

GUNNERS TELL OF FIERY ODYSSEY

The following article was written by Robert J. Boyle, press correspondent, and concerns the experiences of many Payette county boys, among them being members of Battery C, 148th Field Artillery, the Payette National Guard, until prior to the time that they were inducted into the regular army. In telling of their experiences early in the war, Boyle says:

"The boys have been away from the United States so long they will feel like Columbus when they get back home. They sailed with the first convoy of American soldiers to set foot on Australian soil. The attack on Pearl Harbor caught them in the middle of the Pacific. They set out from Darwin for Timor as part of an Australian task force, equipped with Aussie rifles, gas masks, ammunition and uniforms. They went five months without mail. They were bombarded by hundreds of Japanese planes before the Allies had an air force in the southwest Pacific."

"After nearly two years of war, the outfit is holding down an assignment in a forward area, waiting for an opportunity to fire a shell at the Japs."

"We were between Hawaii and Guam when we heard the news of the attack on Pearl Harbor," said Corp. Clifford Tice, whose red hair gave his jungle "zoot suit" a Christmas touch. "We didn't believe it at first, but our commanding officer told us it was true and that he didn't know how long we would be at sea or where we would go."

"Our heavy guns were in the hold but we mounted machine guns and we all went over the side to help paint the ship gray. Our convoy was made up of six troopships and one cruiser, the Houston, which was lost in the Java sea battle."

"We had to ration our food, and we took on water through a hose from a navy vessel. We were on the ship 52 days."

"The artillerymen left America Nov. 22, 1941, and arrived at Brisbane, Australia, Dec. 23. Almost immediately the ships steamed north through Torres Straits to the harbor at Darwin. It was there that the men became part of an Australian task force, headed for Timor with the Houston as escort. The Japanese beat them to Timor and before the convoy reached the big island north of Darwin a large force of enemy bombers attacked and the convoy was ordered back."

"Most of us feel that the Houston saved our lives," Tice said. "When 44 bombers came over, the Houston stayed behind and took most of the bombs while keeping them up high with anti-aircraft fire. The Japs scored some near misses but none of the ships was hit."

"The convoy reached Darwin, and the Americans were still aboard on the morning of Feb. 19, 1942, when waves of Jap bombers came over in the raid that sank 11 vessels in the harbor and cost hundreds of lives."

"Most of us were ordered below decks when the raid began," Tice recalled. "Everyone was pretty quiet. A fellow stood in the hatchway telling us when a dive bomber was coming at us. I don't know what good that did, because there was nothing we could do about it."

"We were below decks about an hour, with the bombs and guns crashing outside. When I got on deck it looked like our ship and one other were the only ones afloat. All around there were masts and poles sticking out of the water and men swimming and in small boats. Big fires were burning around the docks."

"We were on our way to shore in a lifeboat when 27 more bomb-

ers came over. Up to then we had been having a hard time rowing the heavy lifeboats, but when we saw the bombers the lifeboat went through the water like a motorboat. We jumped ashore on a little island in the harbor. Some of the others landed on an island that was a leper colony."

"Tice's battery was the only one which had not lost its guns and was assigned to positions along the shore near Darwin."

"There was no air corps at Darwin then," Tice went on. "The only plane I saw was a shot up old Fort. When the pilot tried to get it up, it crashed into the trees. There were no fighter planes there until a month after the big raid."

"Our battery was part of the Australian army assigned to beach defense. The Japs raided our positions on March 19. We had no radar then and the air raid warnings used to arrive about 10 minutes after the bombs started to fall. We had just 30 seconds after we heard the planes to get to our slit trenches 100 yards away."

"Those early days in Darwin

seem strange to Tice and the others now. They lived on bully beef, hardtack and tea. They remember the Australian soldiers headed for Singapore who sat around Darwin grimly sharpening their bayonets. They recall the fun they had with the Aussies when they pretended to be talking to imaginary dogs and flying imaginary kites."

"After five months in the Darwin area the artillerymen went south through Alice Springs to Adelaide in South Australia. Then their moves took them to northern Australia, New Guinea and finally to Kiriwina."

"All the men in the outfit have had a seven day furlough; some have had two furloughs. But how they long to see their home towns again," Corp. William Sherman, 37, Detroit, put it this way:

"What we can't understand is why seven million guys at home can't come over here. We have been here two years. They say there isn't room on ships going home in the engine room of a Liberty ship. I'm willing to undergo the taxes and the other hardships at home."

Early History Of Payette Cannery

The early days of the Payette Cannery were not all a bed of roses as is indicated by the files of the Independent-Enterprise. Under the caption "Will Continue Canning Corn," the following is taken from the Payette Enterprise, dated February 14, 1924:

"The corn canning machinery will not be moved from Payette in the information given out by L. V. Pritch, manager of the Idaho Canning Co. As has been previously announced, the Idaho Canning Co., for the reason of not being able to secure sufficient acreage of corn to justify their continuing in that branch of the industry, entered into a contingent agreement with the people of Caldwell to move that part of the machinery to Caldwell. The time limit in that contract has now expired and the terms not complied with. When it became apparent that Payette was to lose this valuable asset, it brought many expressions of regret and a general scrambling in an attempt to keep it here, and many offers to contract the planting of corn. Now that the matter is settled, and the plant to remain

(Continued on last page)

PAYETTE COUNTY VICTORY CREW

Area A—Captain A. S. Green, Dist. No. 1, Lt. Walter E. Little, Sgts. Eldred Chadwick, Joe Campbell, Jake Fisher, Ward Tyler, F. E. Gray, H. S. Burroughs, A. M. Highsmith, Dixie McGraw, Chas. G. Pickett, Martin Platt, Stanton M. Culp. Dist. No. 3, Lt. W. G. Goldsmith, Sgts. M. F. Zeigler, M. J. Moore, Dallas Burt, Wallace Harris, Alvin Voght, H. A. Sattgast, all of New Plymouth.

Area A—Capt. M. B. Conrad, Dist. No. 4, Lt. R. M. Ware, Sgts. Bonnie Bigsby, Glen Darnall, Nelle Leigh, Geo. E. Davis, Ray Bean, Dist. No. 5, Lt. E. L. Dotson, Ray Dotson and Sgts. Armorel M. Tuttle, Laura Penrod, B. M. Whadford, Mrs. B. M. Whadford, Harry Chadwick, Wm. Carpenter, Geo. Anderson, Dist. No. 6, Lt. Joe Hengler, R. J. Sullivan, Sgts. Mrs. M. L. Hatfield, Mrs. Arthur Snyder, E. G. Alley, Paul Gilmore, H. W. Heighton, all of New Plymouth.

Area C, Capt. Ivan Worthington, Dist. No. 7, Lt. L. J. Josephson, Joe Church, Walter Schmid, Norman M. Tolmie, D. H. Kocker, W. H. Fisher, Earl S. Boyer, B. F. Talbot, W. D. Sherman, O. F. Ferguson, O. C.

Area D, Capt. Ben Tomlin, Dist. No. 10, Lt. Clarence Sullens, N. A. Peacock, C. W. Robards, L. P. Dorathy, L. M. Young, Ethel Davis; Dist. No. 11, Lt. Oliver Manis, Ruth Manis, Sgt. Clyde Hurd, Grant Hurd, Edward Randall, Junior Randall, L. B. Hyatt, Mrs. L. B. Hyatt.

Dist. No. 12, Lt. Ray Stephens, Utah Stephens, Sgts. F. H. Hoffman, Mrs. Elma Hoffman, M. Thode, A. H. Schlottman, Howard Manser, G. S. Childs.

Area E, Capt. R. H. Shake, Dist. No. 13, Lt. A. N. Hengler, Grant Gardner, Sgts. Jim Young, Albert Mohler, Arthur Newman, Jim James, H. W. Evans, T. H. Beckwith, B. J. Leonard, Dist. No. 14, Lt. Ed Mess, Sgts. Adolph Wheeler, R. E. Hall, Bob Rhodes, Robert Loftquist, Dan Jones, Dist. No. 15, Lt. Lawrence Limbaugh, Sgts. Mrs. G. Champlin, Mrs. C. E. Hallock, Ted Reins, Elmer Alstrand, Tony Hengler, all of Fruitland.

Area F, Capt. Chas. Bolton, Dist. No. 16, Lt. H. B. Solterbeck, J. E. Frazer, Sgts. S. C. Royston, H. M. Gilliam, J. E. Frazer, Frank Beckwith, L. O. Schöen, Sam Caldwell, Roy Deshazer, Loren Arment, Glenn Hurd, Lyle Griffith, Dist. No. 17, Lt. Earl E. Kirk, Sgt. Ernest E. Asmussen, Sgts. W. A. Bivens, Mrs. W. A. Bivens, Andrew Mickelson, E. H. Yager, A. L. Coates, C. Curran, E. B. Patton, Flossie Patton, Dist. No. 18, Lt. A. C. Brown, Sgts. Mrs. Sam Genoway, Sam Genoway, S. A. Brown, Idell Brown, Margaret Repp, LaDelle Brown, A. R. Brown, all of Payette.

Area G, Capt. E. E. Parsons, Dist. No. 19, Lt. O. B. Stauff, Sgts. D. E. Wolf, Walter Steiniger, V. A. Siple, L. C. Whiteley, Herbert Preston, H. F. Warren, Dist. No. 20, Lt. John Cox, Sgts. Bert Moggridge, Leland Barber, Mrs. Walter Johnson, Mrs. Herman Broderick, Bill Trall, Dist. No. 21, Lt. B. H. Kent, Sgt. E. M. Luehert, W. E. Oster, J. D. Baker, Mrs. P. D. Steigewalt, all of Payette.

Area H, Capt. H. S. Harper, Dist. No. 22, Lt. Marion J. Spaulding, D. V. Spaulding, Sgts. Gladys Woodward, Mrs. Eugene Phillips, Walter Overlander, Mrs. Walter Overlander, J. P. Brooks, Mrs. Frank Yost, Ethel Atters, Dist. No. 23, Lt. E. C. Piske, Sgts. Mrs. E. C. Piske, Don Haasch, Lewis Bean, Mrs. Earl Coates, Jay McNutt, Mrs. Jay McNutt, Dist. No. 24, Lt. W. N. Rowberry, M. W. Lunstrum, Sgts. E. M. Morton, Mrs. Lee Coblenz, Carl Swanson, Guy Mangum, Helen Dunn, all of Payette.

Area I, Capt. A. P. Meehan, Dist. No. 25, Lt. Dwight Maule, Sgts. Ernest Cantrall, Claude Horton, Lon Daniels, Loren Hicks, Dist. No. 26, Lt. Shirley Manser, Sgts. Art Sawyer, L. M. Bowman, T. L. Masingill, A. W. Wright, J. L. Foster, Walter Steiniger, Dist. No. 27, Lt. Homer Borglehaus, J. B. Landon, Harry Powell, Geo. Sedlmayer, Jay McNutt, Emil Freuchnechts, all of Payette.

Area J, Capt. Jack Dyer, Dist. No. 28, Lt. F. J. Peterson, Sgts. Mrs. H. Pence, Mrs. Robert Fisher, Laura Hogg, Mrs. Wm. Golden, Mrs. J. T. Hangan, Miss Edna Gauer, Mrs. Jack Norris, Mrs. A. D. Stroup, Dist. No. 29, Lt. J. R. Robinson, E. N. Rotering, Sgts. Violetta Swank, Irene Davis, Mrs. Nell Pritch, E. N. Rotering, Harry Stotler, S. P. Swenson, H. J. Puchert, Dist. No. 30, Lt. Mrs. Ethel Farber, Sgts. Mrs. Scott Brubaker, Mrs. McKinney, Mrs. Nell Dibble, Mrs. Lenore Wilkin, Ivor Williams, all of Payette.

Unnecessary Trips Handicap War

When any American takes a trip by rail or bus that is not necessary the Office of Defense Transportation points out that the war effort is being hindered in these ways:

1. There is increased wear on rail and motor equipment needed for the movement of vital war supplies and the transportation of fighting men and women and those engaged in war activities.

2. It is likely to keep a service man from making his last trip home before going overseas. Or may keep an important war worker from getting where needed.

To help relieve the burden on the nation's overloaded transportation system all would-be travelers are asked to consider the following suggestions:

It isn't important, don't attempt to travel by either railroad or intercity bus.

It is important, try to arrange the trip so it can be made in the middle of the week when traffic is lightest. Avoid week-end travel peaks.

If plans are altered, reservations should be canceled at once so the space can be made available to some other person.

Carry a minimum of baggage.

Potatoes Require Loose Soil
For best results, potatoes require a loose, sandy, fertile soil rich in humus. Avoid heavy, alkaline soils for potatoes.

How many more days, Mummy?

"Tell me. How many more days before Daddy can come home?"

And mother doesn't know. So she answers the same way she's answered a hundred times . . .

"Not so many days . . . we hope. Daddy can't come home to us until the war is over. Until we win, you know."

Nobody can tell the thousands of bewildered little hearts when their Daddies will come home.

Nor the millions of other Americans

when their husbands, or sons, or sweethearts will be back.

The tragic truth is that many of them will never see their loved ones again. Never.

But this we do know . . .

Every minute by which the war can be shortened means fewer lives lost—fewer white crosses on a lonely hillside.

Your job is to put every dollar you can possibly dig up into War Bonds. The fighting equipment bought by your dollars will hasten the day of

Victory . . . the day when the boys come marching home.

Don't slacken your Bond purchases while victory is within our grasp! Never let it be said that while the attack grows stronger on the fighting fronts, we at home failed to back it to the very limit of our ability.

Dig down deeper. Buy extra War Bonds. Help shorten the war by those vital minutes—or days, or months—which mean American lives saved!

KEEP ON BACKING THE ATTACK!

ANDY'S GARAGE

PAYETTE STANDARD SERVICE

L. W. DANIELS, Mgr.

HI-WAY TIRE & SERVICE STATION

M. G. ZENTZIS, Mgr.

GAMBLE STORE

HARRY L. DEARDORFF

ROY V. MELLIS

ASSOCIATED DISTRIBUTORS

CONOCO SERVICE STATION

BUCK ANDERSON

JAY'S TEXACO STATION



This advertisement prepared under the auspices of the

U. S. Treasury Department and the War Advertising Council.

Malcolm Hazeltine Buried Last Week

Funeral services were held last week at New Plymouth for Malcolm W. Hazeltine, prominent resident of New Plymouth. During his lifetime, Mr. Hazeltine was always actively engaged in civic enterprises, having served as a member of the New Plymouth city council, president of the Farmers Irrigation District and ditch manager for the same concern for several years, director of the Lake Reservoir company and a director and member of the executive committee of Southwest Idaho Conservation, Inc.

Malcolm Winfred Hazeltine was born in Wetmore, Kansas, in 1875 and with his parents came west to Vale in 1888, where they lived for five years before moving to Payette. He was married to Laurella Edgington, of Payette in 1902 and they were the parents of four children, three of whom in addition to the widow survive, Mrs. Laura Fischer, of Spokane, Wash., Mrs. G. E. Davis, of New Plymouth and Mrs. Fred Ferreira, of Oakland, California.

Deceased joined the Baptist church at an early age and was a member of the first graduating class of the Payette high school. He was a graduate of the Albion Normal and for several years taught school in the Boise Valley.

Cooking Hint

Bacon drippings add super flavor when you fry potato or rice cakes in them.