

DOWNED AIRMEN SNATCHED FROM JAPANESE GRASP

One Plane, Thousands of
Rounds of Ammunition
Expended to Save Man.

By Francis McCarthy
United Press War Correspondent

Aboard Flagship Seventh Amphibious Force Off Morotai, Sept. 16—(U.P.)—The American navy has just spent one fighter plane and thousands of rounds of ammunition in the dramatic rescue of Ensign H. A. Thompson, pilot of a carrier-based Wildcat downed by enemy ack-ack who floated more than 10 hours inside enemy-controlled Wasile bay before repeated attempts to recover him were successful.

He was tossed at one point to within 70 yards of a shoreline bristling with enemy guns trying to ward off American fighters and draw a bead on Thompson. He was under almost incessant small-arms fire and anti-aircraft fire, but due to all-day protection from the air by his "buddies," he has been brought aboard in surprisingly good condition.

Play By Play

Here is the "play by play":
6:55 a. m.—Ack-ack downed Thompson's Hellcat two miles offshore.

7:28 a. m.—A Catalina was en route for the rescue.

9:45 a. m.—Hellcats covered the Catalina's attempts to land; intense anti-aircraft fire prevented the airborne rescue; Thompson was drifting shoreward under heavy Japanese fire.

10:30 a. m.—Thompson clambered aboard a raft dropped by a fighter 70 yards offshore; Japanese riflemen on the beach attempted to shoot him; fighters strafed the beach driving the enemy into the jungle.

12 noon—Thompson floated into a jetty and fighters strafed the approaches thereto; two Nip barges attempted to capture Thompson—fighters sank the first and set the second afire, forcing its withdrawal.

2:30 p. m.—Thompson paddled behind the bulk of a sunken barge, protecting himself from shore fire.

3:15 p. m.—Two P-T boats which forced an entrance into the bay were driven out by five-inch coastal guns.

4 p. m.—Navy medium bombers hit gun emplacements; P-T's again forced their way into the bay.

4:30 p. m.—P-T's were unable to locate Thompson; fighters circled his hiding place, unable to communicate with the P-T's because their radios were damaged by shore fire concussion.

7:15 p. m.—P-T's were ordered to withdraw from the harbor because of darkness and fear of their capture. The P-T's asked for a repeat of the order. The P-T's triumphantly interrupted the repeat:

"Thompson recovered."

During the 10-hour rescue attempts one fighter was downed, but its pilot was saved. Another was damaged. In addition to the ammunition used protecting Thompson, the navy tied up its Hellcats, Catalinas and destroyers the entire day.

Moral: The navy takes care of its own.

Daily Weather Report

Medford and vicinity: Increasing cloudiness tonight and Wednesday. Continued mild.
Oregon: Increasing cloudiness with light rain in northwest portions tonight and in remainder of state Wednesday. Little change in temperature.

Total Data
Temperature a year ago today:
Highest 89, lowest 40.
Total monthly precipitation, 3.1 inch.
Total precipitation since September 1, 1944, 1.45 inch. Deficiency for the season, 3.1 inch.

Relative humidity at 4:30 p. m. yesterday, 24%; 4:30 a. m. today 87%.

Tomorrow			
Forecast	High	Low	Wind
Boise	58	37	
Boston	63	33	
Chicago	69	43	
Denver	69	44	
Eureka	59	49	
Hayward	61	34	
Los Angeles	72	37	
Medford	72	40	
New York	72	64	83
Omaha	70	62	72
Phoenix	64	68	
Portland	71	44	
Reno	69	37	
Roseburg	65	35	
Salt Lake	57	43	
San Francisco	69	48	
Seattle	67	44	
Spokane	67	44	
Washington D. C.	71	44	
Yakima	69	36	

Closing time for Classified ads 9 a. m.—Too Late to Classify, 12:30 p. m.

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Legion Chief Doubles as Chef



(Acme Telephoto)
American Legion National Comdr. Warren, Atherton of Stockton, Calif., helps prepare part of 10 tons of fried chicken that Legion will serve servicemen centers during the Legion's national convention in Chicago Sept. 18 to 20.

Cary Grant In Wednesday Hit



Starting tomorrow at the Crater Hotel, Cary Grant in "Once Upon a Time," with Janet Blair.

In Holly Role



Starting today at the Holly is the romantic story of the Yukon, "Klondike Kate," starring Ann Savage and Tom Neal. Playing in the companion feature, Alice Faye has the leading role with Carmen Miranda in "The Gang's All Here."

Major Burdick of Ashland to Resume Dental Practice

Ashland, Sept. 18—Major R. L. Burdick and Mrs. Burdick arrived home Sunday.

Under a new army ruling, Major Burdick, along with a number of other dentists, have been released to return to their homes, but are still on reserve.

He enlisted in July, 1941, as a reserve officer and joined the 40th division, U. S. A., and saw duty in Hawaii and in the Solomons.

He returned to the States in May of this year and was a patient at the Birmingham General hospital at Van Nuys. After his recovery he was on duty at the Hoff General hospital at Santa Barbara.

Major Burdick expects to resume practice in October or as soon as his former offices are vacated.

LLOYD'S ALLEY BURNS
Santa Monica Cal., Sept. 18—(U.P.)—Defective wiring today was blamed for a \$75,000 blaze which last night destroyed Lloyd's swank bowling alley in Santa Monica. Flames galled the two-story building sweeping through the luxurious cocktail lounge, cafe coffee shop and business office.

Use Mail Tribune Want Ads.

LOW WEEKLY RATES AT CRATER HOTEL

Across From Craterian Theatre — Phone 4174
SINGLE \$4.50 to \$6
DOUBLE \$7.50 to \$12
New 5000 sq. ft. Inner Spring Mattresses — Free Showers — Clean Rooms

SILVER STAR FOR PRIVATE MILLER OF SAMS VALLEY

Pvt. Walter Lewis (Duke) Miller, 22, of Sams Valley, has been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action according to a letter recently received by the soldier's wife, who resides in Medford at 334 Apple street. The action which resulted in Pvt. Miller receiving the award took place in New Guinea in July, but further details were censored from the private's letter.

The letter stated that Pvt. Miller had been wounded during the battle, his hands having been so badly injured that it was necessary to cut off his wedding ring, but that he was recovering and would possibly be able to return home soon.

Pvt. Miller has been overseas 14 months, having been stationed in Australia before being sent to New Guinea. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Miller, Sr., of Sams Valley.

Grants Pass Man Dies Suddenly On Fishing Holiday

Grants Pass, Sept. 19—Joseph Ivan Boesch, 46, died suddenly of a heart attack about 3:15 p. m. Sunday while on a fishing trip below Hellgate bridge, at Windy Point. Mr. Boesch had been employed by school district No. 7, since August, 1935, as head of the transportation system.

With Mr. Boesch on the fishing trip was C. A. McMurdo, a member of the faculty of Grants Pass high school.

The two drove to Hellgate in the McMurdo car and walked down the path on the north bank, one-half mile to the river. Upon Boesch's saying that he was tired, McMurdo suggested that they rest on the river bank and return home. Boesch insisted that he felt fine, only slightly tired, so the two set up their poles.

Mr. Boesch walked on down the bank to a place he had selected, just around a bend from where McMurdo entered the river. A short time later, as McMurdo rounded the bend of the bank, he saw what he thought was a coat lying over a rock at the water's edge, he told Coroner Hull, fishing closer, he realized it was Boesch, so called to him. Getting no answer, he hurried to the spot and found him dead.

41,000 Oregonians In Armed Service File Ballot Pleas

Salem, Ore., Sept. 19—(U.P.)—More than 41,000 applications for servicemen's absentee ballots have been received by the elections division of the secretary of state's office here, and election officials today predicted that more than 50,000 will be received.

About a third of the applications are from overseas. Ballots will be mailed out starting the

44th day before election.

County clerks have been notified that the Sept. 20 assembly of the prohibition party will probably qualify it for a place on the ballot.

The state ballot, already in type in many counties, will be revised to comply with the secretary of state's final certification. Tentative certification has been made of the ballot as it now stands, but it will be changed as necessary.

Closing time for Sunday Too Late to Classify 5:30 Saturday afternoon—Please remember.

Use Mail Tribune Want Ads.



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"Custom" Blended for those who can afford the finest, this superlative whiskey is so rare...so smooth...so mellow...that it has never been produced except

in limited quantities. For years the most expensive whiskey blended in America...each bottle is individually numbered and registered at the distillery by Calvert.

Lord Calvert is a "Custom" Blended Whiskey, 88.8 Proof, 65% Grain Neutral Spirits. Calvert Distillers Corp., N.Y.C.

Things you may not know about a busy western neighbor

Southern Pacific has been a part of western life for three quarters of a century. We've had our share of brickbats, and we've had our share of praise. Mostly we've been taken pretty much for granted, like the paper boy or the milkman.

Since Pearl Harbor, though, people generally have regarded Southern Pacific and the other railroads with new understanding and appreciation. Now, when the chips are down, they seem to realize how indispensable the railroads really are.

Because of Southern Pacific's strategic location in relation to the war against Japan, we have been called upon to carry an enormous westbound burden. In addition, we are handling vast quantities of raw materials and finished products of greatly expanded western industries, plus an abnormally large east-bound movement of foodstuffs.

The six facts below may help explain the unprecedented burden we are carrying, and why our service to civilians is not as good as we'd like it to be:



1 In freight and passenger volume, Southern Pacific is the third largest railroad in America. Only the Pennsylvania and New York Central are carrying a bigger load than Southern Pacific.



2 Southern Pacific's 15,000 miles of line (more than any other United States railroad) are predominately single track, requiring the most accurate and exacting kind of railroading.



3 Southern Pacific serves more military and naval establishments than any other railroad in the U. S. From New Orleans to Portland an endless chain of air bases and encampments adjoins our line.



4 We serve more military meals to personnel of the armed forces than any other two U. S. railroads combined. And, of course, service men and women have first call on our restricted ration points.



5 Southern Pacific crosses innumerable mountain ranges, and has to climb more major summits than any other U. S. railroad. It takes more locomotives to pull trains up steep mountain grades.



6 Southern Pacific has the main north and south line along the Pacific Coast, serving the principal ports of embarkation from San Diego to Portland. Naturally, troop trains must come first with us.

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