



Four navy heroes and a heroine of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor line up to receive the navy unit commendation ribbon aboard the U. S. S. Solace, navy hospital ship, in Portland harbor Tuesday. From left are Lt. Alva John Jones; Lt. Marjorie von Stein, navy nurse; Arnold George Leidtka, chief commissary steward; Fred T. Blackwell, cook third class, and George Puckett, cook first class. The ship's crew stands at attention in the background.

## 5 on Solace Given Awards for Work At Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941

The ghosts of Pearl Harbor were recalled Tuesday morning in the peaceful sunshine of Portland's harbor as five crew members of the navy hospital ship U. S. S. Solace were decorated with the navy unit citation ribbon for their work during the Japanese sneak attack which started a war now ended.

The five were members of the crew that made up "rescue parties in motor launches and boats that were quickly dispatched to the U. S. S. Arizona and other stricken ships," stated the citation read by Capt. L. D. Whitgrove, navy supervisor of shipbuilding here in Portland.

"They braved flames and explosions to rescue the burned and injured from the decks and blazing water alongside," the citation by Navy Secretary James Forrestal said. "They unhesitatingly risked their lives during repeated trips under the same perilous conditions, each time returning to the Solace with boats fully laden with injured and dying. Working to the point of exhaustion, the entire staff, doctors, nurses and corpsmen, rendered valiant and self-sacrificing service throughout this extreme emergency."

A brief talk by Com. Edward Peterson, captain of the Solace, recounted the ship's record since Pearl Harbor. It handled wounded at Guadalcanal, New Guinea, Hollandia, Tarawa, the Admiralty

Islands, Kwajalein, Eniwetok, Saipan, Guam, Peleliu, Anguar, Iwo Jima, Kerema Retto, and Okinawa.

Those decorated were Fred Thomas Blackwell, Negro, 22, cook third class, St. Louis; Arnold Geo. Leidtka, 49, chief commissary steward, of Rochester, New York; George William Puckett Jr, Negro 22, Nashville, Tenn., cook first class, who has served aboard the Solace since her commissioning since August 9, 1941, and has not had leave during that time; Alva John Jones, 34, North Stonington, Conn., who was chief signalman at Pearl Harbor and was appointed lieutenant (jg) May 1, 1943, by the president; and a navy nurse, t. Marjorie E. Von Stein, Clearville, Pa.

The ship will leave Portland harbor Wednesday for San Francisco, then presumably, will go to Pearl Harbor.

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## ODT Revokes Order for Negro Cab Drivers

WASHINGTON — A drastic ODT order limiting the mileage of 82 Negro taxicab operators on Chicago's South Side was revoked by the Office of Defense Transportation last week as that agency removed controls in several fields of transportation.

The Negro operators were given relief from Special Order ODT TC-1, under which they were required to reduce their mileage by 30 per cent, and cooperate to guarantee efficient utilization of equipment. The order was originally issued on April 24, 1943.

At the same time, ODT announced the revocation and amendment of a number of other orders including the following:

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1. Amendment of General Order ODT 44A to end the rationing of new trucks in Alaska, and revocation of Administrative Order ODT 13, which delegated authority of the ODT's Alaskan representative. Both actions are effective August 31. ODT will thus relinquish all control over motor transportation in the far northern territory at the end of this month.

2. Revocation of Administrative Order ODT 4, effective immediately. The order delegated to ODT district and regional offices the power to requisition used trucks.

3. Revocation of Administrative Order ODT 5, effective immediately. The order set up the procedure for the suspension, recall, cancellation or revocation of certificates of war necessity, a procedure no longer applicable since the certificate of war necessity program was abolished on August 16.

4. Revocation of Administrative Order ODT 8, effective immediately. The order provided the procedure for the review of certificates of war necessity.

5. Revocation of General Order ODT 48, effective immediately. The order restricted the transfer, or change in service without ODT approval, of fluid food motor tank vehicles. The order was issued Jan. 17, 1945 to conserve such equipment and to provide

for the prompt and continuous movement of fluid food in bulk.

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