The OREGON STATESMAN, Salem, Oregon, Sunday Morning, September 23, 1945

'Three Swell Guys' Disappear as Sentence Of Death is Pronounced on Doolittle Flyers; **Rest Just About Give Up All Hope of Life**

Editor's Note: The mack justice of a Japanese court-martial as experienced by the captured Doolittle flyers, including Sgt. Jacob De Shezar of Salem, is described in the following, eighth chapter of their story of 40 months in Jap hands

By Capt. Robert L. Hite and M. Sgt. Jacob De Shauer Chapter 8

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Torture isn't limited to physical punishment. Solitary confinment in a filthy little cell can be more horrible than even the most fiendish physical torments.

We found that out after our first court-martial, Aug. 29, 1942. We were placed in solitary in the civic center prison in Shanghai and we had no idea of what the Japs had in store for us. We had nothing to read, no one to talk to, nothing to write with. Our cells were narrow cubicles with an open hole for a toilet in one corner.

Once a day we were allowed to exercise for a half hour, but we weren't in physical condition to de much. We had been systematically starved for 70 days while we were in Shanghai's bridge house on Oct. 15. We weren't permitted prison, before our transfer to the and that made us suspicious. An interpreter had told us that We had our second court-martial

their own graves

That morning we

saw some fellow:

walking around

when prisoners were to be exe-

Extension Heads Hold Meeting

Officers from 19 Marion county home extension units met Fri- spades and we day in the auditorium of the wondered if our Portland Gas and Coke company, number had come The purpose of this meeting was up.

to install unit officers and new It was a gray, county committee members, give foggy day, about training in conducting business 9 o'clock that meetings and make plans for the morning a squad Capt. Hite

bers were hostesses and install- cells one by one. ed officers. Mrs. Floyd Fox, president of

onstration leader from Corvallis, was a guest. During the morning session she led a group discussion for chairmen and vicechairmen and during the afternoon gave instructions in conducting a business meeting and

in parliamentary procedure. Miss Marjorie Tye, Marion county home demonstration agent, installed new members of the county committee and led a group discussion for secretaries. Singing for the day was led

by Mrs. Glenn Briedwell. Miss Eleanor Trindle, new emergency assistant for Marion county, was presented to the group.

about 50 yards away.

throughout all prison campa the missing flyers.)

Plenty of Tension When we realized that our pals Never Lost Hope weren't with us our determination

to make a fight of it if they sentenced us to death was strengthened. You could tell the guards

sensed what was in our minds. Plenty of tension was in the air. The trial didn't last more than

three minutes. There were several high-ranking Japanese officers in the tiny courtroom. They constituted the court and there were 15 or 20 guards, We lined up before the bench and looked our judges straight in the

There were a few words in Japanese, and then an interpreter began to read from a paper he held in his hands. The sweat was pouring down his face and his

cuted they were first made to dig hands trembled. He was plenty nervous.

> "For bombing and strafing school areas you have been sentenced to death," he read and then he paused.

> Every one of us crouched a little and the guards moved nervously, their hands on their swords. But in an instant the interpreter con tinued reading:

'Special Treatment'

"But through the gracious majspecial treatment." This business about bombing and

strafing school areas was an out-Though we were in separate right lie, of course. We hit our Azalea Sager, state home dem- to each other, we had all come airplane plants in Nagoya-right on the nose, and we never even to the same de-

> dict was execution we were going to try to make a break. We did not have much chance, we knew, but we might make it, and anyway we would probably get some of the Japs. It was a strange thing, but most of

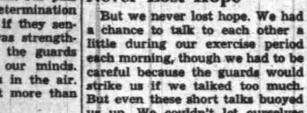
cision-if the ver-

brushes. We figured we might jab a guard in the face with a tooth-

leather jacket in the pile of cloth-

You will recall that the Japa

ing which belonged to us.



fired our machine guns.

we were wrong because word of us had trickled out-and we knew

that the Japs could stick us away

in some remote area and we might

not be found even when the Japs were licked.

us up. We couldn't let ourselves get down. A man will lose his mind quickly in solitary confinement if he loses hope.

They kept us at the civic center jall until April 17, 1943. We were hungry all of the time, though the food was a little better than at bridge house-a small amount of rice and a small bowl of soup with a few vegetables in it three times

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structed prison in Nanking, where and three months. a day. Then we were marched back On April 17, 1943 we were blind- we were again placed in solitary. (Copyright 1945 by King Festures our cells and put in solitary once folded and flown to a specially con- This was our home for two years Syndicate) more. It took a long time to realize what life imprisonment could Our lives had been spared, but we believed that nobody in the states knew our whereabouts-

Tuesday; How Lieut. Barr gave the Jap guards a boxing lesson and set the straightjacket panalty.)

ONTGOMERY WAR

PAGE ELEVEN



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coming year. Approximately 60 of guards, dressed in their best were present. The Marion county uniforms and armed with rifles spared to life imprisonment with home extension committee mem- and sabers took us out of our

Planned to Make Break the committee, presided. Mrs. cells and had no chance to talk targets-steel mills in Tokyo and

armed ourselves Sgt. Deshaser with our toothbrush to start the break



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Beta Sigma Phi To Meet Monday

only five of us-ourselves, Capt. Eta chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, international educational sorority, will meet Monday for the Meder.

Hallmark, we knew, was in bad first semi-monthly business sesshape from dysentery and had been sion of the fall at 8 o'clock in taken back to the bridge house the Cherrian room of the champrison after our first court-martial, ber of commerce.

Miss Hazel Shutt, the new while we were kept in the civic president, will take over her center prison.

duties from the retiring presi-**Two More Missing** dent, Miss Hattie Bratzel.

Cabinet officers are Miss Ethel But where were Lieut. Farrow Redden, vice president; and Sgt. Spatz? We recalled that Mrs. we had heard cell doors opening Paul Nelson, treasurer; Mrs. Leanerd Nesseth, recording sec- the night before-Oct. 14-and retary, and Miss Tina Duerksen, heard men marching. They could corresponding secretary. Social have been Farrow and Spatz, who affairs will be under the direc- had been exercising with us regution of Mrs. F. Alan Wright, and larly. But they weren't present publicity, Miss Nyla Phillips. now. We don't know what has become

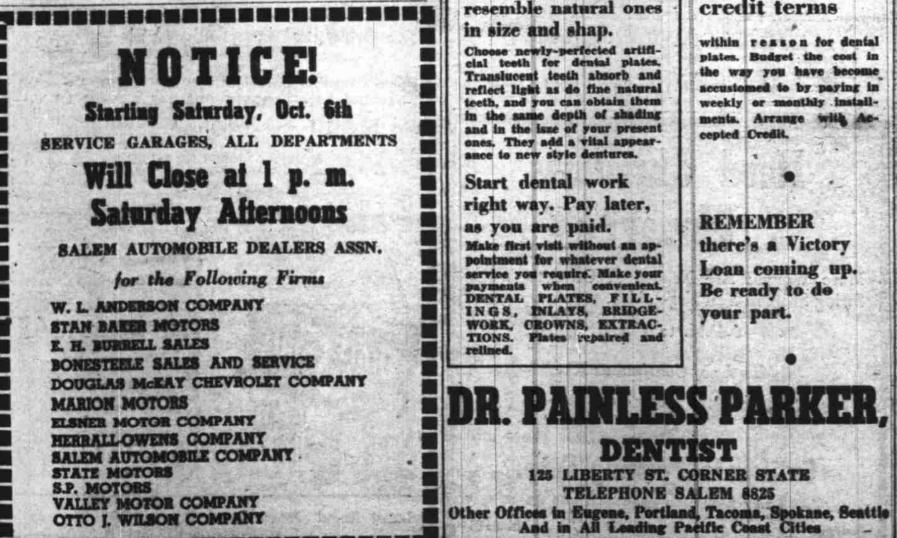
Mrs. J. A. Wiltsey will continue as director.

of our three companions. We have Plans for expanding the chap- never heard from, or of, them. ter's postwar charitable and so- But nearly three years later when cial activities will be the main we were liberated at Peiping one topic for discussion Monday and of us (Sgt. De Shazer) was given committees will be announced. Lieut. Farrow's wrist watch by mistake and we saw Sgt. Spatz'

Parochial School Opens Week Late

announced some of the Doolittle flyers were executed. Perhaps that SILVERTON - Opening of St. Paul's parochial school, which was was the fate of three swell guyspostponed from September 17, Dean Hallmark of Dallas, Tex., will be Monday for the regular Bill Farrow of Darlington, S. C., class assignments, Father John and Harold Spatz, of Leboe, Kan-

Walsh has announced. Postpone-(Editor's note: The war department was due to the seasonal work with which the pupils were as ment stated in Washington that an intensive hunt is underway sisting.



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