

Families Uprooted By War Flock Through Alaska's Elemendorf Field

By LACHLAND MACDONALD (Anchorage, Alaska Times) (For Hal Boyle)

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — (AP) — The wives and children of the nation's finest come home this way. Often, late at night, the great planes of Operation Raven stop briefly before the last leg of the long trip to the U. S. A.

The North Pacific run isn't a vacation for any more and he evacuees arriving daily at Elemendorf air force base are not the laughing, prosperous international travelers of several weeks ago. They are families uprooted by war. Some are shaken by their experience, but there are no tears. Volunteers who meet the planes with food and toys for the children are quick to note the woman with a strained and detached look that sets them apart. They are the quiet widows of men who have died in the Korean hills. Reluctantly they give up their infants to volunteers who feed and care for them during the stop.

Some received first notification of their loss in Tokyo casualty lists: A few received suddenly terrible bunches of clothing. The health officer, the immigration man's questions, the customs examination, all are a little unreal for the women who only 20 hours before boarded planes in Japan.

The reception program at Elemendorf does everything possible to comfort and care for the evacuees. First planes, after the Korean war started, were met by officers who found themselves un-equipped to deal with tired mothers and fussy babies. Then volunteers from the officers' wives and NCO wives clubs took over. The fame of their welcome has spread to Tokyo.

The operation was named after the somber raven when it became apparent that dependents in Japan would have to return to stateside homes after husbands became casualties or as new troops required their quarters. But not all the returning dependents are bereaved by the war. Many are optimistic and it is their cheer that means much to the widows on the long Pacific flight.

At least half of the weary travelers stepping down the gangplank are children, often infants born in Asia. A few are old enough to remember comic books, which they snatch with joy, but others speak only Japanese. The cling to their Japanese dolls and highly polished sandals and beam wide-eyed at their first view of America.

Operation Raven is primarily a Military Air Transport service (MATS) operation. Care of evacuees at Elemendorf is in the hands of Lt. Col. Charles Reid.

But the evacuees aren't the big problem for the men of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine. Plane crews and personnel on rotation deluge his office with maps, pins and stunted pine trees reputed to be hundreds of years old. Most of them aren't the famous Oriental dwarf trees, at all, the plant men report, but midge plants dug up near the mountain tree-line and passed off as the genuine article.

Traditional souvenirs, the trees must be deloused and cleaned before they enter the U. S. The quarantine worries about Japanese beetles and other insects which haven't yet invaded America from the Orient.

They'll go from the induction center here to Fort Sill, Okla., in 30 to 60 days.

Well, suppose he's making up the K.P. list. He hits the wrong letter on his typewriter. A Perricone may pull kitchen police when it should be B. Perricone. Or maybe it'll be C for D or D for C or C for B. See?

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U. S. Quads May Puzzle Song Army Co. Clerk

HOUSTON, Tex. — (AP) — The Perricone quadruplets pretty soon may be confusing some army company clerk.

They passed their draft physical and are going to ask that they serve together.

But not in the infantry. They hope its any branch but the walking one.

Anthony, Bernard, Carl and Donald — 39, — the nation's only male quadruplets — came from Beaumont yesterday for their physical.

Their mother, Mrs. M. J. Perricone, center here to Fort Sill, Okla., in 30 to 60 days.

Well, suppose he's making up the K.P. list. He hits the wrong letter on his typewriter. A Perricone may pull kitchen police when it should be B. Perricone. Or maybe it'll be C for D or D for C or C for B. See?

Floyd Powell Elected Head Of Band Assn.

Floyd Powell was elected president of the Band Parents association Tuesday night at a meeting of the group.

The association were Ed Weber, vice-president; Mrs. Lou Marsters, secretary; and Mrs. Jack Foster, treasurer.

The association is composed of parents of members of the senior and prep bands along with parents of music students from the fifth grade up.

The association is sponsoring the appearance of the U. S. navy band in the senior high school auditorium. A matinee and an evening performance will be given. If demand is great enough another matinee may be added.

Canyonville School Board Ponders Highway Problem.

K. D. Lytle of Roseburg and Don Norlin of Salem attended the Canyonville school board meeting Saturday night regarding the highway question.

After a great deal of discussion it was decided to try to get an appointment with R. H. Baldock in the state highway engineer's office in Salem. If no agreement is reached before the state highway commission in Portland on Sept. 29 at 10:30 am.

The question concerns the exchange of school property with property of the State Highway commission to facilitate construction of the new highway through Canyonville.

The board suggested the children bring boiled drinking water to school if desired as it would be impossible to boil the water at school.

The question of location of showers in the gymnasium was also discussed.

School patrol was discussed and at present the teachers are taking care of the patrol situation.

Principal O. J. Monger requested and was granted one dozen small chairs and two tables for the lower grades, also a typing table and six desks for the high school.

School law books and directors hand books were distributed to the board members.

Attending the meeting were board President Paul Strahan, John Bingham Jr. and Glen White; Clerk Kathryn Baird, principal O. J. Monger, Mrs. Glen White, I. N. Gray Roy Simmons, G. L. Anderson, Don Norlin and K. D. Lytle.

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Amaizo INSTANT DESSERT 2 pkgs.	27c
Playfair DOG FOOD tall can	9c
Skippy PEANUT BUTTER 15 oz. jar	37c
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Swanson's MARGARINE lb. pkg.	28c
Cottage Cut GREEN BEANS No. 2 tin	15c
Johnson's CARNU pint tin	69c
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Morrell's Pride PORK SAUSAGE 1 1/2 lb. tin	55c

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TOKAY GRAPES	lb. 10c
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CARROTS bunch	6c
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