

ed Prisoners Describe Jap Brutality

Three Filipino and three American soldiers were buried while still alive.

March Resumed

The following day those who survived were given their first food—a mess-kit of rice. But they were kept in the tortuous sun another full day. The march resumed at nightfall and continued without water until the dawn of April 14, with one two-hour interval when the prisoners sat at the roadside.

Sometimes they were forced to march swiftly, with the Japs pacing them on bicycles. Other times they shuffled along slowly.

Filipino civilians who tried to throw food or cigarettes to the soldiers were beaten.

A U. S. army colonel pointed to cans of salmon in Japanese food stores at the roadside and asked some for his men. A Japanese officer picked up a can and hit the colonel in the face with it, cutting his cheek open. Another colonel and a Filipino put three American soldiers, who had collapsed, in a cart. The Japs horsewhipped all five fiercely.

Many wells were near the roadside.

"Half crazed with thirst," Dyess related, "six Filipino soldiers made a dash for one of the wells. All were killed. As we passed Lubao we marched by a Filipino soldier gutted and hanging over a barbed wire fence."

Bayonets Used

The night of April 14 was spent in another bullpen at San Fernando with no room to lie down. Japanese soldiers charged the compound with bayonets to terrorize the prisoners.

"Before daylight on April 15 we were marched out and 115 of us were packed into a small narrow-gauge box car," Dyess said. "The doors were closed and locked. Movement was impossible. Many of the prisoners were suffering from diarrhea and dysentery. The heat and stench were unbearable. We all wondered if we would get out of the boxcar alive."

At Capatiz Tarlac the prisoners were taken out and received three more hours of sun treatment. Then they were marched to Camp O'Donnell, under construction, which was surrounded with barb wire and high towers with separate, inner compounds of wire. On this march the Japs permitted the stronger to carry the weaker.

Dyess made the 85 mile march in six days on one mess-kit of rice. Some made it in 12 days without any food whatever.

Prisoners taken on Corregidor, including Comdr. McCoy and Col. Mellink, experienced no such death march. But 7,000 Americans and 5,000 Filipinos were concentrated in a former balloon station known as the Kindley field garage area, a square of concrete about 100 yards each way with one side extending into the water of the bay.

No Food Offered

The 12,000, included walking wounded, were kept on this concrete floor without food for a week.

"There was only one water spigot for the men and a 12 hour wait to fill a canteen was the usual rule," the report said. "After seven days the men received their first ration—one mess-kit of rice and a can of sardines."

On May 23 the prisoners were taken by barges to Manila. They were forced to jump, overboard several hundred yards from the beach and wade ashore.

"We were marched through Manila presenting the worst appearance possible—wet, bedraggled, hungry, thirsty and many so weak from illness, they could hardly stand," Mellink reported.

McCoy said the Japanese had intended this as a triumphal victory parade which failed because of the friendliness of the Filipino civilians.

During the march the heat was terrific. The weak stumbled during the first mile but were cuffed back into line and made to march until they dropped. Civilians who attempted to revive the prisoners with food and water were beaten.

Sworn Statements

The joint narrative was predicated on sworn statements of the three officers based on their personal experiences and observations. The army-navy announcement said the statements had been verified by other sources.

Other Americans known to have escaped Jap prison camps in the Philippines are Maj. Michael Dobervitch, Ironton, Minn.; Maj. Austin C. Shomer, Shelbyville, Tenn.; Maj. Jack Hawkins, Roston, Tex.; and Cpl. Reid Carlos Chamberlain, El Cajone, Calif., all U. S. marines.

Col. Dyess' sworn statement said the Japanese officer commanding Camp O'Donnell delivered a speech to the American and Filipino prisoners saying they

were not prisoners of war and would not be treated as such, but were captives without rights or privileges.

Poor Water

Water facilities at Camp O'Donnell were scant. Prisoners stood in line for six to 10 hours to get a drink. They wore clothing without a change for a month and a half. Dyess had his first bath in 35 days with a gallon of water.

Rice was the principal food. Meat was issued twice in two months. About a quarter of the prisoners each received a piece an inch square. A few times they received comotes, inferior sweet potatoes. Many were too rotten for eating. Prisoners posted their own guards to prevent the starving from eating the unfit food. The intermittent potato ration was one spoonful per man. Once or twice the prisoners received a few mango leaves, a type of cow peas, a little flour to make a paste gray for the rice, and a spoonful each of coconut lard.

Dyess' diet for the 361 days he was a prisoner, was, with the exception of some American and British Red Cross food, rice and a sort of watery juice with a little paste. Some Japs operated a black market and prisoners with money could buy small cans of fish for \$5.00 each.

"It was plain and simple starvation," Dyess said. "It was difficult to look at a man lying still and determine whether he was dead or alive."

No Medicine

The Japanese promised medicines but never issued them.

Once the Red Cross at Manila was allowed to bring in quinine but the Japanese did not issue enough to cure 10 cases of malaria. And there were thousands of cases.

Sick and starving were forced to join labor details. Many men did not return from work. Only about 20 out of every 200 were able to work by May 1. Many died in the barracks overnight.

Around June 1 American prisoners at Camp O'Donnell were moved to the Cabanatuan concentration camp in Luzon. There Dyess joined Mellink and McCoy.

Cabanatuan represented a slight improvement. Drinking water was adequate and muddy wells provided bathing. But Japanese brutality continued.

As at Camp O'Donnell rice was the principal diet at Cabanatuan. Once the Japanese issued three chickens for 500 men; another time 50 eggs for 500 men. Then their propaganda told the world how the prisoners were being fed chickens and eggs.

Private Beaten

Officers were not obliged to work at Cabanatuan but could volunteer, which Dyess did. He witnessed such scenes as these:

"Once when a frail American private was not digging a ditch to suit his guard, the guard grabbed the shovel and beat him across the back. The boy had to be sent to the hospital. One Jap carried a golf club and beat the men working for him the way one wouldn't beat a horse. When two Americans were caught getting food from a Filipino they were beaten unmercifully. After a doctor had dressed their wounds, the Japs took sticks and beat them again."

Comdr. McCoy reported that two American army officers and a navy officer attempted to escape from Cabanatuan, which was thickly ringed with barbed wire and machine gun emplacements and towers outside the wire. The officers were caught moving down a drain ditch to get under the wire.

"Their Japanese captors beat them about the feet and legs till they could no longer stand, then kicked them and jumped on them. The next morning the three Americans, stripped to their shorts, were taken out on the road in full view of the camp, their hands were tied behind them and they were pulled up by ropes from overhead perches so that they had to remain standing, but bent forward to relieve the pressure on their arms."

Kept in Sun

"They were kept in this position in the blazing sun for two full days. Periodically the Japanese beat them with a two-by-four and any Filipino unlucky enough to pass that way was compelled to beat them too. If he failed to beat them hard enough, the Japs beat him. After two days of this, one of the officers was beheaded and the other two were shot."

"The Japanese made every effort to humiliate the prisoners. They would force them to stand while they called them vile names. When one older American colonel turned away from a Japanese reviling him, he was knocked unconscious with a blackjack. American flags were habitually and designedly used as rags in the Japanese kitchen."

The death rate at Cabanatuan was 30 Americans daily during June and July, more than 20 daily in August and 15 daily in September—"because by that time most of the weaker men were already dead." During October the rate ran 16 to 19 daily and was increasing when the three officers escaped. By that time 3,000 of the 12,200 army, navy and marine corps prisoners at Cabanatuan had died. Hospital patients numbered 2,500. American doctors doubted that any of them would live.

Dis of Starvation

Autopsies by both American and Japanese doctors definitely established that the chief cause of death was starvation. The Japs would allow that no food was available although there was an abundance.

Diseases caused indirectly by

RADIO BROADCASTS

- KORE (1400) FRIDAY**
- 5:30 p. m.—News
 - 5:45—Superman
 - 5:50—Treasure Island
 - 6:00—Gordon Burke
 - 6:05—Gabriel Renteria
 - 6:10—Believe It or Not
 - 6:15—Double or Nothing
 - 6:20—Dale Carnegie
 - 6:25—Fishing News
 - 6:30—Lone Ranger
 - 6:35—News Headlines
 - 6:40—Top Tunes
 - 6:45—Name That Song
 - 6:50—News
 - 6:55—Treasury Salute
 - 7:00—General Barrows
 - 7:05—Julian Lewis, Jr.
 - 7:10—Presidents of Opportunity
 - 7:15—News Headlines
 - 7:20—King's Orchestra
- KGW (630) FRIDAY**
- 6:00 p. m.—OK for Release
 - 6:15—How Do You Do It?
 - 6:30—Day Foster
 - 6:45—Louis F. Lochner
 - 7:00—Wait Time
 - 7:15—People Are Funny
 - 7:30—Amos and Andy
 - 7:45—Jimmy Durante
 - 8:00—Fred Waring
 - 8:15—Footwear Lawton
 - 8:30—Hit Parade
 - 8:45—Vocalists
 - 9:00—Musical Intermitt
 - 9:15—News
 - 9:30—Home Town News
 - 9:45—Gardening for Food
 - 10:00—Voice of Nation
 - 10:15—Baltimore Orchestra
 - 10:30—War News
 - 10:45—Swing Shift
- KOIN (970) FRIDAY**
- 6:00—Galen Drake
 - 6:15—Red's Gang
 - 6:30—Planner's News
 - 6:45—News
 - 6:55—Bill Henry
 - 7:10—Vocalists
 - 7:25—Oregon at War
 - 7:40—Brewster, Boy
 - 7:55—Jimmy Durante
 - 8:10—Blaze Dance Canteen
 - 8:25—Mystery
 - 8:40—John Brooks, Songs
 - 8:55—Kate Smith
 - 9:10—What's Become of It?
 - 9:25—Live Star Final
 - 9:40—War News
 - 9:55—Herald Orchestra
 - 10:10—Joseph C. Harach
 - 10:25—Jimmy Durante
 - 10:40—Voice of Army
 - 10:55—Charles Organist
 - 11:10—Herald Orchestra
 - 11:25—Jones Orchestra
 - 11:40—News
 - 11:55—Music & News
- KEX (1190) FRIDAY**
- 6:00 p. m.—Terry
 - 6:15—News
 - 6:30—Jack Armstrong
 - 6:45—Captain Midnight
 - 6:55—Three Romances
 - 7:10—Studio Party
 - 7:25—Spotlight Bands
 - 7:40—Sports
 - 7:55—W. Vandevork
 - 8:10—News
- KOAC (550) FRIDAY**
- 6:00 p. m.—On Upbeat
 - 6:15—Story Time
 - 6:30—It's Oregon's War
 - 6:45—News
 - 6:55—Farm Hour
 - 7:10—Spot Markets
 - 7:25—Farm Outlook
 - 7:40—Horticulture Dept.
 - 7:55—Wake Up America
 - 8:10—Novelty
 - 8:25—Trade Winds Calling
 - 8:40—Music That Endures
 - 8:55—News
 - 9:10—Meditations
- KORE (1400) SATURDAY**
- 6:00 a. m.—News
 - 6:15—Early Bird
 - 6:30—News
 - 6:45—Evangelical Church
 - 7:00—Patriotism in Music
 - 7:15—Serenade
 - 7:30—Haven of Rest
 - 7:45—News
 - 8:00—Marching Music
 - 8:15—Crazy Chorus
 - 8:30—Hawaii to Music
 - 8:45—Hello Moon
 - 9:00—Traffic Safety
 - 9:15—Favorites Yesterday
 - 9:30—Anniversary Troop
 - 9:45—Landing in Ireland
 - 10:00—News
 - 10:15—Harmony Lane
 - 10:30—Hamilton's Orchestra
 - 10:45—Noon News
 - 11:00—P. M. P. A.
 - 11:15—War Commentary
 - 11:30—Lunchtime Concert
 - 11:45—Lighthouse Temple
 - 12:00—Traffic Safety
 - 12:15—Haleah Races
 - 12:30—Star Fields
 - 12:45—Surprise Package
 - 1:00—News
 - 1:15—Cowboy Serenade
 - 1:30—Hawaii Call
 - 1:45—Nick Carter
 - 2:00—Flicking High
- KOAC (550) SATURDAY**
- 6:00 a. m.—News
 - 6:15—Commuter's Hour
 - 6:30—Concert Hall
 - 6:45—News
 - 6:55—Farm Hour
 - 7:10—Spot Markets
 - 7:25—Bulletin Board
 - 7:40—Hawaii Call
 - 7:55—Ridin' Range
 - 8:10—Treasury Salute
 - 8:25—Variety Time
 - 8:40—Hawaii Call
 - 8:55—America Marches
 - 9:10—Memory Book
 - 9:25—News
 - 9:40—Music of Masters
 - 9:55—Traffic Safety Quiz
 - 10:10—Star Parade
 - 10:25—Studio Party
- KEX (1190) SATURDAY**
- 6:00 p. m.—Studio Clock
 - 6:15—Farm and Home

War Bond Premiere

Features Comic Team

"What a Woman!" Columbia's comedy about a high-pressure artist's representative starring Rosalind Russell and Brian Aherne will be shown next Wednesday night at 8:45 at the Heilig theater. The performance will be open to all who buy bonds this week or early next at theaters, banks, or post office, and obtain tickets which will be available at these issuing agencies.

(The war bond feature at the same hour, at the McDonald theater, will be "The Desert Song," starring Irene Manning and Dennis Morgan.)

"What a Woman!" is said to be the merriest vehicle in which Miss Russell and Aherne have appeared, including "My Sister Eileen." Others in the cast are Willard Parker, new "he-man" screen sensation, Alan Dinehard, Ann Savage, and Grady Sutton.

4-H Insignia Offered

A 4-H club insignia, to be worn on a shirt or dress pocket or sleeve, is being offered by E. A. Danielson, county club leader, to all club members completing by April 29 all 4-H work started during the school year, with the exception of livestock, canning, and other summer projects.

The insignia is made of white cloth and is three inches long by three quarters of an inch wide. On it is printed the four Hs on the customary leaf and "4-H Club, Lane County."

The club leader, in sending out a letter to club members regarding the insignia, says:

"It can be yours by completing by April 29 all 4-H work started during the school year (with the exception of livestock, garden, canning, and other summer projects), providing you also turn in a creditable record book. If you are also enrolled in livestock, garden, canning, etc., you are only required to have these records up-to-date on April 29. If you are enrolled in livestock, garden, canning, or other summer projects,

you are eligible for this award next fall, regardless of whether you will receive one on April 29. However, unless excused for illness or moving, you must also complete all other 4-H work started during the club year.

"Time of making the award: On April 29 all completed record books should be sent to the 4-H club office. (Earlier if all reports for the club are in.) Starting May 1, insignias will be mailed in the order in which record books are received in the office. Club members completing after April 29 will receive the achievement pin or certificate, but will not receive the insignia."

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T-N-T-TERRIFIC!
and Mrs. L. L. Ray, who worked on the Register-Guard and is now with the Astorian-Budget, has her picture in Film Daily this week. In the recent poll of 438 movie editors, conducted by the daily to select the ten best pictures of last year, she was one of the 18 who picked nine of the winners.

Bulldozer Not Best Potato Cultivator

Claiming that the defendant entered a tract of land they had rented and destroyed their crop of potatoes by running a bulldozer over the ground Donald A. Kendall and Floyd Koch have started suit in circuit court against George R. Vehrs for \$250 damages.

The plaintiffs say in their complaint that they were in possession as tenants of an acre and a quarter of land in section 17, township 18, south of range 3 west, when on November 22, 1943, the defendant entered the premises with a bulldozer and eradicated their crop.

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KORE
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Dial

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Fare**
By Glenn Hasselrooth

It Is Alleged:

A STAR IS COMING

Victor Mature, who agrees with us that he is Hollywood's most famous hunk of ham, will visit Eugene soon on behalf of the state war bond committee. His last picture was "Seven Days' Leave." He enlisted in the coast guard in 1942, became chief boatswain's mate while on a year's convoy duty.

Arrangements for Mature's appearance here will be made shortly by Zollic Volchok, former Eugenean, representing special events programs for the Oregon war finance committee and the Oregon group of the Hollywood victory committees, and Willard Woodburn, chief boatswain's mate of the coast guard.

On the basis of his feminine following alone, Mature is the outstanding screen personality yet offered Eugene by the treasury department. If he autographed pictures for each bond he sold, he would draw a mob of women.

And although the communique we received from the bond front is official, don't take it too seriously. Personalities on such tours are changed more frequently than food-point values. We, personally, don't intend to believe it until we hear the star say something complimentary about himself and know that, for sure, it is Mow-em down Mature.

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