

ON THE HOME FRONT

MEDFORD MAIL-TRIBUNE

News From Jackson County for Men in the Armed Services

The Mail Tribune suggests you clip and mail this news roundup to a relative or friend in service.

Date.....

O. H. SWEARINGEN IS WITH SEABEES AT PACIFIC BASE

With A Seabee Detachment In The Philippines — Oris Henry Swearingen, machinist's mate, second class (Seabees) whose wife, Birdie E. Swearingen, lives at 321 West Jackson, Medford, is a member of this naval construction battalion attached to service force, Pacific fleet, which was engaged in building a huge staging area for U. S. military forces here when news of Japan's surrender was received. The battalion landed with invasion forces and fought its way through Jap snipers and mortar fire for its share in the successful Philippine conquest. The unit was on its second Pacific tour of duty when hostilities ceased. During the first 21 months overseas, the battalion personnel built a large supply and repair base on Midway island and an airfield and base in Hawaii, which remains one of the world's largest and most widely used air terminals. The second oldest organized construction battalion in the navy, the unit is in its fourth year of service.

Sgt. Orville Caster
M/Sgt. Orville Caster, whose wife, Velma Mae, resides at 326 Portland avenue, now wears a gold wreath on his right sleeve, denoting membership in an organization which recently was awarded the meritorious service unit plaque for superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks with the Fifth army in Italy. He is a motor sergeant.

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T/Sgt. Walter Bish
T/Sgt. Walter E. Bish of route 4, Medford, left the Utah ASF depot, Ogden, Utah, recently for a separation center and early release from the army.

Sergeant Bish has served four years and eleven months in the armed forces and wears the American Defense ribbon, Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman's badge and Asiatic-Pacific theater of Operations ribbon with two battle stars. He has accumulated a total of 194 points.

Capt. John Hunter
Fort Lewis, Wash.—Capt. John A. Hunter, 909 North Central avenue, Medford, Ore., arrived recently at the Fort Lewis army service forces training center for duty. It was announced by Maj. Gen. Joseph D. Patch, commanding Fort Lewis.

Bob Reynolds Sees Duty in Tokyo Bay Aboard USS Ozark

Bob C. Reynolds, SK 2/c, is aboard the USS Ozark in Tokyo Bay, according to a recent letter received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Reynolds, 36 North Peach street.

Reynolds was one of the sailors to take part in the history-making transfer of 1,000 marines and sailors at sea, the largest transfer ever attempted, the letter said. While in Tokyo Bay, Reynolds wrote that he saw several Japanese submarines flying the black flag of surrender from their conning towers. Reynolds also participated in landings on the Japanese mainland and helped evacuate prisoners of war.

A brother, Lee, who has been visiting here on furlough, will report to McCaw General hospital, Walla Walla, Wash., Sept. 24.

Hong Kong Again In British Hands

Hong Kong, Sept. 18—(U.P.)—The crown colony of Hong Kong once again functioned today as a working link in the British empire following yesterday's ceremony which saw the two Japanese participants released from jail long enough to sign the formal surrender papers.

It took 12 minutes for Maj. Gen. Umekichi Okada, Japanese army commander at Hong Kong, and Vice-Admiral Ruijako Fujita, chief of the Japanese South China fleet, to return the big seaport to Rear Admiral Cecil Halliday Jepson Harcourt, British commander-in-chief in the Hong Kong area.

SEEK BILLBOARD BAN
SEK, Ida., Sept. 18—(U.P.)—The state highway department is conducting a campaign in an effort to clear billboards off the sides of highways in the state.

ARCHDUKE FELIX OF AUSTRIA TO GIVE TALK HERE

The Archduke Felix of Austria, scion of the ancient ruling House of Hapsburg, will speak to members of the Knife and Fork Club, their ladies and immediate



Archduke Felix

members of their families at the Medford high school auditorium Tuesday night, Sept. 25, club president Rev. George R. Turney said today. The Archduke will speak on "Rebuilding Europe." He was a cadet at Wiener Neustadt, Austria's West Point, at the time of Hitler's attack and went to South America in 1943 to get additional first hand information on the world situation.

Archduke Felix is 26 years old and has experienced the most tempestuous years which have since it was first established in 1275 A. D. Since coming to America with his brother, Otto, and other members of the Hapsburg royalty, the Archduke Felix has achieved sensational success as a public speaker. His command of the English language and ability to present his subject have made him an outstanding personality of the American platform, Rev. Turney said.

62,740 Navy Men Freed Since V-J

Washington, Sept. 18—(U.P.)—The navy has released 62,740 men since Japan surrendered and plans the release of 3,000,000 by Sept. 1, 1946.

This was disclosed today by Vice Admiral Louis E. Denfeld, chief of the bureau of naval personnel in testimony before the senate military affairs committee hearing on demobilization of the armed forces.

BRONZE STAR IS GIVEN TO KIN OF LT. RALPH LAMB

A bronze star medal has been posthumously awarded to First Lt. Ralph Lamb, the medal having been sent to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Lamb, North Central avenue, recently. The decoration was forwarded through Col. John R. Young, Camp White.

Lt. Lamb, 24 at the time of his death, received the medal for an act of heroism Dec. 14, 1944, in France which resulted in his death. The citation which accompanied the medal reads "During the afternoon of Dec. 14, while our troops were attacking, radio communications between our mortar section and the company commander failed at a critical time when the battalion commander directed our mortar fire to be shifted so that troops could enter the town. Lt. Lamb went forward from the battalion observation post to the mortar observers, braving intense enemy fire, and succeeded in shifting our fire. This mission was undertaken with full knowledge of the danger and also the necessity for reaching the mortar observers. Prior to being fatally wounded, he succeeded in his mission. His actions reflect the highest traditions of the military service."

The officer attended grade school in Medford and graduated from Eagle Point high school before attending Southern Oregon College of Education. He had been a member of the local unit of the National Guard and had been in the regular army since before Pearl Harbor. He was trained and commissioned at Ft. Benning, Ga.

FUNERAL SERVICE SET FOR ASHLAND PIONEER

Ashland, Sept. 18—Funeral services for William Bugbee Penniston, 67, who passed away in a San Francisco hospital, will be held at Litwiler Funeral Home Wednesday at 1:30 p. m. Interment will be in Hagadine cemetery.

Penniston came to Ashland in 1903 and discovered the granite quarry on Neil creek while on a fishing trip in the early 1900's. He and his father operated the quarry for many years, later selling their interests.

Court Records

State Police
Ruby J. Hamton, no operator's license, cited.
Wendell A. Colby, failure to display license, cited.
Edward K. Prager, improper lights, cited.
Robert L. Radke, no operator's license, cited.
Erwin B. Mateer, violation basic rule, cited.

Police Court
Thomas Tiner and Sherman G. Riggs, drunk, released on \$10 bail.
Charles Campbell, George Christensen, George B. Doss, and Hollister C. McCay, drunk, \$10 fine.
Vern White, double parking, \$2.50 bail.

BEATEN WIFE AVENGED
San Francisco, Sept. 18—(U.P.)—A 33-year-old shipyard worker, whose beatings prompted his wife to reveal a well-kept, grisly secret to police, today awaited trial for the 10-year-old iron bar murder of Clair McFarland, Salinas sugar factory employee. Elmer Enechs confessed to the crime yesterday in the San Francisco county jail where he was serving a six-months sentence for wife beating.



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