes of all types. Every village had some type of aircraft manufacturing activity. Hidden in mines, railway tunnels, under viaducts and in basements of department stores, work was being done to construct new planes.

Additionally, the Japanese were building newer and more effective models of the Okka — a rocket-propelled bomb much like the German V-1, but flown by the suicide pilot.

When the invasion became imminent, Ketsu-Go called for a four-fold aerial plan of attack to destroy up to 800 Allied ships.

While Allied ships were approaching Japan, but still in the open seas, an initial force of 2,000 army and navy fighters were to fight to the death to control the skies over Kyushu. A second force of 330 navy combat pilots were to attack the main body of the task force to keep it from using its fire support and air cover to protect the troop carrying transports. While these two forces were engaged, a third force of 825 suicide planes was to hit the American transports.

As the invasion convoys approached their anchorages, another 2,000 suicide planes were to be launched in waves of 20 to 300, to be used in hour-by-hour attacks.

American troops would be arriving in about 180 lightly armed transports and 70 cargo vessels.

By mid-morning of the first day of the invasion, most of the American land-based aircraft would be forced to return to their bases, leaving the defense against the suicide planes to the carrier pilots and the shipboard gunners.

Japanese pilots crippled by fatigue would return time and time again to re-arm and fight. Guns would malfunction from the heat of continuous firing and ammunition would become scarce. Gun crews would be exhausted by nightfall, but still the waves of kamikazes would continue. With the fleet hovering off the beaches, all remaining Japanese aircraft would be committed to nonstop suicide attacks, which the Japanese hoped could be sustained for 10 days.

Subs

The Japanese planned to coordinate their air strikes with attacks from the 40 remaining submarines from the Imperial Navy — some armed with Long Lance torpedoes with a range of 20 miles — when the invasion fleet was 180 miles off Kyushu.

The Imperial Navy had 23 destroyers and two cruisers which were operational. These ships were to be used to counterattack the American invasion. A number of the destroyers were to be beached at the last minute to be used as anti-invasion gun platforms.

Once offshore, the invasion fleet would be forced to defend not only against the attacks from the air, but would also be confronted with suicide attacks from sea. Japan had established a suicide naval attack unit of midget submarines, human torpedoes and exploding motorboats.

The goal of the Japanese was to shatter the invasion before the landing. The Japanese were convinced the Americans would back off or become so demoralized that they would then accept a less-than unconditional surrender and a more honorable and face-saving end for the Japanese.

But as horrible as the battle of Japan would be off the beaches, it would be on Japanese soil that the American forces would face the most rugged and fanatical defense encountered during the war.

Throughout the island-hopping pacific campaign, Allied troops had always outnumbered the Japanese by 2 to 1 and sometimes 3 to 1.

In Japan it would be different: By virtue of a combination of cunning guesswork and brilliant military reasoning, a number of Japan's top military leaders were able to deduce, not only when, but where, the United States would land its first invasion forces.

Advantage

Facing the 14 American divisions landing at Kyushu would be 14 Japanese divisions, 7 independent mixed brigades, 3 tank brigades and thousands of naval troops.

(Continued on Page 6)

(Continued from Page 5)

On Kyushu the odds would be 3 to 2 in favor of the Japanese, with 790,000 enemy defenders against 550,000 Americans.

This time the bulk of the Japanese defenders would not be the poorly trained and ill-equipped labor battalions that the Americans had faced in the earlier campaigns.

The Japanese defenders would be the hard-core of the home army. These troops were well-fed and well-equipped. They were familiar with the terrain, had stockpiles of arms and ammunition, and had developed an effective system of transportation and supply almost invisible from the air. Many of these Japanese troops were the elite of the army, and they were swollen with a fanatical fighting spirit.

Japan's network of beach defenses consisted of offshore mines, thousands of suicide scuba divers attacking landing craft, and mines planted on the beaches.

Coming ashore, the American Eastern amphibious assault forces at Miyazaki would face three Japanese divisions, and two others poised for a counterattack.

Awaiting the Southeastern attack force at Ariake Bay was an entire division and at least one mixed infantry brigade.

On the western shores of Kyushu, the Marines would face the most brutal opposition. Along the invasion beaches would be the three Japanese divisions, a tank brigade, a mixed infantry brigade and an artillery command. Components of two divisions would also be poised to launch counterattacks.

If not needed to reinforce the primary landing beaches, the American Reserve Force would be landed at the base of Kagoshima Bay Nov. 4, where they would be confronted by two mixed infantry brigades, parts of two infantry divisions and thousands of the naval troops.

All along the invasion beaches, American troops would face coastal batteries, anti-landing obstacles and a network of heavily fortified pillboxes, bunkers and underground fortresses.

As Americans waded ashore, they would face intense artillery and mortar fire as they worked their way through concrete rubble and barbed-wire entanglements arranged to funnel them into the muzzles of these Japanese guns.

In depth

On the beaches and beyond would be hundreds of Japanese machine gun positions, beach mines, booby traps, tripwire mines and sniper units. Suicide units concealed in "spider holes" would engage the troops as they passed nearby.

In the heat of battle, Japanese infiltration units would be sent to wreak havoc in the American lines by cutting phone and communication lines. Some of the Japanese troops would be in American uniform, English-speaking Japanese officers were assigned to break in on American radio traffic to call off artillery fire, to order retreats and to further confuse troops.

Other infiltrators with demolition charges strapped on their chests or backs would attempt to blow up American tanks, artillery pieces and ammunition stores as they were unloaded ashore.

Beyond the beaches were large artillery pieces situated to bring down a curtain of fire on the beach. Some of these large guns were mounted on railroad tracks running in and out of caves protected by concrete and steel.

The battle for Japan would be won by what Simon Bolivar Buckner, a lieutenant general in the Confederate army during the Civil War, had called "Prairie Dog Warfare." This type of fighting was almost unknown to the ground troops in Europe and the Mediterranean. It was peculiar only to the soldiers and Marines who fought the Japanese on islands all over the Pacific — at Tarawa, Saipan, Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

Prairie Dog Warfare was a battle for yards, feet and sometimes inches. It was a brutal, deadly and dangerous form of combat aimed at an underground, heavily fortified, non-retreating enemy.

In the mountains behind the Japanese beaches were underground networks of caves, bunkers, command posts and hospitals connected by miles of tunnels with dozens of entrances and exits. Some of these complexes could hold up to 1,000 troops.

Chemical

In addition to the use of poison gas and bacteriological warfare (which the Japanese had experimented with), Japan mobilized its citizenry.

Had Olympic come about, the Japanese civilian population, inflamed by a national slogan — One Hundred Million Will Die for the Emperor and Nation — was prepared to fight to the death.

At the early stage of the invasion, 1,000 Japanese and American soldiers would be dying every hour ... Every foot of Japanese soil would have been paid for by Japanese and American lives.

Twenty-eight million Japanese had become a part of the National Volunteer Combat Force. They were armed with ancient rifles, lunge mines, satchel charges, Molotov cocktails and one-shot black powder mortars. Others were armed with swords, long bows, axes and bamboo spears.

The civilian units were to be used in nighttime attacks, hit and run maneuvers delaying actions and massive suicide charges at the weaker American positions. The invasion of Japan never became a reality because on August 6, 1945, an atomic bomb was exploded over Hiroshima. Three days later, a second bomb was dropped on Nagasaki. Within days the war with Japan was at a close.

Had these bombs not been dropped and had the invasion been launched as scheduled, combat casualties in Japan would have been at a minimum in the tens of thousands. Every foot of Japanese soil would have been paid for by Japanese and American lives.

One can only guess at how many civilians would have committed suicide in their homes or in futile mass military attacks.

In retrospect, the 1 million American men who were to be the casualties of the invasion, were instead lucky enough to survive the war.

Intelligence studies and military estimates made more than 50 years ago, and no latter-day speculation, clearly indicate that the battle for Japan might well have resulted in the biggest blood bath in the history of modern warfare.

Far worse would be what might have happened to Japan as a nation and as a culture. When the invasion came, it would have come after several months of firebombing all of the remaining Japanese cities. The cost in human life that resulted from the two atomic blasts would be small in comparison to the total number of Japanese lives that would have been lost by this aerial devastation.

With American forces locked in combat in the south of Japan, little could have prevented the Soviet Union from marching into the northern half of the Japanese home islands. Japan today could be divided much like Korea and Germany.

The world was spared the cost of Operation Downfall, however, because Japan formally surrendered to the United Nations Sept. 2, 1945, and World War II was over.

In the fall of 1946, in the aftermath of the war, few people concerned themselves with the invasion plans. Following the surrender, the classified documents, maps, diagrams and appendices for Operation Downfall were packed away in boxes and eventually stored at the National Archives.

These plans that called for the invasion of Japan paint a vivid description of what might have been one of the most horrible campaigns in the history of man.

Editor's note: Provided to Military by Lt. Col. Archibald E. Roberts, USA (Ret.), Director of the Committee to Restore the Constitution and Mrs. Lillian Baker. A special thanks to Little Boy & Fat Man.

The Nurses and Their Hometowns

Navy Nurse Corps Prisoners of War

1. Chief Nurse Laura Mae Cobb, Wichita, Kansas
2. Mary F. Chapman, Chicago, Illinois
3. Bertha R. Evans, Portland, Oregon
4. Helen C. Gorzelanski, Omaha, Nebraska
5. Mary Rose Harrington, Elk Point, South Dakota
6. Margaret "Peg" A. Nash, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
7. Goldia "Goldie" A. O'Haver, Hayfield, Minnesota
8. Eldene E. Paige, Lomita, California
9. Susie J. Pitcher, Des Moines, Iowa
10. Dorothy Still, Long Beach, California
11. Edwina Todd, Pomona, California

Civilian Nurses Imprisoned with the Navy Nurses

1. Helen G. Grant, Scottish nurse
2. Basilia Torres Steward, wife of an American

Navy Nurse Corps Evacuee from the Philippine Islands

1. Ann Bernatitus, Exeter, Pennsylvania

Army Nurse Corps Prisoners of War

1. Maude Campbell Davison, Washington, D.C.
2. Josephine May "Josie" Nesbit, Parlin, Colorado
3. Mina A. Aasen, Minot, North Dakota
4. Louise M. Anschicks, Mendota, Illinois
5. Phyllis J. Arnold, Minneapolis, Minnesota
6. Agnes D. Barre, Orange, Texas
7. Clara Mae "Bickie" Bickford, Tivoli, Texas
8. Earlyn "Blackie" Black, Groesbeck, Texas
9. Ethel "Sally" L. Blaine, Bible Grove, Missouri
10. Ruby G. Bradley, Spencer, West Virginia
11. Hattie R. Brantley, Jefferson, Texas
12. Minnie L. Breese, Arlington Heights, Illinois
13. Myra V. Burris, San Antonio, Texas
14. Helen "Cassie" Cassiani, Bridgewater, Massachusetts
15. Beatrice E. Chambers, Manila, Philippine Islands
16. Edith M. Corns, Cleveland, Ohio
17. Mildred "Millie" Dalton, Jefferson, Georgia
18. Kathryn L. Dollason, Augusta, Georgia
19. Sallie P. Durrett, Louisville, Kentucky
20. Bertha "Charlie" Dworsky, Hallettsville, Texas
21. Dorcas E. Easterling, Abbot, Texas
22. Magdalena Eckman, Pine Grove, California
23. Eula R. Fails, Houston, Texas
24. Adele F. Foreman, Masten, Pennsylvania
25. Earleen Allen, Chicago, Illinois
26. Helen L. Gardner, Aberdeen, Ohio
27. Eleanor Mae Garen, South Bend, Indiana
28. Marcia L. Gates, Janesville, Wisconsin
29. Beulah M. "Peggy" Greenwalt, Seattle, Washington
30. Alice J. Hahn, Chicago, Illinois
31. Helen M. Hennessey, Leavenworth, Kansas
32. Gwendolyn L. Henshaw, Los Angeles, California
33. Verna V. Henson, Trinity, Texas
34. Rosemary Hogan, Chattanooga, Oklahoma
35. Geneva Jenkins, Sevierville, Tennessee
36. Doris A. Kehoe, Pacific Grove, California
37. Imogene "Jeanne" Kennedy, Philadelphia, Mississippi
38. Blanche Kimball, Topeka, Kansas
39. Eleanor O. Lee, Lonaconing, Maryland

40. Frankie T. Lewey, Dalhart, Texas
41. Dorothy L. Ludlow, Little Rock, Arkansas
42. Inez V. McDonald, Tupelo, Mississippi
43. Letha McHale, Haverhill, Massachusetts
44. Winifred P. Madden, Montello, Wisconsin
45. Gladys Ann Meador, Gorgas, Alabama
46. Mary Brown Menzie, New Orleans, Louisiana
47. Adolpha M. Meyer, St. Louis, Missouri
48. Clara L. Mueller, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
49. Frances Louise Nash, Washington, Georgia
50. Mary J. Oberst, Owensboro, Kentucky
51. Eleanor "Peg" O'Neill, Providence, Rhode Island
52. Rita G. Palmer, Hampton, New Hampshire
53. Beulah M. Putnam, Worthington, Ohio
54. Mary J. Reppak, Shelton, Connecticut
55. Rose F. Rieper, St. Louis, Missouri
56. Dorothy Scholl, Independence, Missouri
57. Edith E. "Shack" Shacklette, Brandenburg, Kentucky
58. Ruth M. Stoltz, Dayton, Ohio
59. Ethel M. Thor, Tacoma, Washington
60. Madeline M. Ullom, O'Neill, Nebraska
61. Evelyn B. Whitlow, Leasburg, North Carolina
62. Anna E. Williams, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
63. Edith M. Wimberly, Campiti, Louisiana
64. Anne B. Wurts, Leominster, Massachusetts
65. Eunice F. Young, Arkport, New York
66. Alice M. "Swish" Zwicker, Brownsville, Maine

Other Women Imprisoned with the Army Nurses

1. Marie Adams, field director for the American Red Cross
2. Brunetta Kuhlthau, army physical therapist
3. Ruby Motley, army dietitian
4. Vivian Weisblatt, civilian dietitian
5. Maude "Denny" Denson Williams, nurse-anesthetist. Member of the Army Nurse Corps before and after the war.
6. Marie Atkinson
7. Betty Bradford
8. Betty Brian
9. Illa Mae Chalek
10. Marie Gould
11. Rita Johnson
12. Catherine Nau
13. Fontaine Porter
14. Mildred Roth
15. Ana Wingate
16. Marie Wolf

Army Nurse Corps Evacuees from Corregidor (1942)

1. Catherine M. Acorn
2. Dorothea M. Daley, Hamilton, Missouri
3. Floramund A. Felmuth, Chicago, Illinois (left Manila in December 1941 by ship)
4. Leona Gastinger, Alabama
5. Susan Downing Gallagher
6. Nancy J. Gillahan
7. Grace D. Hallman, Georgia
8. Eunice C. Hatchitt, Prairie Lea, Texas
9. Willa Hook, Renfrow, Oklahoma
10. Ressa Jenkins, Sevierville, Tennessee
11. Harriet G. Lee, Boston, Massachusetts
12. Mary G. Lohr, Greensburg, Pennsylvania
13. Florence MacDonald, Brockton, Massachusetts
14. Hortense McKay, Amherst, Minnesota

(Continued on Page 8)

The Nurses and Their Hometowns

(Continued from Page 7)

15. Mary L. Moultrie, Georgia
16. Mollie A. Peterson, Arkansas
17. Juanita Redmond, Swansea, South Carolina
18. Mabel V. Stevens, Nebraska
19. Ruth W. Straub, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
20. Helen Summers, Queens, New York
21. Beth A. Veley, San Jose, California
22. Lucy Wilson, Big Sandy, Texas

This list from "We Band of Angels" permission granted by author, Elizabeth M. Norman.

DO YOU KNOW?

Dear sir:

As per our phone conversation, I am enclosing a copy of one of the birthday cards my brother received from his fellow prisoners while he was in the Kamioka POW Camp. The other names on the cards are his orderly "Judy," Lee & Mayes, Lorenzo D. Stevens, Chriss, Lippard & Riggs, L.E. Goldsmith, Members of the British Forces, Sgt. Jack Williams, F Th Steigina, Tommy, and J.T. Fite. I am interested in the history of these cards (if there is one), who drew them?, did the Japs know they existed?, was the paper and pencils readily available?

Also my brother told me of a flag that was kept hidden throughout the POW's captivity, it may have been retold in an American Legion magazine maybe about June 1950, if anyone can give me more information about this flag or of the above people, or the cards, I would greatly appreciate it.

If the cards are of more interest I can send you better copies of them. There are about 13 birthday and Christmas cards all told.

My address is:

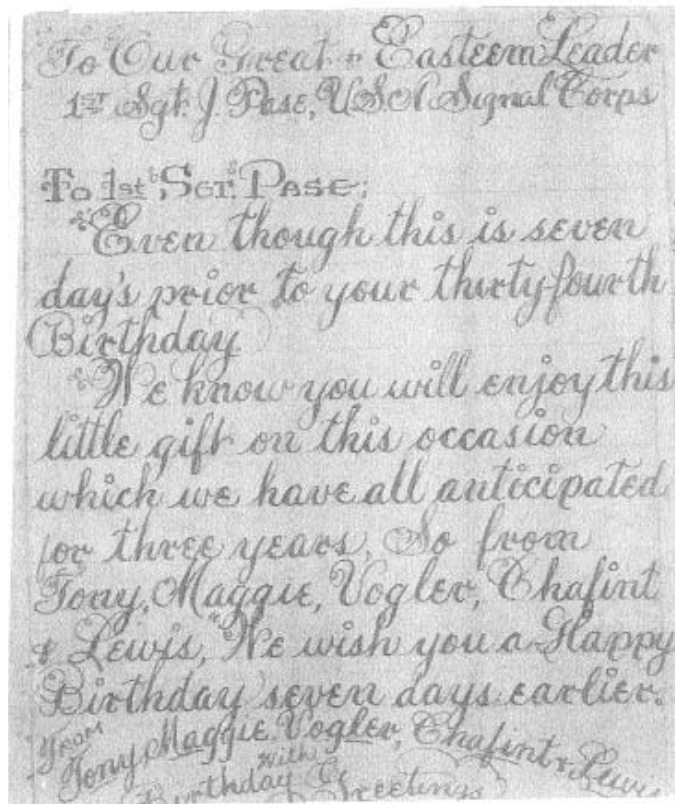
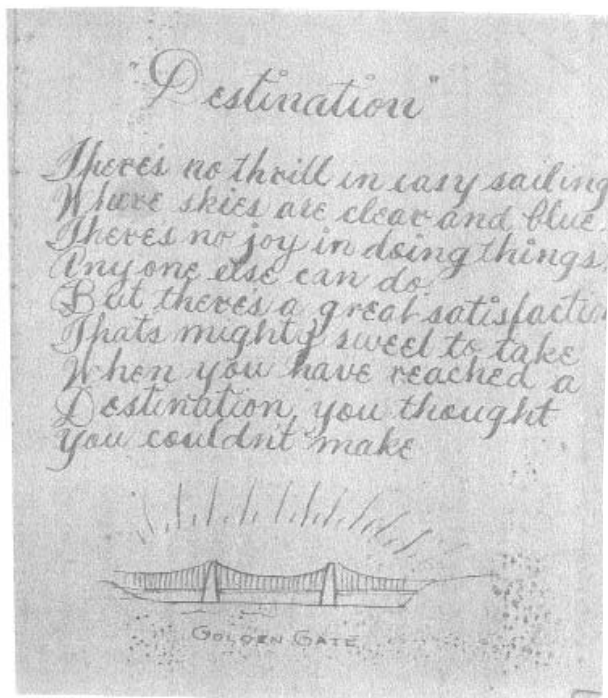
Walter Pase

1621 Imperial Ridge

Las Cruces, NM 88011

E-mail address: walteri32@msn.com

Very truly yours,
Walter Pase



Every year we publish the Christmas Greetings from the members to their friends. We are getting too old to write ourselves. Send your editor what you wish to tell others. Only those who reply will be published.

Madeline Ullom ANC

Lt. Colonel Madeline "Madge" Ullom USA (ret.), one of the Angels of Bataan and Corregidor, died in 2001 at the age of 90. She never lost her affection and commitment to the men and women she came to know so well during the fighting and long POW years in the Philippines. For sixty years this Honorary National Vice-Commander of the ADBC was active in veterans affairs, and one of her final gestures was to leave a legacy to the ADBC so the people who meant so much to her could continue their fellowship.

Madge Ullom wrote an unpublished memoir, shared her experiences in a 1983 ANC Oral History interview, and in 1992 testified before a U.S. Senate Veterans Affairs committee. Excerpts from these works provide a glimpse into the generous manner that Madge Ullom lived her life. What follows, in her own words, are her recollections.

I volunteered to go to the Philippines because of the stories of Army nurses who completed their two year tours, the treasures they displayed from hand carved teak and camphor wood chests. I also had a desire to experience life in the Orient. At the embarkation port, I told my mother that I did not intend to ask for an extension of the two year tour, regardless of how much I liked the Islands.

Madge was enjoying a breakfast of papaya with a squeeze of lime when a Filipino brought the morning's paper and news of Pearl Harbor. Another nurse sat down next to her and said, "Now Madeline, this is nothing to joke about any time, especially so early in the morning." Two hours later we were discharging patients to make way for casualties. Soon wounded patients were lined side by side on stretchers and blankets. Big bloody dressings reflected the hues of the island's magnificent poinsettias.

When the war started, we were supposed to get out of the [Sternberg] buildings if there was an air raid. Someone said, "Oh those white uniforms, you can see them from the sky and they'll know right where the hospital is. They said we had to get out of our white uniforms. The only thing they had for us was size 46 Air Corps fatigues. Now we were brought up knowing you couldn't destroy government property so we had a Chinese tailor cut them down to fit. They altered government property, not us.

At Sternberg, I often slept on an operating room table or just put a little pad in the corner someplace to go to sleep. When things happened there was no time to call people back and say "get on duty."

The sound of the bombs hurt our ear drums. The feeling pierced our hearts. We were soon to remark, "If you see one plane flying in formation you know it is ours."

Manila was declared an open city. A military non-combatant identification card was issued to each person to be presented to the Japanese upon surrender. Surrender? Surrender! The only surrender which entered my mind until now was the favorite perfume of one of the nurses.

I left Manila on December 30th [1941]. We were called at 2 a.m. and told to come downstairs, take only what we could carry in our musette bag and not to turn on any lights. There were about ten of us. I remember going to the front door to look out. There were tanks. Somebody said, "You'd better not go out and look. We don't know whose tanks those are." Unfortunately they were our tanks retreating. We went down to the docks in an ambulance which dodged bomb craters, on a small inner island boat, the Don Estabén. The Japs were strafing. At 5 a.m. the captain said we would be going through mine fields. At that time of the morning everything is gray and you can't see very well. We made it to Corregidor just as the air raid sirens went off. A truck came by and just grabbed us. It didn't even stop. They deposited us at Malinta Tunnel.

We lived a mole-like existence. We worked, tried to eat, tried to breathe in an endless nightmare whose beginning was difficult to trace but which seemed to last forever. The flies



Lt. Col. Ullom, 1958

were aggravating but endurable. The feeling of helplessness of being unable to fight back was not. Many, like me, went outside and climbed to the pom-pom gun to look over the South China Sea to ascertain if the convoy of help from the United States was on the horizon.

We saw 'tunnelitis', men who were acclimated to the relative safety of the tunnel, who found it extremely difficult to return to the deadly life outside the tunnel. Dust rose in such clouds we had to cover the faces of the patients as well as our own with wet gauze in order to breathe. We mopped the floor twice a day but we lost the race with the ever present dust. Lord how we tried.

I had very sensitive skin and I was worried about athlete's foot. I found a can of GI foot powder and gave my feet a nice dose. It was too strong and I developed an awful infection on one of my big toes. Compresses didn't work so one night at 7 they took me into the operating room. Anne Mealor gave me the anesthetic. They did an incision and drainage. I had a bandage on my foot and everyone teased me and said that I just better get well quick or Tojo would come and he'd catch me. So Tojo came and caught me.

Nobody ever thought of surrendering. It was something you never thought you'd have to do. It's a terrible thing. Only hours after they arrived Maude Davison [Chief ANC nurse] came and took ten of us and said the Japs went to get a picture outside the tunnel. They lined us up out front of the hospital tunnel and they put an armed guard with a gun and a bayonet at each end of us. A Jap officer with excellent English said, "We are going to take your picture and we're going to send it to MacArthur to show that you are alive and that we are looking after you. Don't be afraid."

The flies on Corregidor were terrible after surrender because the Japs wouldn't let us bury our dead for several days. I was at the edge of the tunnel. There were bodies lying

(Continued on Page 10)

Madeline Ullom ANC

(Continued from Page 9)

all over the ground, they were terribly swollen up. I remember one was a Marine officer, a major. Oh it was awful. The sights were just horrid.

I felt that the patients needed our care and that was our primary responsibility and duty. You had so much work to do that you didn't think too much about all these other things.

Santo Tomas Internment Camp teemed with thousands of civilians. At first, there was a bit of misunderstanding. Some of us were assigned to latrine duty. Miss Davison went to the civilian camp officials and got that straightened out. We turned Santo Catalina Girls dormitory into a hospital. It had a men's ward, a women's ward. Another building was burned into an isolation hospital. There also was a children's hospital. We staffed three clinics and worked four hour shifts because that was all you could stand. Everyday we cared for patients wearing our homemade uniform. Miss Davison [Chief ANC] advised us to keep one khaki shirt and skirt in good condition to wear when the Americans freed us.

Music records played at 6 a.m. to wake the camp. If you were on morning duty you got up a little earlier because there were so many people to use the bathroom facilities. I think we had about three showers, five wash basins and five toilets for 300 people. They'd be five or seven people under a shower trying to get a sprinkle.

We were issued an enamel plate, a cup, and a spoon. We ate two meals a day — either a watery gruel or vegetable water with maybe a few shreds of meat in it. The first one and one-half years in camp, I borrowed money to purchase duck eggs, carabao milk and fruit like papaya and bananas. As the war went on, everyday something in our lives was taken away. To us, it meant closer days to freedom which helped us tolerate the situation.

By 1944, we woke up to the record "I've Got Plenty of Nothing" over the camp loudspeakers. Our hospital sterilizer broke. Now I was sterilizing operating room instruments in an oven. After two or three hours I would check the brown wrapping. If it was burnt, the instruments were ready for use.

I had amoebic dysentery, beriberi and scurvy and quite a bit of trouble with my teeth. I had lost about 40 pounds. Just a few days before the Americans came we had seven people die in twenty-eight hours from starvation. If people got beriberi and gained weight they got scared because they knew their days were numbered.

The Americans who liberated us [February 3, 1945] seemed like giants from outer space in comparison with the shrunken internees. We left STIC and hopped across the Pacific. Time seemed immaterial. A gala holiday spirit prevailed in Honolulu when we were given \$150.00. We bought suitcases, stockings, and things that we needed like lipstick.

While we were in prison camp, Army nurses received real military rank. We had quite a time because we weren't used to being called 'lieutenant.' They'd call for lieutenant so-and-so and nobody answered. Someone would have to come up and say, 'they're paging you.'

By the time we got home, we were using a knife and a fork spontaneously. We no longer found it necessary to check ourselves when we didn't pick up the spoon. We could look at a person who was speaking without attempting to look at their food.

Home seemed like the movies. People moving about dressed in pretty clothes. They weren't acting. They were living. My mother and sister Cathern always expected me to return home. They saved my Christmas and birthday gifts from 1941 until 1945 and gave them to me.

I retired from the military after twenty-eight years on January 31, 1964 as a Lt. Colonel. I live in Arizona and I've had a fabulous time. I especially enjoy oil painting and copper tooling.

Being a POW made me appreciate freedom and many qualities in people. It made me a little cautious, more thoughtful, more questioning, more analytical. Things are not always as they seem as regard to people and circumstances. I take nothing for granted.

In camp, we were always forced to bow low at the waist when passing a prison guard. I'll never bow to a man again.

Sources:

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Ullom, M. (date not given). **The Philippine Assignment: Some Aspects of the Army Nurse Corps in The Philippine Islands 1940-1945**, Washington, D.C.: Center for Military History.



On Leyte, Feb. 1945; Eunice Young, Brunetta Kuhlthaw and Madeline M. Ullom

'BION' Microchips may one day help patients regain muscular control

VA Rehabilitation Research and Development is collaborating with the Alfred E. Mann Foundation to explore Bionic Neuron (BION) technology — wireless, implantable microchips about the size of a grain of rice that deliver regulated electrical pulses. The BIONs interact with muscles and activate nerves. This cutting-edge therapy could help improve functioning in veterans being treated for motor rehabilitation, bowel and bladder control, swallowing difficulties, and many other conditions. (Nov. 2002)

Study finds common knee surgery no better than placebo

Patients with osteoarthritis of the knee who underwent mock arthroscopic surgery were just as likely to report pain relief as those who received the real procedure, according to a VA study published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. The results challenge the usefulness of a common medical procedure on which Americans spend more than \$3 billion each year. The researchers say the findings suggest that the money spent on such surgeries could be put to better use. (July 2002)

Stranded Nurses on Mindanao

As many of you have already learned this past Spring, we lost our beloved honorary member in Captain Thomas F. Pollock, U.S. Navy-Retired. He died on May 1, 2003 in California at the age of 91.

I was with Captain Pollock, other Navy personnel and about 15 members of the 14th and 30th Bombardment Squadron taking part in the greatest Air-Sea Rescue that occurred during World War II in the Pacific. This is based on the total number of miles flown (over 7,000) in two PB2 Catalina Flying boats and the total number of US personnel rescued.

Operation Flight "Gridiron" was directed and orders cut by Lt./General Sutherland (General Douglas MacArthur's WWII's Chief of Staff) for this perilous but important Air-Sea Rescue.

On Monday, April 27, 1942, Lt. JG Tom F. Pollock and Lt. JG Leroy G. Deede USN piloted the two PB2 Catalina Flying boats. They took off from Perth, West Australia for Sharks Bay 400 miles away. At 6:00 p.m. they took off for Darwin, Australia about 1400 miles away, arriving at about 5:30 a.m. the morning of the 28th.

The next leg from Darwin to where I was on Lake Lanao, Mindanao was over 1350 miles north. The planes took off and arrived in the Philippines Tuesday evening, the 28th of May. Tom's aircraft was anchored at a small island in the lake where I was. The other aircraft was in a river outlet on the west shore. The Air Corp men and I'm sure some of the PT Boaters quickly camouflaged the planes with tree branches and refueled them.

At 1845 (6:45 p.m.) on the evening of Wednesday, April 29, 1942 the two airplanes took off for the island of Corregidor, located at the mouth of Manila Bay, just south of Bataan and 500 miles away. There, the planes picked up fifty-two passengers. Twenty of these passengers were the "Angels of Bataan" Army Nurses. The PB2 Catalina Flying boats returned to Lake Lanao where we Air Corp men repeated the process of camouflaging and refueling the airplanes for their return trip to Australia.

For the past 20 years Tom and I have been very close. We stayed in touch through our letter writing, monthly phone conversations and most recently, via email. Tom was truly a hero and a great gentleman, proud of his Navy record as he should be. I feel privileged to have known him and am proud to be a part of this great rescue operation.

The twenty U.S. Army nurses on when seaplanes flying away from the besieged Island of Corregidor in the Philippines on the night of April 29, 1942 thought their luck had finally changed. Since the Japanese offensive in these islands began on December 8, 1941, the nurses had been part of a beleaguered military force cut-off from home and supplies by the Pearl Harbor tragedy. Without any formal military training, they evacuated Manila and endured months of fighting in the jungles of Bataan or the underground fortress of Malinta Tunnel on Corregidor Island. After Bataan fell on April 9, 1942, the women worked in the tunnel hospital caring for 1,000 patients while soldiers and marines made one final stand against an overwhelming enemy force. After months of hoping and waiting for reinforcements, the nurses, as one later stated, bowed to the inevitable as we acknowledged a losing race.

The Decision to Evacuate a Select Group Before Surrender

On April 29th, Commanding General Jonathan "Skinny" Wainwright received word that two Navy seaplanes loaded with medical and military supplies were expected to land off Corregidor that night, empty their cargo, then take as many passengers as they could fly to Australia. Following orders, Wainwright planned to send several officers who were indispensable to the Allied war effort. Included in this group was Colonel Stuart Wood, who spoke fluent Japanese. Wainwright

also chose three civilian women who had missed earlier departure opportunities. Wainwright knew he had twenty seats left for the nurses, ten on each aircraft, and he left the decision about who among the eighty-five Army women would leave to his senior medical officer, Colonel Wibb Cooper.

Colonel Cooper had Chief Nurse Maude Davison help him. Neither of them ever explained their decision or recorded their criteria for selection. It is possible, however, to infer from their final list and the testimonies of several nurses that Cooper and Davison primarily chose women who were unlikely to survive the rigors of surrender and captivity: older nurses and those who were very ill. However, a few women selected were young, healthy, and had high-ranking officers as beaus. As one of the nurses not chosen remarked, "Politics works no matter where you are and what the circumstances." Three women, Assistant Chief Nurses Josephine Nesbit, Ann Mealor and Ann Wurts, refused to accept an offer to leave. Both preferred to remain with their patients.

At six o'clock on the evening of April 29, 1942, the twenty nurses got word to report to Malinta Tunnel Hospital's dining area at sundown. Sally Blaine, from Bible Grove, Missouri, was one of the twenty. Although she was only 24 years old, she was very ill with dengue fever and malaria and her weight had dropped to less than 100 pounds. Sally and the others learned they had been relieved of duty in the Philippines and ordered to report to Australia. Chief Nurse Maude Davison told them not to discuss their departure and to pack a bag weighing less than ten pounds. Sally Blaine could hardly think as she left the dining area. Juanita Redmond, another nurse who was leaving, summed up Sally's feelings. "I did not know how I felt ... I wanted to go, and I didn't want to go ... I felt like a deserter ... but as an officer in the U.S. Army I was to obey orders."

Despite the command for silence, word about the departure quickly spread. A crowd was waiting at the tunnel entrance to hand over letters, money, and photographs to deliver when they got home. Between 9:30 and 10:00 p.m., cars pulled away from Malinta Tunnel and headed toward Corregidor's docks.

General Wainwright and a senior Naval officer had chosen the sheltered water between Corregidor and another small island as the landing spot. Minesweeper crews cleared the area and placed two lighted buoys in the water. Fortunately, the Japanese had stopped their barrage that evening. The night sky was quiet as the pilots landed their aircraft on choppy waters. "Like messengers from another world," wrote General Wainwright. He helped the passengers into small boats around 11:45 p.m., and bid them goodbye.

The boats arrived at the landing site. Crews unloaded the bobbing seaplanes while the passengers climbed aboard. Soon, the two aircraft ascended. Cool, fresh air filled the cabin. Some people took a final look back at Bataan and Corregidor. Others closed their eyes or stared ahead.

[A few days later, a submarine evacuated eleven more women nurses, leaving sixty-five Army nurses behind on Corregidor.]

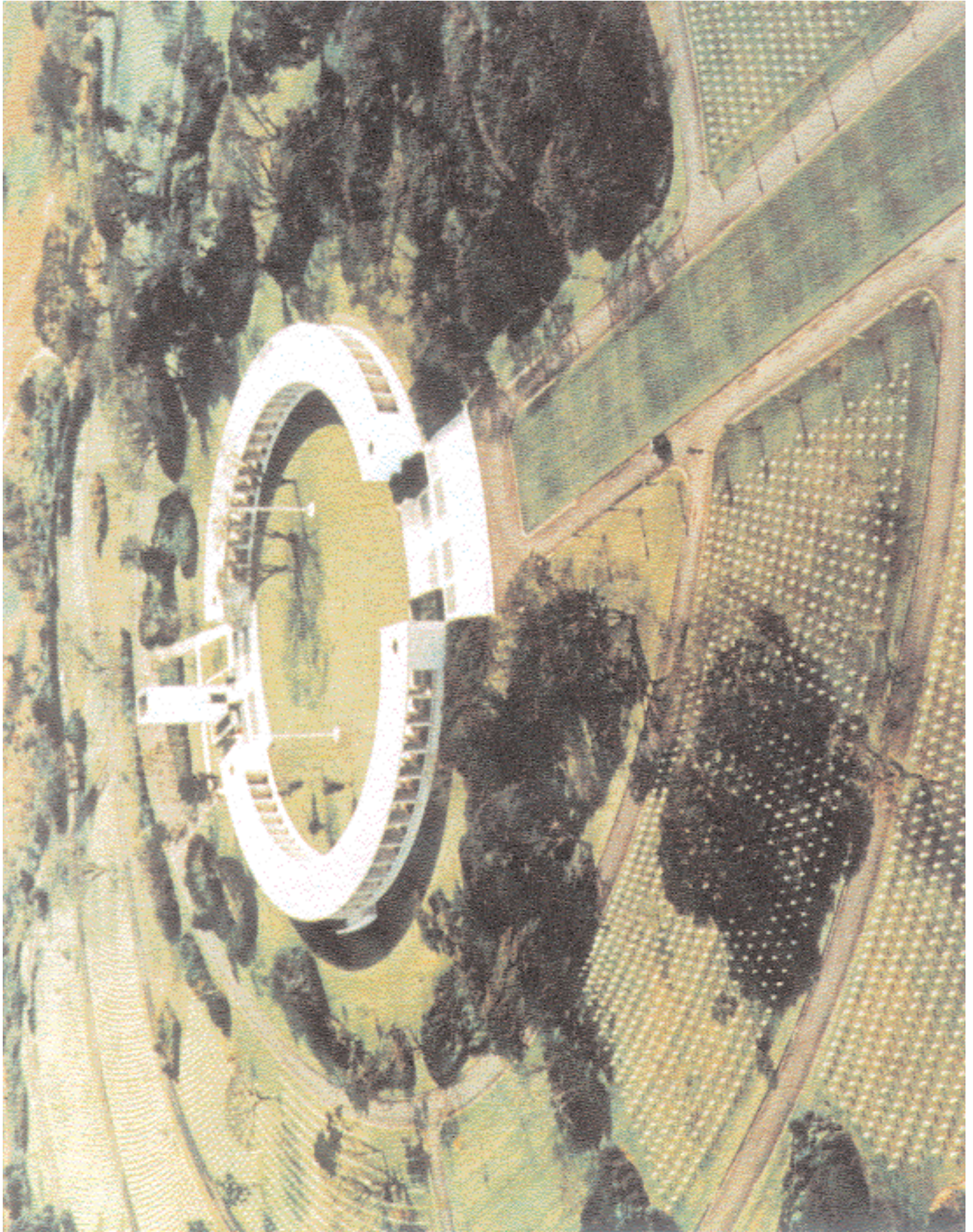
Refueling on Mindanao Island

The pilots planned to stop at Lake Lanao on the southern Philippine Island of Mindanao to refuel their seaplanes before completing the 7,300 mile journey to Australia. Sally Blaine was a passenger on Lieutenant (jg) Pollack's aircraft. He struggled to guide his plane through the fog, but landed on the lake shortly before the other seaplane. American and Filipino troops stationed on Mindanao had been alerted to their schedule and were waiting on the shoreline.

At 5:00 a.m. on April 30, the passengers disembarked and climbed into buses for the short trip to the village of Dansalan and breakfast at a local hotel. After enduring four months of war, the weary group relaxed. Sally Blaine recalled seeing only a few Japanese reconnaissance planes that day.

While the nurses and other travelers rested, the air crews, aided by the local Allied servicemen, refueled the crafts and

(Continued on Page 14)



“AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENT — NATIONAL CEMETERY, MANILA, P.I.”

You may wish to cut out and frame



Nurses on Mt. Samat, Bataan April 1980

Left to right: Hattie Brantley; Ann Williams Clark; Rose Reiper Meier; Willa Hook; Denny Williams; Jeanne Kennedy Schmidt; Ann Bernatitus; Eunice Young; Sally L. Blane Millott; Grace D. Hallman Natassarin. Two nurses hidden from view: Dorothy Scholl Arnold; Ethel Thor Nelson; Ruby Motley.



Stranded Nurses on Mindanao

(Continued from Page 11)

camouflaged them. In the late afternoon, the passengers returned and Filipinos began to ferry them in small boats back to the planes. The wind had increased, causing whitecaps on the lake's surface. Soon, however, everyone was inside, waiting for darkness and the final departure in their long voyage.

The pilots in one seaplane revved their engines. The plane skimmed the lake waters but did not lift off. They turned and tried again. Nothing happened. On the third take-off attempt, the seaplane glided the whole length of the lake before lifting into the air. The craft began to circle overhead in a holding pattern to wait for the other aircraft. [Hours later, crewmen discovered two stowaways who caused the increased weight and difficulty on getting airborne. The nurses heard the two were later returned to active duty.]

Meanwhile, the gusts and waves blew the other seaplane towards the shoreline. Inside, Sally Blaine and her friends remained eerily calm. Nobody talked about their fears. Lieutenant Pollack tried to guide the plane toward a takeoff position but it kept drifting into shallow water.

A Filipino watching the struggle offered to help and soon attached a tow line from his motorized outrigger to try to steer it into deeper water, but his small boat could not lead the large plane. The crew cut the line and pushed away overhead tree limbs as the craft drifted closer to the shore.

After what seemed to her to be a long time, Sally heard a crunching sound. The plane shuddered violently. A submerged rock was tearing a hole in the seaplane. To Rita Palmer, another Army nurse on board, it looked as though a can opener was slicing through the hull. Water began to push inside.

hrapnel wounds in her nose, arms and legs and a punctured left eardrum from a Japanese bombing of her Bataan hospital, Rosemary took off her terry cloth jacket and shoved the coat into the gaping opening. Other passengers gave her their sweaters and clothes. Sally watched the scene which reminded her of Hans Brinker's tale about the boy who stuck his finger in a leaking dike.

Lieutenant Pollack turned the seaplane into the wind. He planned to taxi into the deep part of the lake for take off. This action only caused a stronger rush of water. A quickly rising water level forced Rosemary Hogan to give up her effort.

The pilot now realized he was not going to succeed on that windy, black night. He signaled the other seaplane to leave. Sally and the others on board sadly heard the sound of the motors from the airborne seacraft grow fainter.

An Unfortunate Decision

Pollack and his co-pilot maneuvered the damaged seaplane next to a makeshift wharf. With water ankle deep inside the cabin, Sally stood on her seat and waited her turn to exit. The passengers hurried outside without their belongings.

The officers, ten military nurses, and three civilian women walked up a long, narrow, winding trail to a bus which took them back to Dansalan. About 2:30 a.m. on May 1 [26½ hours after leaving Corregidor], they walked into the same hotel where they had spent the previous day. Only this time they were wet, tired, hungry, and discouraged.

The group dried their clothes, ate, and drank hot coffee, then looked for floor space or a bed to rest. Sally slept poorly that night wondering about her uncertain future. Neither she nor any other army nurse panicked or cried over their predicament. They were too emotionally and physically exhausted to react with much fervor, and, calamity was nothing new to them. From the beginning days of the Japanese offensive the previous December, they had witnessed a series of disasters, including the unexpected destruction and evacuation of their military bases, and the collapse of Allied resistance in the Bataan jungle. Every time these nurses had faced a debacle, they had managed to adjust and survive. As unnerving as the night on Lake Lanao in the damaged seaplane had been, it was another

setback. They were confident that somehow a plan would emerge.

Colonel Stuart Wood, the senior officer, assisted by two other officers, assumed command in the stranded group. Although the nurses and the men were from different military units, protocol determined that the highest ranking officer would take the leadership position. [The nurses held the relative ranks of first and second lieutenants.] Wood told the women he believed that the seaplane was unsafe. He did not want to send anyone into the hills where Filipino and American guerrillas operated. Instead, he intended to find a place where they could hide together until General MacArthur sent a rescue plane or boat from his headquarters in Australia. Everyone agreed. They soon left the hotel in their bus and headed toward a nearby Del Monte pineapple plantation. The manager there had heard about their plight and offered them temporary refuge.

Meanwhile, back on Lake Lanao, Lieutenant Pollack believed he could repair his damaged plane. A Navy boat crew and a Navy salvage expert appeared on the scene to help. Together they covered the gaping hole, baled the water, and removed all luggage and possessions to lighten the aircraft. By 4 p.m. the aircraft was ready for takeoff, however, Pollack could not find his passengers. The sailors informed him that the Japanese were less than twenty miles away. They had no time to look or wait. Pollack, his crew, and the Navy men lifted off Lake Lanao. Hours later they safely landed in Australia near the other seaplane which also had successfully made the flight. The ten Army nurses on that craft were unharmed and resting in a hospital.

Looking back on that fateful day and the decision that had sealed her destiny, Sally Blaine said, "There was never any criticism ... I think Colonel Wood was right. If we had gone on it [the seaplane] and been killed, they probably would have court-martialed the poor man." To this day, however, Pollack has regrets about leaving the nurses behind.

On Corregidor, General Wainwright received word about the stranded passengers. In his memoirs, he recorded his reaction, "A tragic farewell ... [to] a number of nurses who richly deserved a better fate."

An Odyssey on Mindanao Island

Although the Del Monte pineapple plantation had served as a stopover for General MacArthur on his escape to Australia two months earlier in March 1942, and the plantation had provided a temporary headquarters for Allied forces on Mindanao, tensions between the passengers and the plantation manager became so great that the group spent only one day at the plush site. Sally Blaine remembered the manager as a nasty man who did not want to take care of so many people. Another possible reason for the friction was that the civilian businessman knew how near the Japanese were to his plantation and he did not want military officers in his midst.

The Americans returned to their vintage bus at dusk and left the pineapple groves. The vehicle did not have the engine power to climb Mindanao's hills, so when the driver reached the bottom of an incline, he stopped and everyone got off. The weaker and sicker women, like Sally Blaine, walked alongside while the men and stronger women helped push the bus uphill. The work of getting themselves and the vehicle up the hills seemed to boost morale. Sally watched the injured nurse Rosemary Hogan nudge the bus, and thought that if her friend was not going to give up, neither would she.

In the six months since the war began, Sally and the other women had formed a solid group similar in spirit to the dynamics that occur among men in fighting units. The long distance from home and the intensity of the Japanese strikes had forced them to turn to one another for physical and emotional support.

The nurses on Mindanao: Earleen Allen, Louise Anschinks, Agnes Barre, Sally Blaine, Helen Gardner, Rosemary Hogan, Geneva Jenkins, Rita Palmer, Eleanor "Peg" O'Neill, and Evelyn Whitlow, continued to help one another.

(Continued on Page 15)

The stranded women and men continued to push their bus until they arrived at a small military hospital shielded by the jungle. Most likely, an officer with them who knew Mindanao, led them to the hospital. The group again slept in their clothes on cots or the wooden floor. Colonel Wood realized that the jungle canopy might be too thick for Allied pilots to spot them. He moved his charges to the nearby Valencia airstrip. It was now May 2, three days after they had left Corregidor.

Each morning, as they used pineapple juice to brush their teeth, a few joked that they would never eat or drink the fruit again. During the cool mountain evenings, they discussed which sleeping positions would provide them with the most warmth before huddling under shared blankets.

The group spent their days at the airstrip hiding in gullies to avoid detection from enemy pilots. The airfield, however, was a natural target. On May 4, the enemy airmen bombed the area. On May 5, the Americans returned to the small military hospital. On May 5, the Japanese attacked the hospital and surrounding area.

Colonel Wood realized that they would have to find another shelter. On May 7, 1942, they fled to the nearby Fortech Ranch, home of a former government official. Unlike the pineapple plantation manager, the Fortechs made everyone feel welcome. They offered them food and rearranged their furniture to make a sleeping area.

Over the next four days, Colonel Wood and another officer left the ranch to search for news or look for a rescue plane or boat. At 12:15 a.m. on May 11, the men returned to the ranch. Sally Blaine, still awake, whispered to them, "Is there a plane coming for us?" She remembered him saying, "No, not yet." Four hours, the sound of an airplane motor woke her. She roused the two men and the three of them went outside.

Before Sally could say a word, she recalled they turned to her and said, "We'll tell you something if you promise not to tell anyone yet and don't cry." She agreed. They told her the plane she heard was the last U.S. P-40 aircraft on Mindanao. A Filipino pilot was flying to his Leyte Island home 250 miles away. Colonel Wood said there was no possible way to get a plane or boat to Mindanao for them. Then, she heard Wood finally say, "We are to be captured today. Corregidor fell May 6 and General Sharp is surrendering Mindanao today."

Sally Blaine kept her word. She quietly went back to the sleeping area. At 10 a.m. Colonel Wood called everyone together and told them the news. Sally saw tears in some of her friends eyes, but no one sobbed. The Colonel said he would take the nurses back to the military hospital from the Fortech ranch, but before they left, he wanted them to destroy the letters and mementos they had carried from Corregidor. He offered to give money to anyone who had none.

Sally Blaine had several pounds of mail a priest had handed her as she left Corregidor. A silk handkerchief with scenes of Paris held the letters together. She walked over to the fireplace in the living room and untied the beautiful cloth. The women stood around opening up letters, tearing them into pieces, and tossing them into the flames. Sally looked at the photographs of the smiling officers and soldiers, and happy family portraits before she destroyed them. The women said very little, in part, because they had no precedent to use as a guideline or what was going to happen to them. They had faced unknown situations before, but they had large numbers of troops, staff officers, and senior nurses to turn to for help. Now there were only a handful of Americans about to surrender to an enemy force.

Sally Blaine finished burning her mail. She stuffed the money that people had given her and the silk handkerchief into her pockets. About 11 a.m., the Colonel and the women boarded the bus for one final trip.

Surrender

Japanese soldiers ordered the ten nurses and three civilian women to line up outside the hospital. Colonel Wood used his fluency in Japanese to inform their captors about the nurses' military status. He answered questions and translated for both sides. Wood told the women that they had been ordered to remain at the hospital and to work with the staff. Then, he said goodbye; he had to report to the assembly spot designated for male Allied prisoners. The nurses did not see him again, but learned later that the Colonel survived the war.

The next three months were uneventful. Enemy soldiers stood guard over the hospital, but they usually left their prisoners alone. Only the sounds of their boots and swords echoing off the hospital walls reminded the women of their prisoner status. The ten nurses worked and shared quarters with the Filipino nurses. On August 21, 1942 nine months after the war began and a little more than 3 months after they were stranded on Mindanao, Japanese officers announced they were moving the American nurses and three civilian women to Cagayan, a town sixty miles away to join a group of American missionaries for a boat trip to an internment camp in Davao City on the southern coast.

The five day sea voyage on a filthy freighter had its unpleasant moments. A Japanese soldier kissed Sally Blaine and several other Army nurses while they slept on the ship's deck. After three days at sea, soldiers shifted all the captives into the ship's hold and closed the hatch. There was no ventilation below deck; rats and cockroaches shared the tight space with the American prisoners-of-war.

On September 5, 1942 almost five months after they surrendered, the Army nurses learned they were among twenty-five women the Japanese had chosen to leave Davao or Manila. A rumor spread that they were going to be repatriated in a prisoner exchange. However, when they saw soldiers with guns standing on the deck, they realized they were boarding a prison ship.

The sea voyage from Davao over the Sulu and the South China Seas to Luzon Island and Manila was dangerous. American submarines were patrolling the waters looking for targets. Nine of the ten nurses decided to put on life preservers in case they had to abandon ship. Sally Blaine refused to wear one. She was suffering the excruciating aches and high temperatures of dengue fever. Later, she explained her decision.

"I was so sick, I knew if the ship was bombed or torpedoed or we struck a mine and I was out in the ocean, I couldn't hold my head up. Who wants to bob up and down in the ocean for a day and a half and then die. I didn't really want to die, but at the same time, if I was going to die I was going to do it fast. I was very rational when I made this decision."

Another Army nurse, Evelyn Whitlow, took care of Sally who lay on a blanket on deck. After Sally became delirious, Whitlow was able to get her friend an ice cap and a pill from a concerned enlisted Japanese soldier. Slowly, Sally regained consciousness and drank a clear broth that Whitlow got from the same enlisted man. "It was good for us to see a Japanese soldier with a heart," said Sally. The nurses on board ship felt a glimmer of hope that they might survive in the custody of such captors.

On September 9, 1942, the freighter pulled into Manila's docks. Ironically, the ten army nurses' journey that was supposed to end in Australia came to a conclusion a few miles from Corregidor, in Santo Tomas Internment Camp, the same prison that held the Army nurses who surrendered on Corregidor. For the next three years, the nurses, along with their colleagues who had surrendered on Corregidor and in another Army camp, remained prisoners.

On February 24, 1945, Sally Blaine, the nine nurses who shared her Mindanao ordeal, and the rest of the fifty-six Army nurse-prisoners finally saw the scene that they had dreamed about for so long, the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco.

~ Deceased ~

Frederico Salas (Fred) Almeraz

Sir, with a heavy heart, I have the sad duty to report the departure of Frederico Salas "Fred" "Lico" Almeraz, Sergeant, US Army, Headquarters Battery, 200th Coast Artillery Regiment, New Mexico National Guard, Bataan Death March Survivor, and Ex-POW from Deming, New Mexico on Sunday, July 13, 2003 at the age of 82. Fred departed these earthly ramparts at Sierra Medical Center in El Paso, Texas after a long illness. He was laid to rest at Mountain View Cemetery in Deming, NM.

Fred was born in Deming, NM on April 17, 1921 to Jose and Emilia Salas Almeraz. He was the last surviving Bataan Death March survivor living in Deming from Headquarters Battery. He worked for the Luna County Sheriff's Department as a jailer for many years and was a member of St. Ann's Catholic Church. He was a member of the St. Ann's Men's Club, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans and was active with the Ex-Prisoners of War. He was interned in the Marutzu Niigata 5B POW camp on the Island of Honshu, Japan and was liberated in September of 1945. He rode the Japanese hell ship the Taga Maru to Japan. His decorations include: The State of New Mexico Bataan Medal, the Bronze Star, the POW Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, the American Defense Service Medal, the American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, the Philippine Defense Medal & the Philippine Liberation Medal. He also received the Presidential Unit Citation with two oak leaf clusters and the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation.

He is survived by his wife, Blaza, a son, Raul Almeraz; 4 daughters, Coy Payan and her husband Johnny, Olivia Reyes, Lulu Rayos, Liz Montano; 3 brothers, 2 sisters, 10 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, a son, Freddie in 1965 and a grandson, David Torres Jr. in 1998.

His family has asked me to write this obituary to be included in the next **Quan**. Fred was a good friend to me as well as my late father, Lee J. Gardner and late Uncle Lee R. Pelayo, both Ex-POWs from Bataan and Corregidor.



Frank Bigelow

By Ed Jackfert

Past National Commander Frank H. Bigelow passed away July 9, 2003 after a short illness. Frank was born August 5, 1921 near Fero, N.D. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy on September 24, 1940. His first duty was on the ill fated battleship U.S.S. Arizona which now is memorial to those that were killed in action on December 7, 1941. Frank volunteered for Asiatic duty and subsequently served on the sub tender U.S.S. Canopus as a communications yeoman in Submarine Squadron 20. He served on Bataan until the fall of Bataan and was fortunate enough to be transferred to Corregidor for more action where he served with J Company 4th Marine Regiment on Gary Graill until the surrender on May 6, 1942. He spent a few days in the 92nd Garage in Bilibid. From there he went on a detail to Bataan with some of the men from the 192nd and 194th Tank Battalions. Soon, returning to Cabanatuan, he was selected to be transported to Japan on one of their hell ships. His destination was Omuta, Fukuoka and Camp 17 where he spent the next one year and six months as a slave laborer digging coal for the Mitsui company. In the latter part of 1944 while working in the mine, a large rock fell on him and crushed his right foot and ankle. His leg had to be amputated below the knee. The camp doctor, Capt. Hewlett, although he had no medical equipment except a mess kit knife and a hacksaw, amputated his right leg. It took four men to hold him during this operation. The war ended for him on August 15, 1945 and he was transported through Nagasaki to the dock area where he boarded the aircraft carrier Chenango and later, the U.S.S. Rixey to San Francisco. Frank was transported to the Philadelphia Naval Hospital where they revised his stump and fitted him with a new leg. The loss of the leg did not hinder Frank in his pursuit of a decent living. He worked as a truck driver and later operated a bar. He enjoyed life to the fullest extent possible and displayed his knack of dancing the jitterbug at our national conventions.

Frank became a member of the ADBC and was very active with the group. He later was elected national commander and subsequently became part of a coalition (which included Harold Feiner and Lester Tenney who were in Camp 17 with him) seeking redress from the Japanese industrialists that utilized them as slave laborers. He was interviewed on national television several times, testified before the Senate Judiciary committee, was featured in a story by **Parade** magazine and was always sought after by the media

about his story of mistreatment and slave labor while a prisoner of war of the Japanese military.

Perhaps, a note from his friend Lester Tenney best describes Frank. "Occasionally along life's way, you meet someone you will always remember. Maybe it's his strength, or his humor. Maybe the twinkle in his eye shows the kindness in which he treats you. Or he just shows that he cares, cares for you, cares for what he believes in, and trusts your decisions. But whatever it is, he becomes very, very special in your life, and contributes much to your happiness. Maybe he is a helping hand when you need it, a comforting shoulder to lean on when things don't go just right. But he would always show respect for your opinions and appreciates your effort. Such a man was Frank Bigelow. He was a source of pride, always a willing participant, and he was always sought after for his insight into difficult situations. Once in a while someone comes along and touches our lives, leaving us with moments that stay in our hearts and minds forever. My life has been enriched because I knew Frank. My willingness to continue to fight justice has been assured because Frank believed so strongly in our friendship. I will always be grateful for his friendship. My hope is brighter now, my faith is stronger, and my respect for life runs deeper because Frank has given everything he touched so much more meaning."

There is one more line that must be added. His pursuit for justice for former prisoners of war of the Japanese military as a member of the legislative committee of the ADBC has finally come to fruition. This session of Congress has seen fit to appropriate a modest sum of compensation to those former Japanese prisoners of war who were forced into slave labor during World War II. More information will be forthcoming in the near future as to the amount that has been appropriated for this purpose.

About 250 veterans, family and friends attended a memorial service for Frank Bigelow on July 21 at the Cloverleaf Farms Community Center in Brooksville, FL. The event was organized by Beverly Thomas, Commander of the Cloverleaf Veterans Association, of which Frank was an active member. Representatives of local chapters of ADBC, American Ex-Prisoners of War, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Disabled American Veterans also participated in the service.

Frank's pastor at the Nobleton Community Church, The Reverend James H. Hughey, led prayers and reflected on Frank's life and strong faith.

(Continued on Page 17)

(Continued from Page 16)

ADBC National Judge Advocate Harold Feiner and Florida chapter Commander Nick Hionedes shared in delivering the official ADBC eulogy. Both added personal remarks: Harold recalled meeting Frank for the first time on Bataan in February 1942 when Frank sideswiped Harold's truck; Nick remembered attending an ADBC convention some 15 years ago, and being astonished when Reg Leighton said: "See that tall guy jitterbugging on the dance floor? He has only one leg."

ADBC National Chaplain, the Reverend Robert Phillips, also attended the service, as did ADBC members Reg Leighton and Florida chapter Secretary Byron Kearbey.

Frank's son Charles Bigelow spoke, as did daughter Kelley Bigelow Hartman and grandson James Hartman. Frank's granddaughter Jennifer Schiadone as well as his great-granddaughter Victoria McCoy were also present, as were Charlene's son Walter Ploettner and grandson Walter Jr.; and her daughters Victoria Brown, Valerie and Virginia Ploettner, and April Lucas.

Commander Del Gibson of Brooksville American Legion Post 99 mentioned having recently established the annual American Legion Frank Bigelow Scholarship Award, and presented a special plaque to Frank's son Charles.

Dr. P. Gonzales, Chairman of the Kissimmee Bataan Corregidor Foundation, spoke of Frank's dedication in helping to bring about placement of the striking bronze statue at Kissimmee, with figures of a Filipino woman offering food to an American and a Filipino soldier during the Death March.

Manuel Chavez

By Anne Constable

The New Mexican

Manuel "Bob" Chavez, a survivor of the Bataan Death March during World War II and a longtime art teacher and coach at St. Catherine Indian School, died at home in Santa Fe on Wednesday morning. He was 87.

Chavez was born and raised at Cochiti Pueblo where his grandmother gave him the Hope name of Ow-u-Tewa, which means "Echo of Spring."

He attended St. Catherine, a boarding school for American Indian students, for 10 years, spending only summers at the pueblo, and was a member of its first graduating class in 1935.

Chavez met Mother Katharine Drexel, the school's founder, during her regular inspection tours of the dining room, dormitory and classrooms. Drexel was canonized in 2000.

He believed that the perseverance he learned at St. Catherine enabled him to survive the Bataan Death March and later imprisonment.

Chavez was a member of the 200th Coast Artillery that battled the Japanese at Bataan in the Philippines. When the

enemy attacked Clark Airfield, Chavez manned a .30-caliber machine gun. American and Filipino troops held out gallantly, but crippled by starvation, they were eventually captured and marched to a distant prison camps. Thousands perished. Chavez promised the Great Spirit that if he made it home to New Mexico he would devote himself to the school and fostering American Indian artists.

Chavez was held first in the Philippines, then sent to Japan in the hold of a cargo ship, a trip that took 48 days.

While a prisoner of war, he was brutally beaten with a shovel. His injuries included a detached retina that left him blind in one eye. He weighed less than 100 pounds when he was finally freed.

After returning home, Chavez spent some time in an Army hospital in Santa Fe, then went to work or Southwest Airlines and later as a mechanic for the state Highway Department.

True to his word, he became a volunteer teacher at St. Catherine. In 1953, he introduced a running track to the school and built a winning team. Two years later, he began teaching art classes, paying for supplies himself or by bartering paintings.

For years Chavez and his students held an annual holiday art sale of their watercolors, pen and ink drawings, and other works.

Chavez stayed at the school for more than 50 years. His students included potter Barbara Gonzales, granddaughter of the renowned San Ildefonso potter Maria Martinez, and Francis Tafoya, director of the 2001 Eight Northern Pueblos Arts and Crafts Fair.

Even after the school closed in 1998, he continued to work here in his basement art studio, walking to and from the campus well into his 80s.

Chavez won many awards for his paintings depicting Pueblo life, its dances and ceremonies, including a blue ribbon at his first Indian Market in 1933. His last market was in 1997, and he sold out before 11 a.m.

Over the years he has shown his work at Heard Museum in Phoenix and the Philbrook Art Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma. His most recent one-man exhibit was at the Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian in 1995.

Chavez is a Santa Fe Living Treasure, and in 2002 he received the Southwestern Association for Indian Arts (SWAIA) Lifetime Achievement Award.

He was a good baseball player while a student and liked to tell the story about how he and a friend were invited to travel by train to St. Louis to try out for the Cardinals. After the audition, which went well, Chavez was told he was 2 inches too short.

Joe Abeyta, superintendent at the Santa Fe Indian School, said their friendship goes back to the time when his father coached Chavez at St. Catherine.

Chavez's philosophy was to teach by example, Abeyta said, modeling how to live a good life and carry out responsibilities. "I don't think there is a corner of the country where you wouldn't run into someone whose life Mr. Chavez touched. Sincerity, commitment to life. He lived all of those principles daily."

David Gregory, a doctor at the Indian Hospital, said, "He was a remarkably courageous man who's had a remarkable impact on his community. He affected as many lives as any of us hope to affect, and when you mention his name to anyone, they smile."

Chavez is survived by his wife, Mary; his children, Franco, Hope and Cecil; sisters, Senida, Vivian, Margaret and Isabel; brother, Frank; and seven grandchildren, Kyleen and Kyle Chavez, Kevin and Adrienne Chavez and Ryan and Megan Hawkins.

There was a rosary at 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 417 Agua Fria St. with a viewing at 10 a.m. at St. Bonaventure in Cochiti Pueblo, followed by the celebration of a funeral mass at noon.

Burial was at 2:30 p.m. at the national cemetery in Santa Fe.

John M. Cook, Jr.

Jon M. Cook, Jr. of San Bruno, at rest, May 31, 2003 at the age of 83. John was featured in five documentaries of his experiences as a P.O.W. in the Philippines during WWII. He would readily lecture about his many graphic memories to organizations and youth wanting to learn a piece of this history.

Leaving the town of New Braunsfel, TX, yearning to see the world, he joined the Army and was trained in the Medical Corp. He was soon sent to the Philippines only to be interned in a prison camp for 34 months, captured by the Japanese, who showed no mercy. The U.S. Army Alamo Scouts and Rangers and Filipino guerrilla liberated the 513 prisoners from Cabanatuan camp, Philippines, on Jan. 31, 1945. John's devotion and honor to his liberators was repaid with a plaque he presented to his heroes in Fort Benning, GA, on Aug. 11, 2000, at the Ranger Hall of Fame.

Hampton Sides, author of the book "Ghost Soldiers," gathered much of his research information from John's iron-clad memories and treasured documents of the rescue of the P.O.W.s.

A memorable man with a heart as big as his stature, he will be missed by his loving wife of 30 years, Theresa Alchera Cook, who said, "Love like this comes once in a lifetime." He leaves daughters, Helen (David) Dean, Virginia (Gary) de Kat, Ruth (Todd) Beck; grandchildren, John, Justin, Sabrina, Roxane, Jerome; and three great grandchildren; step-children, Joan (Allan) Lovan, Michael (Robyn) Muscardini; grandchildren, Mark, Bret, Gian-carlo,

(Continued on Page 18)

Marie, and five great grandchildren.

A true, proud hero, gone but never forgotten.

Committal with Military Honors followed at Golden Gate National Cemetery, San Bruno, CA.

James Culp

James Culp passed away July 25 of this year. He was a PPOW in Japan. He lived on Coronado and was a member of the famous PT boats and a prisoner of war in Japan.

Alfred J. D'Arezzo

Alfred John D'Arezzo died on April 29, 2003, in Austin, Texas, at the age of 89. Al was born on December 2, 1913, in Providence, Rhode Island, the fourth of five children born to Luigi and Erminia Perillo D'Arezzo. Al's father had been an officer of the "Carabinieri," the state police of Italy, and then a grocer and steamboat agent after his immigration to and naturalization in the United States. The family moved to Los Angeles, California, where Al learned to love the ocean, fresh fruit, and Hollywood. An outstanding student, he graduated from George Washington High School in 1931.

After 18 months in the Civilian Conservation Corps, camped in the forests of the Klamath River, Al decided he wanted to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point. He disciplined himself to study daily, for months, for the entrance exams. To obtain he required congressional appointment, he put on a suit and walked to Long Beach, knocked on the door of Congressman Charles Colden's home, and convinced him to make the appointment. Al graduated from West Point in 1938.

Al's early assignment was to Fort Mills on the Island of Corregidor in the Philippine Islands. The day of his arrival, he saw Kay McBride. She was tall, dark-haired, and beautiful, and he knew he would marry her. Their wedding on June 15, 1940, was the last formal military wedding on Corregidor. On February 28, 1941, Kay was one of the Army dependents ordered to leave the Philippines. Al and his fellow American and Filipino soldiers vigorously fought the Japanese invasion until captured on April 9, 1942.



He survived the Bataan Death March, and was held prisoner by the Japanese for the remainder of the war. Meanwhile, Kay was flying as a pilot with the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP). After the war, Al and Kay resumed the challenging life of a U.S. Army family. Among his many assignments: Al was an instructor at West Point; Chief of Engineering and Construction for the American Battle Monuments Commission, in Rome, Italy, building the beautiful cemeteries for the Allied war dead in Europe and North Africa; and was District Engineer for the Corps of Engineers, at the St. Louis District on the Mississippi River, where he was "Big Al" with a reputation for being tough and demanding. He retired as a Colonel in 1968.

After the Army, Al earned a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin in 1970. He then served as an engineer and environmental analyst for more than 15 years with the Texas Department of Water Resources.

Since 1985 Al was vigorous in pursuing his many interests. He drew great pleasure from his membership and friends at LAMP, the "Learning Activities for Mature Persons" program offered at U.T. Al was an enthusiastic participant in his Great Books discussion group, and also an interested member of the Squires of the Square Table, the West Point Society of Central Texas, the Military Order of World Wars, and former-POW associations. He enjoyed attending plays, operas, lectures, and films. Al was a man who could charm anyone, and he loved to meet new people, to talk, and to joke.

He tried to maintain his fluency in Spanish, French, Italian, and his understanding of German and Japanese by reading books in those languages. He was an athlete all his life, lettering in track at West Point, winning handball games and golf games for as long as he could play. Al believed with his whole being in the values "Duty, Honor, and Country." He was one of a kind, and we will miss him.

Al was preceded in death by his wife of 60 years, Kay McBride D'Arezzo; his parents, Luigi and Erminia D'Arezzo; his brothers, Joseph D. D'Arezzo and Amilcare L. D'Arezzo; and his sisters, Linda D'Arezzo Walker and Ida D'Arezzo Tulliatos.

Al is survived by his son and his family, The Reverend A. John D'Arezzo Jr. and wife, Anne Marsh, James, and Daniel D'Arezzo and Andrew and Hannah D'Arezzo; and by his daughter and her family, Judge Susan D. Sheppard and husband, David A. Sheppard; John Sheppard and Ellen Sheppard.

Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, May 3, 2003, at the Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Home, 3125 N. Lamar. Burial with full military honors followed at Austin Memorial Park.

Leland T. Engelhorn

Leland T. Engelhorn passed away July 28. He was a member of our local xpow group here in San Diego. After the war he was a teacher and worked his way up to a Masters degree and was a founding faculty at the local Grossmont College. He was acclaimed a National Educator of the Year in 1972.

William John Garleb

William John Garleb, 80, of Escondido died May 27. He was born in St. Louis and was a letter carrier for the U.S. Postal Service in Escondido. He served in the Army during World War II. He was a survivor of the Bataan Death March and spent 3½ years in prisoner of war camps in Japan. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion and the American Defenders of Bataan & Corregidor.

Survivors include his wife, Rita; daughters, Nancy Thompson and Joanne Spraggon; sons, William John Garleb Jr. and Mark Garleb and Alexander Garleb; sister, Betty Stubbs of St. Louis; and eight grandchildren.

Services were held at 2 p.m. on June 18, Veterans Memorial Building, 230 E. Park Ave., Escondido.

Calvin Hogg

Calvin Hogg passed away June 20, 2003. No other details.

Shannon L. Petersen

EMC Shannon L. Petersen passed away 3-22-03 and the age of 92. I cared for him 3½ years. He was a Japanese POW for 3½ years. He was captured on Corregidor.

Clinton Seymour

This is to notify you of the death of Capt. Clinton Seymour in Albuquerque, NM on July 18, 2003. Capt. Seymour was a native of Gallup, NM and attended NM Military Academy. He was in the Cavalry when taken prisoner in Bataan. He was interred at Cabanatuan, Zertsuji and Roku Roshi. He leaves a daughter in Las Vegas, NV and two step-sons in Dallas. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.



Gen. Rafael Iletto, AFP RET.

Gen. Rafael Iletto died in Manila at the age of 82 on June 19, 2003 from a heart attack. He was born on October 24, 1926 at San Isidro, Nueva Ecija.

General Iletto was a 1943 alma mater of the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, New York.

In WWII he fought the Japanese in Samar and Mindanao, with the Philippine Scout Rangers. He was assigned in the 65th U.S. Army. during the American invasion at Lingavan on January 9, 1944, he was a participant. As an Alamo Scout, he joined the liberation of the POWs at Cabanatuan. He also fought in WWII with the U.S. 1st Infantry Regiment in New Guinea. In 1949, Iletto served with the U.S. military in Okinawa.

As the Chief of Staff of the Department of National Defense, 1975-78, General Iletto was the lone general who rejected the Dictator (President Ferdinand E. Marcos) declaration of Martial Law on September 1972. This displeasure to the President earned him assignments away from his native Philippines. He was ordered to duties as Ambassador to Iraq, and later to Turkey; and to other duties in Laos and Thailand.

Iletto was buried with military honors on June 23, 2003, at Fort Bonifacio, Makati, Metro Manila. He is survived by his widowed wife of 50 whom he married in 1994, and children.

James M. McGrath

It has been brought to my attention the American Defenders of Bataan & Corregidor, Inc. was not notified of the death of my father James M. McGrath, POW-WWII. Dad's best friend, Donovan Pike, POW-WWII, notified me of this oversight. Dad passed away on July 31, 2001 with his family by his side. He was 87 years old.

Dad joined the Navy at the beginning of WWII and served in the South Pacific. He was taken Prisoner of War in April 1942 and survived the Bataan Death March to Camp O'Donnell in the Philippines. Dad was later transferred to other prisoner of war camps at Cabanatuan Philippines and then to Manchuria China. Dad was a Prisoner of War for 44 months. He was preceded in death by his wife of 60 years our mother Eleanor M. McGrath in 1998.

Quans Returned Marked Unknown

Karl W. Edwards
3184 Augusta Dr.
Pace, FL 32571-8403

Steve Kodaj
115 Royal Park Dr. Apt. 3-E
Oakland Park, FL 33309-5845

Lee B. Williamson (Bill)

Born July 6th, 1915 in Baker, Oregon. Grew up in Hominy, Oklahoma, the son of Henry and Mary Williamson.

He joined the army in 1934. In 1936 he served at Warren Air Force Base, until being shipped out to the Phillipines in 1938. He served in WWII and was taken prisoner of war in Bataan in May of 1942 and was held until August of 1945. He was a member of the 31st infantry.

After his release he was married to Velma Humes of Hominy, Oklahoma on December 29th, 1945. He continued to serve in the military until he retired in 1956 in Sacramento, California. He was awarded a total of 24 medals during his military service.

After his retirement, he ran a restaurant with his family until 1972. He moved to Wyoming in 1990 to be closer to his family. He was preceded in death by his wife Velma in 1996.

In the spring of 1997 he was married to Litha Dye until her death in 2000.

On June 29th, 2000 he was married to Doris Endicott. He is survived by his wife Doris, his sister Evelyn and his children: Rick (and Lynette), John (and Susan), Jim Kelly (and Marta) and 10 grandchildren: Justin, Haley, Matthew, Daniel, Renee, Luke, Billy, Jessie Joy, Jacob and Steven.

He was loved and cherished by everyone who ever knew him.

Quans Returned Marked Deceased

Ray Barger
P.O. Box 255
Enfield, IL 62835-0255

Robert E. Debord
P.O. Box 265
Lincoln, MT 59639-0265

Thomas Mihita Jr.
Thomas Mihita, Jr. passed away Oct. 21, 2002. Survived by wife Mary. No details.

Gladys W. Peters
Gladys W. peters died June 23, 2003. She was the wife of the late Joseph E. Peters, M.D.

Barbara M. Guertz
Barbara M. Guertz Died June 2, 2003 at Age 88. Wife of Arie Guertz.

Ruth J. Mitro
Ruth J. Mitro, age 79, passed away July 3, 2003. Wife of Albert Mitro for the past 56 years.



Need Help

Winifred L. McCombs
7929 Vista Ridge Drive South
Fort Worth, TX 76132
June 27, 2003

Dear Mr. Vater,

My brother, now deceased, was Cpl. (discharged as Sgt.) Earn LaVern McCombs, (Mac), ASN 38012303, entered the Army in summer of 1941 from Hobbs, New Mexico. After training with the 200th CA, Battery B, New Mexico National Guard at Fort Bliss, he was shipped to the Phillipines in September. He was stationed at Fort Stotsenburg and was captured on Bataan on April 9, 1942. He was trucked to San Fernando, then shipped in boxcars to Camp O'Donnell, thence to a prison near Manila. From there he went to Clark Field for 29 months before being shipped to Japan on the Noto Maru in August, 1944. After docking at Moji, he went to Nagoya Camp #6 until he was liberated August 7, 1945.

I was never able to discuss in any detail any of my brother's experiences although he would talk to fellow POW's at the conventions he attended. I can understand this hesitancy for it would be hard to explain what he went through to those who did not share the experience. I have recently become acquainted with Smith L. Green here in Fort Worth and he is also an ex POW of the Japanese. He has shared a lot of his experiences with me as well as the wealth of material he has accumulated over the years since his liberation. This has stirred an interest in me to learn more of my brother's experiences. I would especially like to know what he did at the camp in Japan.

I would appreciate any information your readers might have about my brother's experiences in the camps mentioned above. Thank you for making this search for information possible.

Sincerely,
Winifred L. McCombs

**Be sure to make the
Orlando Convention.**

**We will be going
down to that
beautiful statue
of the Deama March
built by the Filipino
people of that area.**

PALAWAN

Dear Joe:

Many are not aware of a Japanese atrocity which occurred on December 14, 1944 on the Philippine island of Palawan. One hundred and forty-three U.S. POWs were brutally murdered by their Japanese guards. Following the end of the war, one hundred and twenty-three were buried in a group gravesite at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis, Missouri.

During a reunion of POWs in St. Louis in May, 2001, a group of POWs who had been at the Palawan POW camp prior to the massacre went to the cemetery to pay their respects to their murdered comrades. We were saddened to see that the gravesite had just a large stone slab lying flat on the ground with only the names, ranks and branches of service inscribed on the marker. The only other inscription was, "December 14, 1944."

Those of us who were there felt that some other information should be added to explain how that many U.S. servicemen could have all died on the same day.

Contact was made with the Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, National Cemetery Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, Washington, D.C., and after hearing our request to install an additional marker to the gravesite, she allowed one to be installed that would tell what actually happened that caused their deaths.

The additional grave marker has now been installed and the National Cemetery director has agreed to our having a dedication ceremony for the new marker.

The dedication will be on Saturday, October 4, 2003, and will begin at 10:30 a.m., at the gravesite.

For those who need a hotel we suggest the Holiday Inn at 155 and Lindberg Dr. Phone 314-892-3600. For additional information call Joe.

Everyone is invited to attend the ceremony, especially POWs who were at Palawan and family members and relatives of those who are buried there.

Sincerely,
Joseph E. Dupont, Jr.
24220 Calvin Street
Plaquemine, LA 70764
(225) 687-2678

Can You Help?

I am looking for information on my uncle, George D. Smith, Private 2nd Observation Squadron. My information indicates he died on June 19, 1942 at Cabanatuan POW Camp. He was stationed at Nichols Field when it was attacked by the Japanese.

I would like to find anyone that might have knowledge of him. It would be helpful to me if you could post this request in your magazine. I appreciate any help you can offer in my quest to gather information.

I can be reached by phone at 513-777-15406, by mail: 9381 Meadowridge Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45241 or by e-mail at hall_7292@fuse.net.

Sincerely,
Russell Hall

Help

Hello,

My name is Andrea Wolf. My uncle was Staff Sergeant Eugene I. Talbot stationed at Nicholas Field December, 1941. He was with the 2nd Observation Squadron with the Army Air Corps. We, the family, were recently contacted to write an article about his tour of service during WWII and submit his photograph. Since I'm a published author with many published credits, guess who was asked to write the article on my uncle? I've

The Chaplain's Corner

"August 6, 1945"

Today is the anniversary of the dropping of the world's first atomic bomb on Hiroshima. "The Bomb" changed the world in ways that nobody could have guessed; ramifications are still being discovered. From military uses of atomic energy to medical and scientific applications the world has been changed; we can never go back to the innocence of the pre-atomic age. As an integral part of God's creation, atomic and nuclear forces are seen as inherently good; as with all of His creation, they are subject to misuse. This is the definition of sin.

One thing is perfectly clear; our lives were spared by the bombs that were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as were the lives of millions of our soldiers, sailors and airmen, as well as countless Japanese lives. You and I were scheduled for the firing squad (as on Palawan) and I am thankful that we were given new leases on life. Still I regret that it had to happen.

I think that most of us have mixed feelings on that subject, at least I do. Nobody likes to see people suffer and die.

Unfortunately, more and more America is being cast as the villain for dropping those two bombs. This odd spin comes from several sources: Japanese who still resent our victory or enjoy being "victims," uniformed pacifists around the world and (let's face it) jealous anti-American factions. Being at the top of the heap makes America a tempting target for criticism and "cheap shots." We are a successful nation and there's nothing wrong with that, but it makes us vulnerable. The court of world opinion seems to side with the losers; being a "victim" seems to make us fair game for criticism.

I like to remind critics that America didn't start the war in the Pacific; Japan did. They should remember that before attacking us again. Terrorists, beware. You have wakened the same sleeping tiger that Japan stirred up in 1941.

I am currently reading William H. Bartsch's fascinating book entitled "December 8, 1941; MacArthur's Pearl Harbor." It is especially interesting to me because most of the places and many of the people named in the book are familiar to me; I have flown in those B-10b, B-18 and B-17 aircraft. All of that is very personal to me because I had climbed those mountains, visited those places and walked the streets of those cities.

What surprises me is the many detailed accounts of Japanese preparations for attacking the Philippine airfields and Navy installations. Even the Japanese Emperor issues the final orders for them to attack us. They deliberately tried to defeat America. One could say that "The Japs asked for anything we could do to defeat them, including an atomic bomb," but that would not be worthy of us.

I am defending the use of atomic bombs to bring Japan to surrender so quickly; I see it as a merciful way to conclude a war we didn't start but which was forced on us, but a war we were determined to win. I am proud of our country for having the courage to use this new kind of weapon to bring peace to the world again.

I also pray God that those weapons may never have to be used again; may our current enemies also never underestimate our resolve.

In His Service,
Fr. Bob Phillips+ SSC
National Chaplain and Web Site Chairman
American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor, Inc.

been researching his military history — he was there when Nichols Field was abandoned as "too exposed." I doubt that you knew him, but wondered if you might help me by pointing me in the direction of other research sites on this? Hope you can.

Andrea Wolf

"Andrea"<andrea.l.wolf@comcast.net>

AMERICAN DEFENDERS OF BATAAN AND CORREGIDOR

Mid-Atlantic Tri-State Chapter Reunion Sunday, October 12 to Wednesday, October 15, 2003

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18 Warbler Dr.

McKees Rocks, PA 15136

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McKees Rocks, PA 15136-1858

Books About the Philippine Scouts

Below is a list of books written by and about the Philippine Scouts or events in which they participated. These can be purchased directly from either the author or the society. Check our website for other books on the Scouts and WWII in the Philippines.

The Philippine Scouts

Edited by Col. John E. Olson

This large volume published by the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society may be purchased for \$28, including postage, by sending a check or money order made out to the Philippine Scouts Heritage

Society to:
Larry L. Pangan
2233 Fox Glen Drive
Fairfield, CA 94533

Anywhere-Anytime

By Col. John E. Olson

This history of the 57th Infantry (PS) contains maps, rosters and photos. You may purchase it for \$17 including postage.

O'Donnell, Andersonville of the Pacific

By Col. John E. Olson

This book provides detailed documentation of the Japanese POW camp in which thousands of Filipinos, including over 2,600 Philippine Scouts, and hundreds of Americans died of disease, malnutrition

and savage abuse in less than six months. The author was personnel officer of the American POWs at Camp O'Donnell. The cost of \$14 includes postage.

The Guerrilla and the Hostage

By Col. John E. Olson

This is a novel about two brothers — a Philippine Scout Officer and an Air Force pilot — who served on Bataan and their adventures during and after the collapse of the Fil-Am defenses. The cost is \$17 and includes postage.

To order any or all of these informative books, please send a check or money order made out to the author:

John E. Olson
The Towers, #510 Parklane
San Antonio, TX 78209

RESERVATION REQUEST

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Reservations may be made by calling our toll-free reservation number 1-800-766-7652, faxing this form to (407) 851-7171 or send requests to 7499 Augusta National Dr., Orlando, FL 32822.

S:/Dawn/Forms/Reservation Form #2

We are indebted to Ms. Elizabeth M. Norman, authoress of the book "We Band of Angels" for her cooperation with the information on the nurses in the Philippines. If you haven't read the book, you should. Ask at any bookstore; it is published by Random House. Thanks, Beth, for your help.

PRE-CONVENTION REGISTRATION

We have had good past results with the pre-registration application, beats standing in long lines. We are going to change the card a little. The 1st line will be your 1st name (Bill/William for instance). On the P.O.W. Camps line use only your favorite. The rest of the blank fill out as stated. The banquet ticket should be exchanged for table reservations. **DO NOT send money. Pay when you come to the convention. Cut Off Date April 14, 2004.**

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 P.O.W. CAMP _____

Mail to: Duane L. Heisinger, Executive Secretary
 7401 Bull Run Dr., Centerville, VA 20121

PRE-REGISTER

It is very important that those who are planning to attend the 2004 Airport Marriott Convention **pre-register** as soon as possible so that we can make proper arrangements at the hotel. It is difficult now days dealing with the hotels as they insist we hold to our predictions for rooms, meals and meeting space.

We need your information on your plans as soon as possible. Thank you.



American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor, Inc.

(including any unit of force of the Asiatic Fleet, Philippine Archipelago, Wake Island, Mariana Islands, Midway Islands and Dutch East Indies. 12/7/41-5/10/42.



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Bataan elementary students remember school's namesake

By Rick Neale
 Staff Writer

PORT CLINTON — Clifford Shields was an eighth-grader living in Clay Center at the dawn of World War II, and he wasn't much older when a group of captured Port Clinton soldiers embarked on the bloody Bataan Death March through the jungles of Manila.

Shields is a little wiser nowadays. And he helped pass a torch (of sorts) to a new generation of students during Bataan Day ceremonies at True Lay-Stadium. The Elmore resident recited patriotic poetry to hundreds of children, giving nods to veterans, the Stars and Stripes, and those overseas in Iraq.

"We have a war going on right now and a lot of people are making sacrifices. A lot of families are making sacrifices," he said. "This is the price we pay."

For the past dozen years, Bataan Elementary students have memorialized the legacy of their building's namesake — the city's 192nd Tank Battalion, Company C. In April 1942, 32 Port Clinton soldiers from that group endured a week-long forced march across 60 miles of treacherous terrain, battling to survive their environment and their Japanese tormentors.

"Without their efforts, we could have lost our freedom of speech, right to a just trial, perhaps even the right to celebrate this very occasion," Principal Martha Willis said.

Friday's ceremony featured the release of 32 red, white and blue balloons, each sent soaring skyward by a scissors-wielding student in the name of a soldier. Balloon cutters were Mary Jane Gruber, Morgan Meisler, Kristen Gonya, Blake Troller, Jerrod Harnisch, David Allen, Liz Chicoine and Molly Taylor.

About 70,000 captured American and Filipino soldiers embarked on the Bataan Death March. Only about 54,000 lived to tell their tales of torture, disease, decapitation and death.

The Bataan Show Choir belted out "Get America Singing" to kick off Friday's event, and the city's VFW and American Legion forces provided a color guard and rifle salute.

The family of Corp. Joseph Zim, one of the Company C soldiers, gave the school the flag they received after his death. Willis said the flag will be flown every year during Bataan Day events.

NOTICE

The Memorial List in the June issue of **The Quan** are the names of the men who died and were reported from the previous May to the following May. Sorry if we confused some of the members.

MOVING SOON?

Please let us know six weeks before you move what your new address will be. Be sure to supply us with both your old and new address, including the address label from your current issue. Copies we mail to your old address will not be delivered by the Post Office and we must pay 70 cents for each returned Quan.

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JOSEPH A. VATER
Editor, the Quan
18 Warbler Drive
McKees Rocks, Pa. 15136

American Defenders of
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See Death Notices

IMPORTANT

Any groups which wish to have a private breakfast, luncheon or dinner, please let the Convention Committee know of your plans.

Last year we had some conflicts with many having the luncheons going at the same time. The Widows Luncheon will be on Friday at noon.

Let us know your plans so we can add them to our programs, but you will need to make your arrangements with the hotel.

The hotel does have a policy that if you don't have at least 20 people for a food function they will charge you \$40.00; best to have a small group meet at the restaurant.

