

# American Rangers Rescue 510 Bataan Heroes in Luzon

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Indianapolis, and Capt. John J. Dugan, Boston, a Catholic.

Lt. Col. Bormann, a Presbyterian and chaplain of the 90th coast artillery, said that most of the anti-aircraft batteries on Corregidor had been knocked out by Japanese artillery firing from Bataan on the night of May 5-6.

## Launched Direct Assault

That was the night the direct Japanese assault on the fortress was launched.

The Japanese, attacking with a force of about 10,000 men, lost almost 5,000 men in the assault, but succeeded in putting 500 ashore. They obtained a foothold on the eastern end of the island, but those who were not killed were sealed off.

The invasion was repelled. Lt. Col. Bormann said, "but so many of our guns were knocked out that Gen. Wainwright decided after a four-hour fight that it was useless to continue resistance."

Gen. Wainwright was grand throughout, but he would let us more personnel die. We later learned the Japs had 60 batteries of guns and 240 howitzers on Bataan. They had pounded us for over a month.

350 Yanks Killed

"At 10 a. m. over the Voice of Freedom radio station, we sent our surrender to the Japs."

Lt. Col. Bormann placed American casualties in the final Corregidor battle at 150 men. In the entire stand on Corregidor, he said, about 250 Americans were killed. He said he knew his figures were correct because he supervised the burials.

When Corregidor fell, he said, it still had a garrison of about 15,000 of whom 7,000 were Americans and the remainder Filipino troops.

During the long months of captivity the morale of the American prisoners was kept up by listening to a radio which was built and operated secretly by Lt. William B. Gibson, who had been a radio concern representative in Manila.

He went to Corregidor as a civilian technician to aid in the operation of the Voice of Freedom transmitter.

On the morning of Corregidor's surrender he was commissioned a second lieutenant.

## Followed Progress of War

Over this radio the Americans were able to follow the progress of the war. They heard of the steady progress of MacArthur's drive northward, of the landing on Leyte and finally of the landing on Luzon.

They eagerly checked the progress of the Luzon drive but their rescue came as a surprise. According to their calculations they had not expected their deliverers for several days more.

"For many months," Lt. Col. Bormann said, "the Japs wouldn't let us bury our own dead but we could have services inside the camp. The Japs often put 20 prisoners in a common grave, dropping them in like cordwood."

All during the imprisonment the chaplains conducted regular religious services. However, they were forced to submit their sermons to the Japanese in advance for approval. And while the sermon was being delivered an interpreter stood at the chaplain's elbow to see that he did not vary from the approved text.

## Strike After Dark

The rescue of the prisoners resulted from receipt of intelligence reports which reveals the existence of the camp.

The commando column moved out of the main American lines with air cover and struck at night under the leadership of Col. Henry A. Mucci, who was awarded the distinguished service cross for his part in the operation. All other officers received the silver star and the men won the bronze star for their accomplishment.

"Those Rangers gave me more drama in 15 minutes than I expect to see in all the rest of my eventful life," said Maj. Paul R. Wing, former Hollywood photographer and father of Toby Wing, actress. He was a Jap prisoner for three years.

"Are all American soldiers like those rangers?" Wing asked. "They are superb and their timing is perfect. Those boys last night saved 510 lives because I'm certain the Japs were going to use us as hostages." Wing, who won the academy award for his photography of "The Lives of a Bengal Lancer," declared that Hollywood never produced a picture with any more dramatic climax.

Maj. Gen. Oscar W. Griswold, Milwaukee, Nev., with tears in his eyes, accepted from a small group of bedraggled Americans from Bataan the regimental flag of the gallant 80th cavalry.

This American flag, piped in gold,

had never touched the ground in three years of Japanese occupation.

As the rescue of prisoners was disclosed, American 8th army columns broke across the Pampanga river, last defense barrier before Manila.

The 8th swept on within 20 miles of the Philippines capital.

The weakness of enemy opposition to the frontal advance indicated that MacArthur would be back in his headquarters city of Manila within days, rather than weeks or months as first thought.

Meanwhile American warships entered Subic bay, barely 30 miles from Manila.

Subic bay was the one-time base of the "expedient" P-T boat squadrons that helped defend Bataan in that hopeless earlier struggle.

(A Tokyo broadcast recorded by FOC said strong American naval units in Subic bay were bombarding the northwest portion of Bataan peninsula. The units included more than 10 battleships, cruisers, destroyers and several other unidentified ships, Tokyo said.)

## Naval Base Falls

The Olongapo naval base at the head of Subic bay and Grande island at its entrance were occupied without opposition Tuesday by units of the newly-landed American 8th army.

The 38th "Indiana" division spearheaded the landing in western Luzon.

MacArthur's communique said elements of the U. S. 7th fleet already were operating from and rebuilding the base.

## WALLACE BACKERS WIN SENATE ROUND

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go into executive session to consider Wallace's nomination.

The Wallace supporters opposed the motion because their strategy was to defer action on the nomination pending enactment of the George bill to strip all lending powers from the commerce department.

The Wallace supporters in recent days had realized it would be futile to attempt to win for Wallace the multibillion lending powers that had been exercised by Jesse H. Jones as secretary of commerce.

Soon after the vote on Bailey's motion was announced, Senate Democratic Leader Barkley moved to take up the George bill. This was carried by a vote of 83 to 2.

Adoption of Barkley's motion made the George bill the senate's pending business.

However, under senate rules, a motion for an executive session call be brought up at any time and put to a vote.

Action on such a motion can be stopped only by a motion to recess or adjourn. Thus it was possible that the anti-Wallace elements might try to renew their efforts later.

The vote on Bailey's motion originally stood at 42 to 42. Under senate rules, a tie vote defeated the motion. Senator Robert A. Taft (R. O.), a Wallace opponent, then switched his vote from "aye" to "nay," a parliamentary maneuver which would have permitted him to move for reconsideration of the motion—in effect, another roll call on the motion.

Barkley, however, forestalled Taft by gaining recognition for his motion to take up the George bill.

It still was possible for a new motion to be made at any time and voted upon—to go into executive session to consider the nomination.

## JOHN LAUER NAMED TO HIGHWAY POST

John Lauer, state Republican chairman, was appointed to the state highway commission today by Governor Gates, succeeding Thomas McDonald, who resigned yesterday.

The governor also announced that Albert Wedeking, commission member, will be temporary chairman until a reorganization is effected. Mr. Lauer then probably will become chairman.

Although Mr. Lauer said he hadn't decided yet whether he would resign his G. O. P. state chairmanship, it was believed he would step down in the near future.

William Jenner, former U. S. short-term senator, has been mentioned as his successor, in event he does not accept a bid to become an assistant to Herbert Brownell, national G. O. P. committee chairman.

# SON HERE TOLD DAD WAS SAVED

"I'm Walking on Air," Oliver Says Upon Getting Good News.

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oners. They are Sgt. William O. Goldsberry, brother of Catherine L. Goldsberry, 837 Prospect st., and David J. Baugh, brother of Mrs. Cecil Witham, 1282 W. Washington st.

Word has been received on the latter two men.

Also rescued in last night's raid were S. Sgt. Floyd M. Cooney, son of Mrs. Lorena Cooney, New Castle, 1st Lt. William C. Ramme, Terre Haute Ind., and 1st Lt. Harry M. Braun of Brownsburg. All were in Camp Cabanatuan.

When Col. Oliver's wife heard in Washington that her husband was safe, it was as if she could say that she "was so excited."

## Tells of Suspense

After a while, however, she managed to find the words to tell something of the ordered suspense through which she and her family had gone since her 60-year-old husband's capture in 1942.

Only yesterday, she said, the provost marshal's office of the war department advised her to address future letters to Oliver in Japan. The war department believed he had been transferred away from the Cabanatuan prison camp on Luzon.

Mrs. Oliver now lives across the way from Walter Reed hospital, where her husband served two tours of duty as chaplain.

But the last time she saw him, she disclosed, was when the family was evacuated from the Philippines in May, 1941. They had been in Manila.

"After we left the Philippines and returned here, and the Japanese had attacked, we got a letter from him saying that he was about to go into Bataan," Mrs. Oliver said.

## Message Goes Astray

"We didn't know that he was a prisoner until six months after the fall of Bataan, because the message of notification from the war department went astray."

"During the time he was a prisoner, we got seven cards from him. The last one arrived about two weeks ago and was dated May, 1944. The first four of them described his health as poor. The later ones underlined the word 'fair.'"

The Olivers have three other children, besides the son here. David, a former Allison employee, is a fireman 1/c in the navy, now in the Pacific; John C., an ensign in the navy, and Jean, an employee in the war department.

They have seven grandchildren, only two of whom Oliver has seen.

Mrs. Oliver described her husband as a husky six footer, a good mixer and not afraid of anything. The story had reported that the Japanese put him in solitary confinement for a month because he smuggled out some notes. His wife's comment was:

"That business about his smuggling notes out of the prison camp sounds just like him."

Oliver was national chaplain of the Veterans of Foreign Wars at the time of his capture. He is a native of Atlantic Highlands, N. J. He became a chaplain on Oct. 26, 1917. He was promoted to the temporary rank of colonel in October, 1943, while a prisoner.

## Served as Ft. Harrison

The colonel was prominent in liaison work for the army and at one time served as state liaison officer. From 1932 to 1937 he was an army chaplain at Ft. Harrison and his family lived in Indianapolis at that time.

"I don't think Dad even knew he was promoted to colonel," Mr. Oliver said. "The promotion came through after he was captured."

Sgt. Cooney's mother was almost hysterical after she was informed of Cooney's rescue by American commandos. She said that Sgt. Cooney has a 7-year-old son, Bobby Gene, whom he has not seen in five years. His wife is dead.

## In Army 7 Years

The elderly mother expects her son to arrive within three weeks if he is physically able to make the trip from the Philippines. The sergeant has been in the army seven years and was serving in the Philippines when the Japs attacked Pearl Harbor.

He has two brothers, one serving in France and the other a patient in an army hospital in Florida.

Also interned in the area being liberated by the Yanks are James Edward Chestnut, 309 N. East st., apt. 5, at Los Banos camp; Pharmacist's Mate 2-c Jess Linville Jr., 301 E. North st.; Dr. George R. Hogshire, nephew of J. A. Hogshire, 922 N. Delaware st.; Cpl. Fred

Maurice, son of Mrs. Minnie Duncan, Bloomington; Pvt. Glenn B. Rigdon, son of Mrs. Bertha Rigdon, 23 S. Reichwein ave.; Vernon Booth, brother of Edgar Booth, 1187 W. 34th st., and Leon F. Atha, whose wife lives at 1702 Montclair st.; Ralph C. Koehler, son of Carl Koehler, 7805 Pendleton pike, all at camp 3, Bilbedad, Manila.

Other Indianapolis prisoners of Japan are Anna Carson, sister of Mrs. Frances C. Pence, 1130 N. Emerson ave.; James Douglas Tyson, 3546 N. Capitol ave., and the Rev. Vincent H. Gowen, 5230 Corneliuss ave., all at Camp Holmes, Baguio.

Interned at camp 4, also near Manila, are Capt. Hix Meier, son of Clifford S. Meier, 3768 N. Emerson ave., and Pvt. Joe H. Wheel, son of W. L. Wheel, 3320 Collier st.; camp 2, Davao, Capt. Raymond H. Knapp, son of John F. Knapp, 43 N. Vine st.; Lt. David Nash, whose wife lives at the Marrott hotel; Maj. Collin B. Whitehurst Jr., son of C. B. Whitehurst, 1445 N. Delaware st., and Pfc. William P. Phillips, son of Mrs. Elizabeth Phillips, 2434 N. Illinois st.

At camp 10-A and 10-C in the Philippines are Bob Stuart Seashols, brother of C. H. Seashols, 3550 Forest Manor ave., and S/Sgt. Howard I. Masses, whose wife lives at R. R. 13, Box 245.

Civilians interned in the Santo Tomas camp in the area now being liberated are Daniel Lederman, brother of Mrs. F. P. Russell, 5026 Washington blvd.; Clarence T. Waters, brother of Mrs. George R. Clifford, 3445 Madison ave.; 2926 Talbot

# I Saw Them Come Back—The Gaunt Heroes of Bataan

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survived the "March of Death" from Bataan to Camp O'Donnell. There were men who had lain in Bilbid, Manila's dank old city prison.

## Suffer From Beri-Beri

There were men who had seen their fellow American prisoners of war die—the victims of Japanese bestiality.

Many of the soldiers, sailors and marines were suffering from malnutrition, beri-beri and other diseases from the lack of food and care under the Jap prison regime.

Their liberation had come as a complete surprise. The first intimation they had of deliverance came when they heard shots, just as they were getting ready to go to bed.

At first they had no idea what was happening.

Pvt. Alfred Jolly, San Francisco,

Dwight L. Shouse, son of Mrs. E. G. Shouse, 3362 Washington blvd.; Forrest, Edith and William Myers, all of 4317 E. Washington st.; John Hughes Blair, a former Indianapolis resident; Burdette V. Ball, 1931 W. New York st.; Alonzo Greenwell, brother of Ernest Greenwell, 1634 Gerrard st.; Alice Mary Johnson, 807 E. 63d st., and William Dennis Waters, brother of Mrs. George R. Clifford, 3445 Madison ave.; 2926 Talbot

# SOVIETS 30 TO 40 MILES FROM BERLIN

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of guns already could be heard in Berlin.

From an "unimpeachable military authority" in Brussels came a report that the German government was leaving the capital, "probably for Berchtesgaden," Adolf Hitler's Bavarian home.

The Brussels informant said, however, there was no indication that Hitler himself was leaving Berlin.

Rather, he said, Hitler probably will remain in the city until the last possible moment.

Moscow dispatches also reported that Red armies had:

Completed the encirclement of Königsberg.

2. Captured five-sixths of East Prussia.

3. Spread out through the Polish corridor toward Danzig.

4. Expanded positions north and south of Breslau preparatory to a full-scale assault on the Silesian city.

The Soviet high command said the Germans ceaselessly were marching up fresh reserves and flinging them into battle without rest in a futile attempt to stem the Russian tide.

"Soviet troops are steadily advancing, routing the enemy and annihilating his units after separating them," the Russian midnight communique said.

# Hint Nazis Quit Sector of Forts

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dence that they had been abandoned for some days at least.

(A high military source in Washington interpreted lack of German resistance as a "suggestion" that the Germans had decided to abandon a large section of the Siegfried line.)

Front dispatches, however, reported bitter fighting on the approaches to the Siegfried line in the general area of Monschau.

Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' forces scored gains of half a mile to more than two miles today.

To the right of the 1st army, Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's 3d army overran four German towns.

Patton's troops broadened their front inside Germany to four and a half miles.

## French Break Threat

At the southern end of the front, the French 1st army opened a new attack in Alsace that appeared to have broken the German threat to Strasbourg.

Dispatches from Patton's front said his vanguard had thrust two and a half miles into Germany within eight miles of Prüm.

This is the biggest transport center in the border area south of Monschau.

The 3d army attack was reported gaining momentum despite a thaw and heavy rain on top of two feet of snow.

The battleground was a quagmire.

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# IN INDIANAPOLIS—EVENTS—VITALS

## EVENTS TODAY

Indiana chapter, Western section, International Association of Electrical Engineers, convention, Antlers hotel.

Medical Insurance company, Union of Indiana, convention, Claypool hotel.

## EVENTS TOMORROW

Indiana City and Town Superintendents association, convention, Lincoln hotel.

Indiana chapter, Western section, International Association of Electrical Engineers, convention, Antlers hotel.

Medical Insurance company, Union of Indiana, convention, Claypool hotel.

FBI Delta Theta, luncheon, Columbia club, noon.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

Thomas Adams, Indianapolis; Dorothy C. Blitchman, WAC, U. S. army.

Pauline C. Thompson, 3450 Winthrop; Marie A. Harris, 1681 Park.

James Owen Melton, 1146 St. Paul; Rose Anne Hollingsworth, 1418 E. Orange.

James S. West, U. S. army; Mabel Webster, 1300 Columbia.

Bessie V. Hurd, 124 E. 16th; Evelyn C. Wagman, 2518 Mars Hill.

## BIRTHS

Walter, Dorothy Menden, at 8314 E. New York, girl and boy.

Girls

Morion, Maggie Ellis, at City.

Allen, Ruth Kincaid, at Coleman.

James, Louise Hope, at Methodist.

W. M. Marguerite MacAbes, at Methodist.

Robert, Martha Tedrows, at Methodist.

Richard, Carolyn Cassell, at St. Vincent's.

Carson, Wilma Cooney, at St. Vincent's.

Virgil, Cora McGee, at St. Vincent's.

George, Leland Allen, at 1819 E. 16th.

Walter, Mary Brooks, at 1351 S. Richmond.

McKinley, Celeste Butler, at 2740 N. Oxford.

## DEATHS

Sarah M. Stuckey, 88, at 2856 N. Pennsylvania, edema of lung.

Irene M. Holt, 34, at City, pulmonary tuberculosis.

Benjamin Paulsen, 79, at 4236 College, chronic myocarditis.

Dora Bell Wallace, 67, at St. Vincent's, carcinoma.

Gertrude L. Henderson, 57, at 1446 Broadway, cardiac vascular renal.

Louis V. Sharp, 85, at 1456 N. Grant, coronary occlusion.

Bessie Thompson, 64, at 956 Looha, chronic nephritis.

Ben Helm, 48, at City, cardiac vascular.

Catherine Jane Christy, 73, at 3486 N. Talbot, acute cardiac dilatation.

Stella Palmer, 64, at Methodist, acute nephritis.

Eugene Lave, 61, at St. Vincent's, intestinal obstruction.

Eliza Ellen Kingsbury, 92, at 2238 N. Meridian, arteriosclerosis.

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