

Houston Survivors Tell Of Treatment As Jap Captives

By Walter Rundle
United Press Correspondent
Calcutta, Sept. 7.—Survivors, long given up for dead revealed today that the American cruiser Houston, which vanished without trace after the battle of the Java Sea, was sunk in flames by a Japanese task force off the Java coast with a loss of 644 of her 1,012-man crew.

Of 368 survivors who reached Java's beaches and were captured by the Japanese, 220 were sent to Burma where 69 died along with 82 other American and 20,000 allied prisoners of war laboring in the steaming sun on construction of the Burma-Thailand railroad.

Others Still Missing
The remainder of those rescued from the Houston were sent to Japan as "technicians" haven't been heard from since.

The Houston group of survivors and members of the 131st Texas (national guard) field artillery battalion—also captured on Java—were flown into Calcutta from Thailand yesterday. Most were gaunt and hollow-eyed and suffering from malnutrition.

One out of every four of the 475 American soldiers and sailors working on the railway project died. One officer estimated that the 131st, which was only one week out of Pearl Harbor when the Japanese struck, had left one-fourth of its 256 survivors buried beside the deep cuts and steep grades of the railway.

Cruelties Told
Over 100 of those already rescued from both outfits pieced together a story of beatings, starvation and bad treatment which rivaled the worst horrors of Bataan.

They were fed a starvation diet of two meals a day consisting of rice supplemented occasionally by meat, or thin soup made from boiled radishes. Some men were driven to eating rats, snakes, cats and dogs.

They were made to work with pick and shovel in a broiling heat from 10 to 20 hours a day. They had to lug huge timbers great distances on their bare shoulders.

The Japanese guards were always there to beat them with rifle butts, bamboo staves, fists or heels, for the slightest infraction of innumerable rules.

Painful ulcers of the sick were deliberately kicked, and others half-crazed with malaria were forced to keep working. When they collapsed and could no longer work, they were denied any food.

Courthouse News

Justice Court
Harold G. Johnson, driver axle overload, \$10.75 and costs.
Pete A. Adams, failure to transfer title, \$1 and costs.
Dale P. Newtown, no vehicle license, \$1 and costs; no operator's license, \$1 and costs.
Allan E. Bunnell, no tall light, \$1 and costs.
Frank T. Arnold and Leon C. Taylor, conducting business of plumbing without registration, \$1 and costs each.
Jim H. Jenks, driver axle overload, cited.
Harold A. Allen, angling without license, \$25 and costs.

Police Court
Sylvania R. Garcia and George Howe, drunk, released on \$5 bail.
Dillard A. Ramsey, drunk, five days jail, suspended.

Divorce Complaints
Helen P. Albright vs. Gerald R. Albright.
Wallace Edward Cunningham vs. Irma Zelma Cunningham.

Divorce Decree
Rhea Favor vs. Daniel W. Favor.
Clay Elmore Higgins vs. June Elizabeth Higgins.
Ettie Barry Pair vs. E. J. Pair.
Owens Valley Plute Indians claim to have been overlords of the region from the dawn of tribal existence until the coming of the whites.

TOTAL CASUALTY LIST DROPS 547 OVER PAST WEEK

Washington, Sept. 7.—(U.P.)—U. S. combat casualties of World War II were computed at 1,070,452 today.

This was a drop of 547 from the total computed a week ago. Navy casualty totals increased by 150 during the week, but army totals were reduced by 697 due to readjustments in the missing category.

It was the second consecutive week the army figure has dropped instead of increasing. The total included 256,996 dead, 651,261 wounded, 39,923 missing and 123,272 prisoners of war.

The army total of 922,587 included 27,976 missing, a decrease of about 3,500 in this category during the past week.

The casualty table:
Killed 292,378
Wounded 651,261
Missing 39,923
Prisoners 123,272
Total 1,070,452

Of the army wounded, 358,880 have returned to duty. Of the army prisoners, 97,773 have been liberated.

New Jap Carrier Had Brief Career

U. S. Field Hospital, Yokohama, Sept. 7.—(U.P.)—A brand new Japanese aircraft carrier had scarcely left the ways during launching ceremonies in the middle of 1942 when it was torpedoed and sunk by an American submarine, American prisoners of war said today.

Japanese standing by to wave flags at the "joyful launching" nearly went mad when the carrier was sunk, the prisoners said. Some of the men said they had been working at nearby docks during the launching.

Riverside Market Reopens After Fire

The Riverside Market, which was badly damaged by fire two months ago, has reopened with a complete new stock of foods. The interior has been painted white offering a bright new background for the merchandise.

This week also marks the ninth anniversary of the founding of the store, according to Charles Bateman, owner.

Closing time for Sunday Too Late to Classify 4:00 Saturday afternoon. Please remember.

Closing time for Classified Ads 8:30 a. m.—Too Late to Classify 12:15 p. m.

OBITUARY

WILLIAM F. PUHL
Services for William F. Puhl, Gold Hill, who passed away in Grants Pass Thursday, will be held in the Conger-Morris Chapel at 1:30 p. m. Tuesday with the Rev. D. E. Millard officiating. Interment will be in Siskiyou Memorial Park. The Eagles Lodge, Medford, and the Gold Hill Grange, will participate in the services as he was a charter member of both organizations.

He was born in Germany on July 27, 1889, coming to the U. S. when 19 years old. For the past 40 years he had made his home in the Gold Hill community.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Carrie Puhl, Gold Hill; four children, Fred and Kenneth Puhl, Chicago; Louis, of Helena, Mont., and Mrs. Gretchen I. Schnieder, Seattle; two stepdaughters, Mrs. Bonita A. Kesterson, Klamath Falls, and Mrs. Hulda L. Avena, Sacramento, also seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

PATRICK M. MCCOY
Patrick Michael McCoy, 54, passed away in a local hospital at 4:30 p. m. yesterday. He was stricken with a heart attack at Central Point at 10:30 a. m. and brought to Medford in the Conger-Morris ambulance. He died without regaining consciousness. The body is at the Conger-Morris Funeral Parlor and the coroner is attempting to locate relatives.

Daily Weather Report

FORECASTS
Medford and vicinity: Clear tonight and Saturday. Slowly rising temperature.

LOCAL DATA
Temperature a year ago today: Highest 100; lowest 52.
Total monthly precipitation .04 inches.
Deficiency for the month .03 inches.
Total precipitation since September 1, 1945 .04 inches.
Deficiency for the season: .03 inches.

Relative humidity at 5:30 p. m. yesterday 24%; 5:30 today 85%.

Sunrise 6:44 a. m.; **sunset** 7:33 p. m.
Observations Taken At 5:30 A. M., 129 Meridian Time

High	Low	Prec.
72	41	
Boston	84	68
Chicago	92	79
Denver	96	56
Kureka	64	50
Java	72	43
Los Angeles	91	64
Medford	84	67
New York	85	67
Omaha	92	67
Phoenix	110	80
Portland	78	54
Reno	74	50
Roseburg	75	50
Salt Lake	70	49
San Francisco	87	58
Seattle	69	51
Spokane	72	46
Washington, D. C.	82	71
Yakima	78	42

Irrigation Season Draws to Close In Rogue River Valley

The irrigation season in the Rogue River valley now drawing to a close was successful as a whole, according to Watermaster Clinton Smith. All the main crops have been made and the water is now being used in some areas for final hay crop and pastures.

In the districts where the stream flow is low, some of the ditches have been closed. The season is scheduled to end between September 25 and October 1. A sod-soaking fall rain is hoped for as pasture insurance and to keep fields green.

No estimates have yet been made on the hold-over water in the main irrigation district reservoirs, but it is figured it will not be any lower than last year.

Eskimo Pays Price In Child's Murder

Walla Walla, Sept. 7.—(U.P.)—His wife's last appeal for a stay of execution denied, Joe Bill, Eskimo sex-slayer of five-year-old Irma Irene McGough, of Seattle, died on the gallows of the state penitentiary today.

Bill claimed he killed the Seattle child "in a moment of drunken madness" April 12. In a last statement, the Eskimo said: "All I wish is that most of the young men I am leaving behind will benefit by my mistakes that I made all through my life, and especially this one. I hope to God that He forgives me."

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	1-lb. Blue Can	27c
NUCOA		25c lb.
CAMPBELL'S TOMATO SOUP	3 for	25c
TILLAMOOK CHEESE		37c lb.
SHAKER SALT	MORTON'S or LESLIE'S	3 for 25c
HUNT'S TOMATO SAUCE		3 for 23c
SUNBRITE CLEANSER		3 for 17c
SOY BEANS	No. 2 size tins	9c
WHITE ROSE BLEACH	Special Sale Saturday!	

Meats

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LAMB	LEG Fine Roasted	lb 38c	LAMB	ROAST Shoulder Cuts	lb 30c
PORK	FRESH SIDE	lb 28c	Pot Roast	BEEF Shoulder Cuts	lb 25c
STEAK	SIRLOIN T-BONE Choice	lb 35c	RABBITS	Frying Size Fancy	lb 48c
STEAKS	VEAL LOIN or SIB	lb 35c	ROASTS	VEAL Shoulder Cuts	lb 25c
Short Ribs	BEEF Fine Baked	lb 20c	BEEF	BONELESS Cut in Cubes	lb 30c

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