

Local Man Writes From Marianas Of Raids On Japan

The following account has been sent The Mountaineer by S-Sgt. Jack Justice of the 497th Bombardment group of raids on Tokyo, Nagoya and Osaka:

An Advanced Base in the Marianas—March 16th, 1945—Since a great amount of secrecy concerning our whereabouts has been lifted I am going to give you a brief account of the consecutive raids on the Japanese homeland. The first one was the capital. The city of Tokyo. The night of March 8th such activity was going on here in the Marianas. Everybody was waiting. Waiting for time off. Hundreds of Superfortresses were lined up for their visit to the home of the little yellow man.

Then came the take-off. It seemed those giant birds of the other world that fly so high and so far knew their job. Like some silver prehistoric monster of the past came back to earth to do a job. They were to do a job and a great one. To carry the largest load of incendiary bombs in the history of the world. Fire that a few hours later was to be released in lashing fury on the Japanese mainland. Then came the time for take-off. The first on the race down the runway was like a hecaton of flashing silver. Then others followed in great numbers. The water of the Pacific carried away the sound of racing engines. Steel props were churning the afternoon air. Then around three o'clock on the morning of March 9th, found our planes well inside the Japanese defenses.

Then the city of Tokyo was sighted. Sweeping in at low altitudes, too low for the enemy to counter-act, they struck. Then bombs began to rain from bombays. The skies of Japan became red with the fires of warehouses and industrial districts, leaping in some places as high as 1,500 feet into the sky. At anywhere from 7,000 feet up the smoke could be seen eddies, strongly in airplane cabins. The heat was intense. To anyone over here it is very interesting, for it intently tells us that the war is drawing ever closer to an end. Then on the night of March 10th, came the second phase of this aerial bombardment. Planes were put into commission. Bombs were loaded. Everything was placed in tip-top shape. Where this time

RANGERS WHO FREED JAP CAPTIVES MEET FDR



PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT GREETED twelve officers and men of the Ranger Battalion, who helped liberate 513 Allied captives from the Cabanatuan prison on Luzon, during their call at the White House. Included in the group are: Capt. Robert W. Prince, Seattle, Wash.; Lt. Melville H. Schmidt, New Orleans, La.; Sgt. Robert Anderson, Trenton, Tenn.; Sgt. Theodore Richardson, Dallas, Tex.; Sgt. William R. Butler, Cleveland, Okla.; Sgt. Harold Hard, Coldwater, Mich.; Pfc. Leland Provencher, Lynchfield, Minn.; Pfc. Charles Swain (shaking hands with the President), Beaver Dam, Wis.; Pfc. Carlton Dietzel, Pigeon, Mich.; Pfc. Leroy Myeroff, Evansville, Ind.; Sgt. Charles Brown, Chicago Heights, Ill.; and Pfc. Gilbert Cox, Enterprise, Ore. The men with four war plants in groups of four to tell of their experiences fighting the Japs. (International)

would they strike, some one asked? Then it was found that the city was to be the target for that night.

Once again those mighty planes lined up for the take-off. Every one tense. What will be the outcome of the raid? What will be the reaction of the Japanese Empire? But, nevertheless our job is bombing. So once more the earth trembled and the air vibrated with the roar of aircraft engines. Once again into the Pacific skies went the Superfortresses.

Once again vengeance rode the night wind. For American sailors lost at sea. For fellow airmen lost in planes and broken hearted mothers back home. All the boys who were dead from that fatal and cowardly act on December 7th, 1941. All this rode in the bomb racks on B-29's that night. Once more the skies of Japan were filled with scream of fire bombs racing on their way to earth to return in fire and smoke.

Then again two nights later Osaka, another of Japan's industrial cities, became the objective. Once more planes made their run and thus one of the greatest bombing raids in history was carried out. Aircraft engine factories were burned to the ground. So you see, people of the United States, your bonds and stamps are carrying the war to the enemy. We are proud of you and thank you.

Mrs. Charles L. McMillan spent Easter week-end in Atlanta with her husband who is now located there.

WINNING CONTROL OF PALAWAN



AMERICAN LIBERATION FORCES, after landing on Palawan and Lubang Islands, have gained "practical" control of the key bases on the western side of the Philippines archipelago. As soon as airfields can be whipped into shape, possession of Palawan will enable U. S. fliers to cut the shortest enemy supply line to the big oil centers at Balikpapan on Borneo's east coast, and the lifeline to Jap outposts in Celebes and other East Indies islands. In addition, American bombers can wage an unceasing war of attrition against enemy shipping which runs the supply line to Singapore and the southeast Asia war theatre. (International)

J. R. Boyd Named Director Of The Farmers Group

H. A. Osborne and Glenn Palmer Also Serving As Directors of Cooperative.

For the first time in the history of the Farmers Federation a member of a warehouse committee was appointed at an annual stockholders meeting. J. R. Boyd, of Waynesville, was appointed in that way at the general meeting in Asheville.

James G. K. McClure, president of the Farmers Federation, explained that it was not known at the time of the regular county meeting at Waynesville whether Mr. Boyd would accept such an appointment. H. A. Osborne, of Canton, was re-elected to the board of directors of the Farmers Federation at the meeting. Mr. Osborne will serve for two years; Glenn Palmer, Rt. 2, Clyde, the other director for Haywood county, was elected last year and still has another year to serve.

Principal item of business at the meeting was the authorization of 50,000 ten dollar shares or half a million dollars worth of 5% preferred stock. This stock, Mr. McClure said, will provide funds for post-war expansion and for frozen food locker plants and other marketing facilities in the Western North Carolina territory served by the Farmers Federation.

As the new stock is issued, outstanding 4% and 6% preferred stock will be called in and the new 5% will be issued in return. This will make for better equality among preferred stock holders. Mr. McClure said.

Youthful Hostess Has Party On First Birthday Anniversary

Little Mary Mae Barber, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard N. Barber, observed her first birthday anniversary on Monday afternoon with a party for some of her friends. She was assisted by her sister, Elizabeth Barber, and Ann Williamson Prevost. The Easter motif was noted in all the party appointments.

The guest list included the following: Mary Bushnell, Ann Tingen, Mariett Way Campbell, Martha Poe Neal, Lynn Kilpatrick, Bruce Quinn, Harris Prevost, LeRoy Roberson, and Thomas Stringfield Allen.

Miss Violet Graham, who is a member of the faculty of Mars Hill College, spent the Easter week-end with her sister, Miss Jewel Graham, assistant county agent.

Wins Bronze Star



MARINE CPL. JOSEPH L. PALMER, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn C. Palmer, of Crabtree, has recently been awarded the Bronze Star medal in a ceremony at the Naval Hospital, San Diego, Calif.

The award was made in recognition of his part in the evacuation of six wounded men during the battle for Saipan. The citation pointed out that Cpl. Palmer, with one officer and six other enlisted men volunteered to go forward in the face of the upbating fire to evacuate these casualties.

Mrs. Roy Martin To Have Paper At UDC Meeting

Mrs. Roy Martin will have the paper of the afternoon at the April meeting of the Haywood Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy which will be held with Mrs. Grover C. Davis tomorrow afternoon. Mrs. James R. Boyd, Jr., president, will preside. The members are asked to assemble at 3:30 o'clock as a special program has been planned.

IS GETTING UP NIGHTS GETTING YOU DOWN?

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MATINEE: Sunday 2 and 4 P. M.; Saturday 2 and 3:30 P. M.
—NIGHT SHOW: 7 and 9 P. M., Sunday Night, 8 P. M.
ADMISSION: Children Under 12 Years, 12c; Adults, 25c
Seats, 35c—TAX: On Children's Pass, 2c; Adult Pass, 5c

THURSDAY-FRIDAY — APRIL 5-6

"Winged Victory"

With Jeannie Crain and Famous Aviators.

SATURDAY — APRIL 7

"Firebrands Of Arizona"

With Smiley Burnette.

LATE SHOW — 10:30 P. M.

"Charlie Chan and Chinese Cat"

With Sidney Toler.

SUNDAY — APRIL 8

"Summer Storm"

Starring George Sanders and Lynda Darnell.

MONDAY-TUESDAY — APRIL 9-10

"Here Comes The Co-Eds"

With Abbott and Costello.

WEDNESDAY — APRIL 11

"Double Exposure"

With Chester Morris and Nancy Kelly.

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