

DUTY, HONOR, AND COUNTRY

THE LONG GRAY LINE IN THE PACIFIC

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THIS WORK IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF

**LT.COLONEL HAL CLARK
GRANBERRY**

**UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY
CLASS OF 1923**



**BORN JANUARY 4, 1898 – MERIDIAN, MISS.
DIED JANUARY 27, 1945 – OFF THE COAST OF FORMOSA
ON THE BRAZIL MARU**

**COMMANDER
2ND BATTALION
57TH INFANTRY (PS)**

DUTY, HONOR, COUNTRY

The Long Gray Line in the Pacific

This manuscript was begun to focus on a list published by the United States Military Academy, at West Point, listing “Graduates of the U S Military Academy who died as POWs in the Hands of the Japanese 1941-1945.” The list indicated codes as to the circumstances of the officer’s death, his name, rank, branch of service, West Point number, and graduating class. On the list are 158 West Point officers who were killed in action, died in prison camps, on hell ships as a result of air or submarine attack, or were just executed. Looking over the list, one is immediately struck with grief for the loss of these men and one quickly realizes the tremendous loss of talented, trained leaders. Being appointed to the Academy, surviving four arduous years of study, and graduating is quite an accomplishment. While many of the 158 listed were old hands, several having served one or more tours in the Philippines, Lieutenants Pierpont and Polla had just graduated in June, 1941. What a drastic change for a young officer, leaving the plains of West Point and a year later be a prisoner of the Japanese. Lt Alexander R Nininger, a Gainesville, Georgia native, graduated from the Academy in June 1941. He did not die as a result of being captured, but deserves mention here because of being awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions at Abucay, Bataan, on January 12, 1942. Lt Nininger was killed in action and is buried at St Dominic Parish Church Cemetery, Abucay, Bataan.

In the author’s estimation, one of the greatest inspirational speeches was given by General Douglas MacArthur on May 12, 1962, at West Point. On this occasion, he was saying farewell to the cadets. The speech is magnificent and two paragraphs are quoted here:

“The long gray line has never failed us. Were you to do so, a million ghosts in olive drab, in brown khaki, in blue and gray, would rise from their white crosses, thundering those magic words: Duty, Honor, Country.

This does not mean that you are warmongers. On the contrary, the soldier above all other people prays for peace, for he must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war. But always in our ears ring the ominous words of Plato, that wisest of all philosophers: “Only the dead have seen the end of war.”

The words, “*for he must suffer and bear the deepest wounds*” , is certainly something these 158 Officers endured in the last 1 - 5 years of their life. General MacArthur graduated first in the Class of 1903. His classmate, Colonel Paul D Bunker, is on the listing of those who died a prisoner of war. Colonel Bunker left a diary of his experiences which is quite a read. He was the only two time All American football player at West Point, winning the honor in 1901 and 1902.

Many books have been written about the American experience in the Philippines during World War II. Most of the stories are not pretty because they deal with the cruelest actions taken against helpless soldiers. Sadly, there are many of our dead scattered throughout the jungles in the Philippines, unmarked. The only accounting is “missing in action.”

Our research of this list was to determine more information about each Officer, his unit, where he was buried and/or memorialized, and any circumstances concerning his death. Of particular interest was Meridian’s own, Lt Colonel Hal C Granberry, USMA Class of 1923. During his two month command of the 2nd Battalion, 57th Infantry (PS), Colonel Granberry was awarded two Silver Stars and a Legion of Merit and was wounded twice. Many of these Officers are mentioned in the numerous books read and researched that are listed at the end of this manuscript. Finding pictures and short paragraphs about them really made them come alive, more than mere names on a page. Most were highly decorated, although many of their awards and decorations were presented posthumously after the war had ended.

Ward Calhoun
Lauderdale County
Dept of Archives & History, Inc
June 2012

SETTING THE STAGE

Just before 8:00am (Pearl Harbor time) on December 7, 1941, our world was turned upside down by the surprise attack on the American Pacific fleet moored at Pearl Harbor. The only real surprise was not if there was going to be a war, but when would it begin and where the first strike would come. The aggression of the Japanese in China and Manchuria, and the atrocities reported, had stunned the world. For the past several weeks, American stations in the Philippines and Hawaii had been on high alert, only to have nothing happen. Confusing orders had been sent out to the major commanders, causing them not only to be uneasy, but confused as to what action they were to take. We were even reading the Japanese codes, however, that all went to naught because we were unprepared and those on the firing line were kept in the dark as to the nature of the intercepted communications, particularly the commanders at Pearl Harbor. After the attack at Pearl Harbor, 2402 Americans were dead, 1282 wounded, and countless damage done to the fleet and installations. On this “day of infamy”, not only was Pearl Harbor and the Philippines attacked, the Japanese struck at Wake Island and Guam, invaded Malaya, Thailand, Burma, and seized Shanghai and Hong Kong.

It was about 03:00 hours on the morning of December 8, in the Philippines, when news of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor became known. Strangely enough, the news of the attack was sent by Fleet Headquarters in Pearl Harbor to Admiral Hart, commander of the Naval Forces in the Far East. He and General MacArthur had a long standing dislike of each other, so Admiral Hart communicated the news to his Naval Staff only. Thirty minutes later, General MacArthur heard the news from his Chief of Staff by way of a soldier who heard the news while listening to a radio station in California. It was after 5 AM before an official telegram was received from the War Department. The policy of not making “the first overt act” was out the window, however indecision reigned at MacArthur’s Headquarters. One author described MacArthur’s headquarters as being strangely paralyzed. At the time, General MacArthur didn’t know that the Japanese air attack would have come a whole lot sooner than around noon on December 8. However, the Japanese air fleet on Formosa was sitting on the runway, about 300 miles from Manila. They were grounded because of fog. This situation brings up “what if” an immediate air strike by b-17's had been launched against Formosa ? It’s possible the Japs would have experienced their own Pearl Harbor. The popular conception at the time, and part of the war plans, stipulated that if war with Japan did come, it would

be in the spring of 1942. There was still time to prepare. This theory got shot down real quick as evidenced by the destruction of the American Fleet at Pearl Harbor, and American air power in the Philippines that occurred just after noon on December 8. Requests for bombing attacks on Formosa were turned down as MacArthur was laboring under the order not to commit “the first overt act.” This brought about the destruction of the Air Force in the Philippines and eventually the surrender of Bataan and Corregidor.

After retreating into the Bataan Peninsula, the American-Philippine forces were eventually overwhelmed, not by superior forces, but by starvation. Several believed that they were not out fought, just starved into surrender. Lack of sustaining food, ammunition, and medicine (not to mention lack of air cover due to the destruction of the air force) quickly reduced a brave fighting force into sick and hungry soldiers. The promised relief never came across the horizon. As a matter of fact, there was never to be any relief as President Roosevelt had earlier decided that Germany was a greater threat and would have to be dealt with first. In fact, the Philippines were being sacrificed to buy time for America to be put on a war footing and Germany to be defeated. Relief for the Philippines was at the bottom of the priority list. In the book, “They Were Expendable”, and the movie of the same name, a member of the Motor Torpedo Squadron 3, who had previously been a cook on the USS Arizona, was day dreaming about the Arizona steaming into Manila Bay and putting the Japs on the run. Little did he know that part of the relief he was expecting was sitting on the mud in Pearl Harbor, a twisted, burning hulk. On January 11, 1942, General MacArthur sent General Wainwright, commander on Bataan, a radio message. ***“Help is on the way from the United States. Thousands of troops and hundreds of planes are being dispatched. The exact time of arrival of reinforcements is unknown...”*** Troops defending Bataan very shortly found out that they ***“had no mama, no papa, and no Uncle Sam.”***

With the surrender of the Philippines, American and Filipino soldiers were about to get a taste of what life would be like as prisoners of the Japanese. Shortly after the surrender, many of the Filipinos just faded into the landscape, put on civilian clothes, and returned to their home barrio. Many resisted the Japanese occupation and gave their lives, and many died on the Death March. The American soldier had endured many hardships, but the term “hardship” was about to take on a new meaning.

On April 3, 1942, General King, of his own volition, and knowing that continued resistance would only produce additional casualties, surrendered his forces to prevent further bloodshed. This

was the largest surrender of American forces in the history of our country. Now the victorious Japanese were presented with a problem a bit larger than anticipated. They had on their hands approximately 75,000 American and Filipino prisoners who were already half starved and had been without adequate medicine and medical treatment for months. They had to be moved to prepare for the assault on the island fortress of Corregidor.

The immediate solution was to move the prisoners out of the combat zone to Camp O'Donnell, a former Philippine Army camp constructed to hold approximately 8,000 soldiers. Transportation was a problem because O'Donnell was about 65 miles north of Mariveles, which was located at the bottom of the Bataan Peninsula. The solution to the Japanese was simple, they would march the prisoners over land. One of the ironies of the time was that the American forces destroyed motor vehicles before the surrender, denying the use of the cars and trucks to the Japanese. Moving their army towards the siege of Corregidor, no one would expect the Japanese to stop moving their troops south and begin hauling prisoners north. The Japanese Army was already behind the schedule established for the conquering of the Philippines and was being pushed by their high command to wrap up the Philippine Campaign.

The biggest quandary facing the Japanese was what to do about watering and feeding all the captives, not to mention the medical condition of many of the captives. Apparently the Japanese gave little or no thought to this vexing problem. What happened next fit into the Japanese plan for the care and welfare of their prisoners; or should we say the lack of a plan. The Japanese mind-set was that a soldier surrendered was a disgraced person and subject to be treated as a captive and not a prisoner of war under the Geneva Convention. This code really played itself out when the Allies later began invading islands held by the Japanese and saw massive banzai charges against their lines and Japanese soldiers committing suicide rather than surrendering. At this point, we need to set the record straight about the Geneva Convention. The Geneva Convention document, signed on July 27, 1929, was the document that covered the treatment of prisoners of war during World War II. Fifty three countries signed AND ratified the Convention. Yes, Japan signed the convention document, HOWEVER, they did not ratify it. This set the stage for what would be the largest atrocity ever committed against United States soldiers.

The Bataan Death March began on the morning of April 10. The Japanese began rounding up the POW's, putting them in groups of approximately 100, and prodding them along with rifle butt and bayonets. After getting soldiers in groups, the enemy began searching the prisoners for valuables

such as rings, watches, money, and weapons. Some of the Americans had picked up, off the battlefield, Japanese items for souvenirs, such as money, weapons, and flags. Many thought to throw these items away before being searched. Those that didn't quickly found out there was a price to pay for possession of Japanese memorabilia and that was death. The Japanese soldiers quickly executed those in possession of the Japanese loot.

Captain Manny Lawton, a Clemson ROTC graduate and member of the 31st Infantry, spotted Colonel John Erwin in his group and worked his way up the line to the Colonel's side. Lawton asked "***what do you think we can expect, Colonel ?***" Colonel Erwin replied "***you can anticipate the very worst.***" Just a few days later, Colonel Erwin's prophecy came true. Because of his age and physical condition, he had to drop out of the march. A guard just shot him on the side of the road. Glenn Frazier, a young soldier from Fort Deposit, Alabama, found out rather quickly about Japanese benevolence as he walked along the road. He noted that when they (American prisoners) attempted to help those who had fallen out of line, the "***Japs would start shooting at you, many men died this way.***" Water and food was sparsely distributed during the march. For the first three days, the prisoners received no food, and most of the water came from water buffalo wallows or streams beside the road which were polluted. As the heat and dust got worse, soldiers would see a mud puddle, creek, or spring and leave the column to get a drink of water. Frazier noted "***two guards waited until they got to the water and then shot them. There must have been at least 200 bodies around that well.***" PFC Blair Robinett, Company C, 803 Engineers, noted a Japanese soldier came across the road and grabbed a sick soldier and pulled him into the middle of the road and pushed him in front of an approaching tank column. Robinett thought to himself "***now we knew, if there had been any doubts before, we were in for a bad time.***" As the American and Filipino captives moved along, the local population stood in awe beside the road. Some attempted to give the captives food and water but they were quickly dealt with by being beaten or killed by the guards. Many Japanese officers had the opportunity to try out their new samurai swords on those who had fallen by the wayside.

Doctor Lester Tenney noted that a truck load of Japanese soldiers came down the road hitting the prisoners with ropes. One unfortunate soldier was caught around the neck and dragged over 100 yards before they cut him loose, the soldier never got up. Another incident noted by Doctor Tenney occurred when a Japanese officer rode up and noticed some of the prisoners with wet shirt fronts. He surmised they must have been drinking water, so the officer ordered the guards to pull out of the

group all prisoners with wet shirts. They were shot on the side of the road by the guards. The Death March began at Mariveles and ended at the rail head at San Fernando, where the surviving POW's were crammed into freight cars. How many died on this part of the March, no one knows. Estimates are that 12,000 plus of the Filipino soldiers were lost for whatever reason. American losses are estimated to be 600-650.

Upon reaching San Fernando, the prisoners were literally packed into narrow gauge 1918 model railroad box cars measuring 40 feet by 8 feet. Into 320 square feet was packed one hundred or more American and Filipino soldiers, without proper ventilation or water. It was standing room only. The box cars were constructed of metal. As the day wore on, the temperature climbed and the heat became unbearable. The temperature inside the cars soared to 150 degrees and dehydration really took a toll of the prisoners. Many died on the short train trip. When the prisoners arrived at Capas, they were unloaded and marched ten kilometers to Camp O'Donnell. The prisoners were moved into barracks with dirt or bamboo floors.

Today, Death March kilometer markers have been placed marking the route of the death march. Survivors and children of soldiers have tearfully make this march, recalling the horrors of the march.

The death toll at O'Donnell quickly rose to 40 per day and a record being set on May 29, 1942, with 50 American soldiers dying that day. O'Donnell operated seventy one days and the death toll was approximately 1500 Americans and 26,000 Filipinos. Other than executions or being beat to death, the prisoners, already in poor condition from before the surrender, continued to face increased malnutrition, disease, and untreated medical problems. The POWs, already in a desperate situation because of reduced rations before the surrender, now found that they were on less than half rations. When they were fed, the meal usually consisted of 5-600 calories per day. There was a hospital at Camp O'Donnell, however, one soldier described it as "*a place to go to die*" as there was little medicine available and the Japanese furnished none. Medical treatment was well beyond crude. With the alarming number of dead, it's no wonder that so many are still classified as "missing." Work details were sent out all over the islands and many died on those work parties. They were buried where they fell, and usually no record was made at the camp to account for their status.

In May 1942, the Japanese began moving American soldiers to Cabanatuan or Bilibid Prison in Manila, however, 1547 were left behind and died at O'Donnell. Upon arrival at Cabanatuan, the prisoners were instructed on the rules of the camp. They were all harsh, but the one that struck fear

in the hearts of the POW's was **“if you escape or try to escape, you will be shot.”** The rule was further expanded to the setting up of teams of POW's containing 10 soldiers. If any one of the team escaped, or attempted to escape, the other nine would be executed. This apparently got the attention of the prisoners, however, there were some escapes where the Japs did not execute the other nine. Senior American Officers counseled junior officers not to try to escape because of the real possibility of execution by the Japs. Those few who managed to escape and be recaptured were dealt with rather harshly, usually by being executed in front of the camp.

By December 1942, more than 2400 American soldiers had died at Cabanatuan. Lt Colonel Howard E C Breitung (USMA Class of 1923), 60th Coast Artillery, was a prisoner at Cabanatuan who escaped. Sadly, he was recaptured. After being questioned and beaten rather severely, Colonel Breitung was asked to explain his motive for escaping. He, very deliberately, explained that he wanted to locate and join a guerilla group and come back and kill the Japs. This was a bit strong for the Japanese ego, so they just took him out in the prison yard and decapitated him in front of the prisoners as an example of what they could expect. A memorial graces the site of the Cabanatuan Prison Camp. The tablets list nearly 3000 American soldiers who died at that place.

Burial at Cabanatuan, because of the extremely high death rate, was done in mass graves. The dead of that particular day were all in the same excavation, the next day's dead were placed in a new excavation. The Japanese would not allow marking graves. After the initial deaths, the captors allowed records of death to be kept by the prisoner Officer who was designated as a Graves Registration Officer. Identification of remains after the war was made more difficult because the Japanese confiscated most of the possessions of the prisoners as well as their “dog tags.” Those remains unidentified were later interred as “unknown” at the Manila American Cemetery.

As the war progressed, the tide began turning against the Japanese Empire. In the Philippines, resistance groups had sprung up all over the islands, many guerilla bands, directed by American officers who had either escaped or declined to surrender, were making their presence known. As the resistance movement's strength grew, Japanese reprisals grew stronger. Large rewards were offered for turning in guerillas, more particularly American leaders of the bands. Additional atrocities were committed against the Filipino people as whole villages were burned and the people executed when it was found that they had harbored guerillas. At least four of the West Point officers listed organized and lead guerilla bands. They were betrayed and captured. After being tortured and beat, these officers were taken out, ordered to dig their own graves, and then either shot or decapitated.

On the home islands, workers were being pressed into the military and labor was becoming scarce. By 1942, General Tojo, Prime Minister, saw the need for additional labor and issued orders to begin bringing prisoners to Japan and other areas in the Japanese Empire to help offset the labor shortage problem. There was a ready pool of workers available languishing in the prisoner of war camps. Not only was it a ready pool of labor, it was also a cheap one, you didn't have to pay a POW, and they were hardly spending much on the upkeep and feeding of those they held captive. Why not transport some to Japan and other points in the Empire. Vessels returning to Japan were ordered to transport the prisoners, including officers. This action brought on increased danger and eventual death to many of our soldiers.

The atrocities committed by the Japanese were not limited to the Philippines and American soldiers. All across Asia the Japanese Empire was responsible for hundreds of thousands of murders and executions by what ever means. To give the reader a few ideas of some examples, let us consider the following: After the capture of Wake Island by the Japanese on December 23, 1941, the military personnel were moved to POW camps in Japan or other areas such as Korea, along with several of the civilian construction workers who happened to be building emplacements and bunkers before the war began. Approximately 100 civilians were retained on the island to do construction work for the Japanese occupiers. On October 5, 1943, after a raid by carrier aircraft, Admiral Sakaibara, garrison commander, ordered the execution of the remaining construction workers because he feared an imminent invasion. One escaped and was later found hiding out. The Admiral personally executed him with his samurai sword. The Admiral was convicted of war crimes and hung on June 18, 1947. On December 14, 1944, at Palawan Island, in the Philippines, fearing imminent invasion or rescue attempts by the American Army, General Yamashita, had 150 POW's herded into bunkers on pretense of an air raid. Once in the shelters, the doors were blocked and gasoline poured on the bunkers and set afire. Those that tried to escape were machine gunned. After the war, those responsible were brought to trial, found guilty, and sentenced to death. However, they were later released in a general pardon

On Bangka Island, the Japanese machine gunned 22 Australian nurses and at Parit Sulong, Malaysia, 161 captured Australian soldiers were massacred. It is estimated that 90,000 Asian native laborers died in the building of the Burma Railroad and an additional 16,000 prisoners of war perished in the construction. The large majority of these troops were British Empire troops, although it is estimated that approximately 350 American soldiers lost their lives.

On January 9, 1945, troops commanded by General MacArthur, true to his WORD ***“I SHALL RETURN”***, came ashore on Luzon and established a beach head. Previous word had reached MacArthur’s headquarters of the massacre at Palawan. Guerilla leaders reported that there were approximately 500 remaining prisoners at Cabanatuan POW camp, mostly in poor shape. Recall that the last large shipment of prisoners to Japan for slave labor came from the population of Cabanatuan and Bilibid Prison, and that the ones taken were the healthier of all the prisoners. It was presumed that those remaining would die from starvation or disease. Now, those left behind were thought to be in greater danger because of the incident at Palawan, the Japanese were attempting to rid themselves of incriminating evidence of war crimes. It was thought by the guerillas that an immediate attempt should be made to try and save the pows before they were executed by the Japanese. At this point in time, the Japanese were in a general withdrawal and establishing a position to fight the advancing American Army in one last maniacal battle. The rescue attempt, commanded by Lt Colonel Henry Mucci (USMA Class of 1936), was a success, saving from certain death 489 American, British, and Dutch soldiers, as well as thirty three civilians. There was in existence an order issued by the Japanese War Ministry to kill all pows in the event they rebelled or escaped and turned into hostile forces. The order read: ***“Whether they are destroyed individually or in groups, and whether it is accomplished by means of mass bombing, poisonous smoke, poisons, drowning, or decapitation, dispose of them as the situation dictates. It is the aim not to allow the escape of a single one, to annihilate them all, and not to leave any trace.”***

At war’s end, our soldiers were liberated from camps all over Japan, Korea, China, and Manchuria. The picture wasn’t very pretty. Many of the soldiers had suffered such horrible treatment that they were hospitalized for months and rehiliation took months and years. Some never got over their experiences while captives of the Japanese. Many met untimely deaths because of the punishment their bodies had taken over their period of imprisonment. Post traumatic stress disorder, nightmares, and devastating memories were common place among repatriated pows. One prisoner, in an interview years after the war, noted that his three and one half years of captivity in the hands of the Japanese ***“were forever etched in his psyche.”*** His duties were at the Hiroshima Steel Plant, where they labored 12-15 hours a day. If they were fed, it was usually a tea cup of rice and a small cup of greens and water. Upon entering the military, his weight was 145 pounds. On the day he was liberated, he weighted 90 pounds. This is typical of the average pow. Seeing pictures of those liberated will make one cry at the sight.

There was another major atrocity, seldom spoken of and seldom investigated. Unit 731 was a Japanese operation that conducted medical, chemical, and biological warfare experiments on prisoners as well as civilians. The unit was based in Manchuria, under the command of Japanese army officers. Records were lost (probably destroyed to allow deniability), some captured, but not translated, and later returned to the Japanese government. The number of American pows involved is estimated at about 1500. In late 1945, General MacArthur granted immunity to members of Unit 731 in exchange for the data they had collected on their research of chemical and biological warfare. He noted that the receipt of this information was critical to our national security and was more important than prosecuting war criminals. This arrangement was kept secret for many years. There are several web sites that discuss this operation and the information is certainly an eye opener. Be prepared to read and see things that are truly unbelievable.

“MacArthur’s Escape”, written by George W Smith, is an exciting story of Lieutenant, later, Admiral John Bulkeley, USNA Class of 1933. Bulkeley was responsible for getting MacArthur from Corregidor to Mindanao. Smith noted in his 2005 book that **“to this day, the Japanese government has not admitted any cruelty, tendered any apologies, or offered any reparations for those who were forced to work as slave labor.”** You might add reparations for those whose lives were destroyed by medical experiments. It is estimated that some 10,000 died as a result of the experiments, many of those were Chinese.

Some escaped justice, however, three major characters who had a part to play in the atrocities in the Philippines, were called to the bar of justice. General Masaharu Homma, known as the Poet General and conqueror of the Philippines, was charged with Death March, Camp O’Donnell, and Cabanatuan POW Camp atrocities. His defense was that he turned the movement of the prisoners to a subordinate officer, not realizing that he actually was dealing with 75,000 prisoners rather than 25,000. The trial was controversial but the verdict was as expected, Homma was sentenced to be shot by firing squad and was executed near Manila on April 3, 1946. Despite pleas of leniency, General MacArthur was firm and would not set aside the verdict. General Yamashita, the Tiger of Malaya, and General Muto were convicted of the massacre of over 100,000 Filipinos during the fighting in Manila in February 1945. This included the massacre of Filipino guerilla leaders, plus atrocities committed in China and Singapore. Yamashita’s defense was that he had numerous command duties and wasn’t always aware of things happening in his command. This defense was struck down as a commander was found to be responsible for the acts of his subordinates. In fact,

Yamashita was convicted of crimes of omission, not taking action against subordinates who committed crimes against soldiers and civilians. Yamashita was hung on February 26, 1946 in Manila. General Muto was hung on December 23, 1948.

Staff Sergeant Clifton R Skinner, 17th Bomber Squadron, 27th Bomber Group (L), was from Meridian, Mississippi. Skinner enlisted in November 1939, graduated from tech school and was assigned to Barksdale AFB, Louisiana. He was later detached to Savannah, Georgia, and then to Chanute AFB before being assigned to the 17th Bomber Squadron in the Philippines. He married Julia Wilder, of Cuba, Alabama, on October 13, 1941. When SSgt Skinner and his squadron arrived in the Philippines in late November, 1941, their airplanes had not arrived, and the Japs arrived before the planes caught up with the squadron. By mid December, many of the pilots had been evacuated to Australia while those remaining were left to be captured by the Japanese. SSgt Skinner was one left behind. He was taken prisoner at the fall of Corregidor and ended his life at Cabanatuan on July 15, 1942. After the war, his remains were moved to Plot N, Row 5, Grave 54 at the Manila American Cemetery. His wife remarried several years later and recently passed away in Madison, Miss.



SSgt Clifton Royals Skinner
Manila American Cemetery
Manila, The Philippines

**UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY GRADUATES
DIED IN THE HANDS OF THE JAPANESE IN WORLD WAR II**

<u>CLASS YEAR</u>	<u>NUMBER DIED</u>
1903	1
1914	1
1917	1
1918	3
1919	7
1920	3
1922	2
1923	7
1924	6
1925	7
1926	3
1927	7
1928	8
1929	6
1930	8
1931	7
1932	5
1933	10
1934	8
1935	2
1936	6
1937	14
1938	16
1939	10
1940	8
1941	<u>2</u>
Total	158

THE HELL SHIPS

Being in a Japanese POW camp was certainly a horrible experience, however, things could get worse, and they did. You could be selected for a voyage bound for Japan or Korea to be used as slave labor. By the way, this was totally against the rules for treatment of prisoners of war. The selection process choose those prisoners in Cabanatuan and Bilibid Prison who were not on the verge of death and could be expected to work a while longer. Those really sick were left to their fate at the prison camp. The common name for these vessels was “hell ships”, and that’s just what they were. We will deal with only a few of these ships: the Arisan Maru, the Oryoku Maru, the Enoura Maru, the Shinyo Maru, and the Brazil Maru. All these ships had a common denominator that caused their sinking or attack. They were ordinary merchant vessels sailing under the Japanese flag, in convoy with other ships or sailing alone, and otherwise unmarked as carrying prisoners of war. One would think that the condition of the prisoners would rate the ship to be marked as a hospital ship. Given the mind set of the Japanese towards prisoners of war, the non-marking of these ships could be construed as part of the larger conspiracy to solve their prisoner problem, not to mention the destruction of evidence of the crimes that had been committed up to that point in the war. As the war began it’s final stages in Europe and the Pacific, and an Allied victory seemed virtually assured, thoughts turned to war crimes trials. The story of some of the atrocities had been set on in Washington, however, some escaped POW’s had made it back home and their stories began to leak out. In 1947, George L Curtis, a survivor of a cruise on three different hell ships, wrote a paper and made depositions for the war crime trials of several Japanese involved in the atrocities committed on the Oryoku, Enoura, and Brazil Maru. Curtis was a veteran of World War I. He came to the Philippines in 1937 as the manager of a car dealership. When the war began, he got a job as a civilian contractor installing radio equipment and was later captured on Corregidor. His story of prison camp treatment and the voyage to Japan will send chills through your body, the story is so horrible. He tells in vivid details the living conditions on the ships, the treatment of the prisoners, and the cold blooded murder of helpless soldiers who had already endured two or more years in captivity. What follows is a brief description of five of the hell ships involved in the death of the West Point Officers who were transported for slave labor.

Arisan Maru – launched June 5, 1944. 6,886 ton merchant ship, sunk by torpedo attack by the USS Shark (SS-314) on October 24, 1944, south of Hong Kong. This is speculative as the Shark was also lost during this action. On board was 1782 American soldiers plus a few Japanese civilians. Nine Americans were the only survivors. Five managed to get to the coast of China and were picked up by the Chinese and eventually reached home, four were recaptured by the Japanese. This was the largest sea disaster involving American citizens. One of the survivors wrote years later: *“each prisoner was fed about one teacup of rice twice daily and given a canteen full of dirty water once a day. Sanitary facilities consisted of four 5-gallon buckets...the heat was unbearable, hundreds went out of their minds.”*

Oryoku Maru – Built in 1937, was a 7,000 ton Japanese passenger liner before the war. Pressed into military service for troop transport and then POW transport. Loaded with 1619 American POW's, the Oryoku Maru left Manila on December 13, 1944, bound for Japan. The prisoners had been collected from Cabanatuan and Bilibid Prison for use as slave labor in the factories and mines of the Japanese. The ship was attacked on December 15 by planes from the USS Hornet at Subic Bay on the west coast of Luzon. Since the ship was unmarked, it was considered fair game. Since leaving Manila, about 100 had died of suffocation in the ship's holds, while the air attack killed nearly two hundred. The prisoners were released from the holds, ordered to swim ashore, some 2-300 yards away. During the struggle to reach the beach, the Japanese engaged in rifle and machine gun practice on the helpless prisoners. After rounding up the prisoners, the Japanese took them to an open tennis court at Olongapo Naval Base, leaving them in the sun for several days without food, water, or sanitary necessities. Then they were moved towards San Fernando. At this place 15 prisoners were in such a condition that they could not be depended on to perform labor in Japan, so they were told they were going back to Bilibid Prison for medical treatment. However, they didn't arrive, but were taken down the road, beheaded, and buried in a mass grave. After the war, Lt Junsabura Toshino was brought to justice and went to the gallows for commanding the squad that carried out this atrocity. The other prisoners were taken to board another hell ship, The Enoura Maru.

Enoura Maru – was a 6,968 ton cargo ship launched in 1944. Her first trip was to transport soldiers and horses to the Philippines. She was then dispatched to pick up the prisoners who survived the sinking of the Oryoku Maru and transport them to Formosa and Japan. Approximately 1040 American soldiers were dumped into the holds on the Enoura. However, the Japanese failed to clean the ship out after transporting their cargo. There was hardly room to lay down in the mess already in the hold. Food and water was rarely given the prisoners, and that in a dirty bucket lowered into the hold. As the death toll mounted, Lt Colonel Johnson went to the Commander of the Japanese guards and told him that the prisoners were being starved to death. At this point, the meals consisted of left overs off the guard's plates, which amounted to about a teaspoon per prisoner. The Commander remarked “ *we want you to die. Your submarines are sinking our ships. We want you to die.*” Sanitary facilities were a couple of buckets in the corners of the hold. Some of the captives were able to pick up pieces of grain off the floor that the horses didn't eat. The remaining prisoners celebrated New Years Eve on the Enoura in Takao Harbor, Formosa. On January 9, 1945, aircraft from the USS Hornet task force attacked the shipping in Takao Harbor, including the Enoura Maru, that was not marked other than having a Japanese flag on the stern. The air attack killed approximately 270 of the prisoners and wounded many more. It was during this attack that Colonel Hal Granberry, from Meridian, was wounded. On January 11, the captors cleaned out the hold, removing approximately 300 bodies to be taken ashore and buried in a mass grave. The remaining prisoners were transferred to the Brazil Maru to continue their trip to Japan and Korea. It was noted that on the voyage from the Philippines to Takao harbor, that no food was served the prisoners. At Takao Harbor they received “five moldy hardtack type biscuits.” Twenty one had been buried at sea during the short voyage.

Brazil Maru – a 5,859 ton cargo ship built in 1919. Took on the prisoners from the Enoura Maru at Takao Harbor, Formosa, and departed on January 14, 1945, for Moji, Japan. Military sources estimate that approximately 500 of the POW's died from Takao harbor to Moji, Japan. This part of the voyage was into very cold weather and snow. Lt Mel Rosen, West Point Class of 1940, noted that while in the East China Sea, “*snow was coming in the open hatch.*” He continued his story by noting that the daily death rate on the Brazil Maru ran from 20 to 40 per day. It should also be noted that on the Oryoku, Enoura, and Brazil Maru that many of the POW's had suffered wounds during the air attacks as well as when the Japs were shooting at them while they swam ashore at Subic Bay.

Also remember that medical attention for these wounds generally consisted of wrapping the wound with a dirty rag, if you had one. It was on the voyage from Takao Harbor to Japan that Colonel Granberry died of the wounds received in the previous air attack. He was unceremoniously dumped overboard.

A statement by Purser Kiyoshi Hioki, of the Brazil Maru, taken for war crimes trials, noted that at San Fernando he was instructed to prepare to take Japanese civilians and POW's aboard for transport to Japan. He informed a non-commissioned officer that they did not have adequate food to feed all those people. The ship's holds had previously been used to transport livestock to the Philippines and had not been cleaned out. As with the Enoura Maru, this mattered little to the Japanese captors. Hioki was later informed by the military that "*we have no food to load on for the likes of prisoners. They are prisoners so anything will do. Let things be.*" In his testimony, Hioki went on to state that "*I didn't see the guards take water or food to the prisoners during the voyage.*"

He also noted that 20-40 prisoners died daily. After clearing Takao Harbor on Formosa, the Brazil Maru and convoy anchored several times, hiding from Allied aircraft. About a week out of Takao Harbor, the ship's captain suggested that they put into Shanghai Harbor because of the alarming increase in the death rate of the prisoners. His suggestion fell on deaf ears and the deadly voyage continued. When all was said and done, approximately 500 (1619 started the voyage) reached Moji, Japan, on January 28, 1945. Because of the overall condition of those remaining, over one hundred died during the next week as a result of being starved to death and their medical problems not being addressed. Arrival in Japan was not a new beginning for the prisoners, only a continuation of the hell they had endured since the surrender of Bataan and Corregidor. Many died in the mines and factories in Japan and Korea before being liberated. At war's end, 271 of the original 1619 survived the treatment received at the hands of the Japanese. Putting the numbers in context, 17% of those who left Manila on December 13, 1944, arrived still living at Moji, Japan on January 28, 1945. Another interesting statistic is that the death rate associated with being a prisoner of the Japanese Empire was seven times higher than those who had been captured by the Germans or Italians during the war.

Shinyo Maru – launched in 1894 as a 2,634 ton cargo steamer. Built in Scotland for the Clan Line and named the SS Clan MacKay. The vessel was later owned by a Greek company and seized by the Japanese at Shanghai and renamed the Shinyo Maru. After picking up 750 POW's from the Davo Prison Camp on Mindanao, the Shinyo Maru was attacked by the USS Paddle (SS-263). On board were American, Filipino, and Dutch captives. After the ship was hit by the torpedoes, Japanese guards began shooting the prisoners in the ship's holds as they were trying to get topside and later when many had jumped into the water. Six hundred eighty eight died in the sinking and machine gunning. Eighty two survived, either picked up by the Japanese or eventually reaching the beach and being located by local guerilla groups. All during the ordeal, the Japanese military made no attempt to rescue any of the prisoners holding on to flotsam or debris in the water. As a matter of fact they fired at them from other ships. Those recaptured by the Japanese were executed.

After the war, Japanese sources indicate that approximately 62,000 prisoners of war were transported by 56 Japanese ships. Of those, 19 were torpedoed, bombed, and sunk, (1 was lost in a typhoon) resulting in the loss of more than 22,000 soldiers. This is an alarming 35.2% casualty rate.

War Crimes Trials were held across the Pacific after the war. In Tokyo, Prime Minister Tojo and 5 generals were found guilty and hanged, sixteen others were given life sentences. Approximately 2200 trials were held and more than 4300 individuals were convicted, 984 receiving the death penalty and 475 given life sentences.

A WARRIOR'S FAMILY

One of the great family stories of the West Point officers is that of Colonel Paul D Bunker. He was born in Michigan and appointed to West Point from Massachusetts. Graduating in 1903, Lt. Bunker was number 33 in the class which included General Douglas MacArthur, who was the number one graduate. During his years on the gridiron for West Point, Bunker was named first team All-American in 1901 and 1902. Sergeant Marty Mahr, an Irish immigrant who worked at the Academy as an enlisted soldier and civilian employee for 50 years, was closely associated with the sports programs. In an interview in 1943, Mahr stated that Cadet Bunker was the greatest football player ever to play for the Army. Upon graduation, Bunker married Landon Beehler, daughter of Commodore William H and Lelia Beehler. Commodore Beehler was a graduate of the Naval Academy Class of 1868, and is the inventor of the solarometer, a devise for determining a ship's position at sea.. The Commodore and Lelia Beehler are buried in the U S Naval Academy Cemetery.

Bunker spent most of 1917 in New Orleans, overseeing Quartermaster duties. A Times Picayune article noted that Bunker spent \$5,000,000 purchasing supplies for the Army. One of his major purchases was 1,800,000 cases of tomatoes, 18,000 cases of cherries, and 120 tons of prunes. In 1918, Major Bunker was assigned to the Canal Zone, serving there in 1919. In July, 1920, Major Bunker served in numerous posts across the country until being sent to the Army War College in 1928. After graduating from the War College, Major Bunker was assigned to command the harbor defenses at Boston where he remained until January 1935 when ordered to the Philippines to command the harbor defenses at Manila and Subic Bay. This would be his first exposure to the 59th Coastal Artillery. On May 1, 1935, Bunker was promoted to Colonel, Coast Artillery Corp, and commanded the Bataan sub-sector.

Bunker was the father of three children: Paul D Bunker, Jr, born March 21, 1909, at Fort Monroe, Va.; William Beehler Bunker, born September 30, 1910, at Fort Slocum, New York; and Landon Priscilla Bunker, born February 6, 1912, at Fort Slocum, New York. Let's take a look at Colonel Bunker's family:

After his early education, Paul Bunker, Jr, enlisted in the 62nd Coastal Artillery, commanded by his father, and enrolled in the Preparatory School for West Point. He was a member of the Class of 1931 at West Point, graduating number 205 in his class. After graduation, he was assigned temporary duty at Fort Banks, Massachusetts until August 1932, when he reported to Randolph Field, Texas, for flight training. On June 24, 1933, Paul Jr married Elizabeth Haynes in New York. After completing basic flight school, Lt. Bunker was ordered to Kelly Field, Texas, effective July 1, 1933, until his graduation on October 16, 1933. Paul Jr served in several posts around the country, including duty at Barksdale Field. On May 1, 1937, he was granted leave and travel time to report to the 6th Pursuit Squadron at Schofield Barracks, The Philippines, on June 19, 1937. On January 7, 1938, the 6th Pursuit, under the command of Lt Paul Bunker, was

participating in bombing practice. As he dove on the target for his third pass, a bomb partially released, causing it to fall into the landing gear covering and exploding. Lt Bunker's airplane fell to the ground, a pile of twisted metal. His ashes were taken to West Point and buried in the cemetery at the Academy.

William Beehler Bunker was an extraordinary officer. He graduated in the Class of 1934 at West Point, number 53 in his class. Lt. Bunker married Crystletta Carr on September 12, 1936, in Burlington, Vermont. After serving in several posts in the eastern states, he was ordered to MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) for a year's study. After completing this course, Bunker was granted leave until September 12, 1938, when he was to report to Fort Belvoir, Va., for Engineer School. After completion of Engineer School on August 9, 1939, Bunker was ordered to Nicaragua to command the field work for the Nicaraguan Barge Canal Survey. This operation was to determine an alternative route for the Panama Canal. He was promoted to Captain in the Corp of Engineers effective September 9, 1940. During his duty in Nicaragua, Bunker also served as an instructor in math, drawing, and engineering at the Nicaraguan Military Academy. William Bunker was an up and coming young officer, being promoted to Major in February, 42 and to Colonel in July 1945. During the war years he worked in procurement and transportation, serving in the United States as well as in Europe. Researchers of William Bunker, and his contemporaries, saw him as a man of vision, with a brilliant mind. Operation of the Berlin Airlift was just one of Colonel Bunker's major accomplishments. In 1950, he authored a study of the role of helicopters in supply and battlefield conditions. While serving as Deputy Commanding General, Army Material Command, Fort Meyer, Va., Lieutenant General William Bunker died on June 5, 1969. He rests in Arlington National Cemetery. The Army named LSV-4, a cargo ship, in honor of General Bunker.

Landon Priscilla Bunker married Thompson Brooke Maury III, a member of the West Point Class of 1934, and a class mate of her brother, William Beehler Bunker, on November 24, 1934, in Winthrop, Mass. Maury graduated from the University of Virginia in 1930. Brooke, as he was called by his friends, graduated number 32 in the West Point Class of 1934. There were two children, Bill and Brooke. Maury was from an old and distinguished Virginia lineage. His family lines also include the Magruder and Brookes. These families are steeped in Confederate history, the most famous being Commodore Matthew Fontaine Maury, the Pathfinder of the Seas. Brooke's father, Magruder Gordon Maury, was a writer and news correspondent, at one time working for the Times-Picayune. The father served in the Spanish-American War and the Philippine Insurrection. Maury began his career at Fort Meyer commanding a battery of the 16th Field Artillery. He also served as mess, reconnaissance, and supply officer during his tour at Fort Meyer. After being promoted to 1st Lt., Maury went on leave to report to Fort Sill on September 8, 1938, as a student officer. In August 1939, he was ordered to Fort Lewis, Wash., to serve as a battery commander of the 9th Artillery. On September 9, 1940, Maury was promoted to Captain. In June, 1941, Captain Maury left the United States for duty in the Philippines. Reporting to the Provisional Field Artillery Brigade, Captain Maury was named S-2 (Training and Operations) of the Brigade. On December 19, as the Army was trying

to slow the onslaught of the Japanese, Maury was promoted to Major. When Bataan fell, Major Maury was one of thousands who marched away from Bataan to Camp O'Donnell and later Cabanatuan Prisoner of War Camp. After languishing 2 ½ years in a Japanese POW Camp, Major Maury was one of 1619 American officers and enlisted men who were put on the Oryoku Maru at Manila for transport to Japan for slave labor. The soldiers intended for the next voyage to Japan left Cabanatuan and arrived at Bilibid Prison in Manila on October 14, 1944. Because of constant air attack, it took some time for the Japanese to sneak prison ships into Manila Bay. The situation really became intolerable at the prison until December 13, when the Orykou Maru arrived at the Manila dock. During the night, the prisoners were marched and trucked to the pier and loaded aboard the ship. Sailing that night, the Orykou Maru was off Subic Bay on the morning of December 14th, when she was located by American carrier aircraft and immediately attacked. The Japanese made no effort to mark the prisoner ships, therefore the carrier airplane had no way of knowing their cargo. Major Maury was either wounded during the air attack and died the next day, or was shot while swimming ashore when the Japanese abandoned ship and had the prisoner make their way to the beach. Major Maury is listed on the "Tablets of the Missing" at the Manila-American Cemetery. On September 28, 1948, Major Maury was awarded a posthumous Distinguished Service Medal.

Colonel Paul Bunker completed his second tour with the 59th Artillery in 1937 and returned to the United States to serve with the Organized Reserve Corp at Fort MacArthur, California.. In 1940, when the opportunity arose, Colonel Bunker asked to be returned to the Philippines when command of the 59th Artillery became open. Upon his return, knowing war was not far away, Colonel Bunker began a rigid training program to have his command ready. He was headquartered at Fort Hughes and command the seaward artillery on Corregidor. One of the saddest days of Colonel Bunker's life was May 6, 1942, when he was ordered to lower the flag and replace it with a white sheet. At the appointed hour, Colonels Bunker, Symonds, and Edison were ordered to lower the flag and replace it with the white flag of surrender. Colonel Bunker left us a great record of his activities in the Philippines with his "World War II Diary." He describes the flag lowering and then the cutting of a small portion of a red stripe which he hid under a patch on his shirt until passing half of the portion of the flag to Colonel Delbert Ausmus at Bilibid Prison on June 10, 1942. Colonel Bunker and other senior officers were transported to Formosa shortly afterwards. Colonel Bunker died at Karenko POW Camp on Formosa on March 16, 1943. There are conflicting dates surrounding Colonel Bunker's death. General Wainwright, who was present set the date as May 16, 1943, another source set the date as September 7, 1943. General William E Brougher, a close friend, wrote in his diary entry of March 16, 1943, that "Colonel Paul D Bunker (CAC) died at 7:30 of aggravated adema – " He was starved and disease took it's toll on his body. Before he died, Colonel Bunker instructed Colonel Ausmus to deliver his (Ausmus') portion of the Corregidor Flag to the Secretary of War, if Ausmus should survive the war. We are indeed fortunate that Colonel Ausmus kept the diary written by Colonel Bunker. It has been published under the title "Bunker's War – The World War II Diary of Col. Paul D. Bunker", edited by Keith

Barlow. The portion of the Corregidor Flag hidden on Colonel Bunker was cremated with him. Ausmus did survive the war and presented his remnant of the flag to the Secretary of War. That proud piece of cloth is on display at the West Point Museum. Colonel Bunker's ashes were recovered and on April 8, 1948, re-interred at West Point, where they rest beside Lt Paul Bunker, Jr. In 1944, a posthumous Distinguished Service Medal was awarded and the coastal batteries at Fort MacArthur named in honor of Colonel Bunker. In 1969, Bunker was posthumously inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame. Landon Bunker, his wife, died on September 20, 1961, at Walter Reed Hospital, and rests beside her husband at West Point.

On November 23, 1997, a Memorial was dedicated at a coastal village on Taiwan (Formosa) honoring the prisoners of the Japanese who suffered long and hard as slave labor. This was a fitting memorial to prisoners in general and specifically to Colonel Paul Bunker, who suffered here and died nearby. General William Brougher, a native of Jackson and a fellow prisoner, presented a poem at the dedication honoring those that had died there. General George Marshall, writing comments for the Bunker Diary publication, noted that "he died while serving as a soldier of his country. More cannot be said in honor of his memory."

Colonel Bunker was the oldest West Point graduate to die in the hands of the Japanese. The youngest two from the Class of 1941 should be mentioned. Can you imagine leaving West Point in June, 1941, and 6 months later be in combat half a world away. Well that's what happened to Lt.'s Robert Patterson Pierpont and Hector John Polla. Pierpont, from California, graduated number 68 in the Class of 1941, with a commission in the Engineers. He attended the Engineer School after graduation and arrived in the Philippines in October, 1941, assigned to the 14th Engineers (PS). Pierpont was captured on Bataan, participated in the Death March and was in the POW stockade at Cabanatuan and Bilibid Prison. Lt Pierpont and 1781 other POWs were loaded on the Arisan Maru that left Manila on October 21, 1944. On October 24, the USS Shark, not knowing what was on board, fired three torpedoes that cut the Arisan Maru in half. All but nine of the POWs were lost. Lt. Pierpont is memorialized on the Tablets of the Missing in the Manila American cemetery.

Lt. Polla graduated number 337 in the Class of 1941. After graduation, he attended the basic infantry course at Fort Benning, Ga., and arrived in the Philippines in November, 1941. Colonel Edmund Lilly, Commander of the 57th Infantry noted in his diary on or about December 24, three young Second Lieutenants, graduates of the Academy Class of 1941, arrived at his headquarters; Alexander R Nininger (assigned to Company A, Lt. Cheaney (assigned to Company B), and Hector J Polla (assigned to Company C). Lt Polla participated in the Bataan battles and was awarded a Silver Star. He was captured at the fall of Bataan and participated in the Death March, finally arriving at Camp O'Donnell and later Cabanatuan. Lt Polla was one of the 1619 taken to Bilibid Prison and put aboard the Oryoku Maru and later the Enoura Maru. On the morning of January 9, 1945, the Enoura Maru was attacked by American aircraft in Takao Harbor. Several bombs hit the Enoura, perhaps as many as 5, killing approximately 252 in the forward hold

and 40 in the aft hold. Lt. Polla was one of the casualties. He is memorialized on the Tablets of the Missing at the Manila American Cemetery.

As he is mentioned in Colonel Lilly's diary, we need to comment on Lt. Cheaney, Class of 1941. His full name is Ira Boswell Cheaney, born in Alabama and raised in California. He graduated On June 11, number 285 of the Class of 1941. After completing a refresher rifle and heavy weapons course at Fort Benning, Lt Cheaney was ordered to the Philippines, arriving probably in October or November, 1941. He was assigned to the 57th Infantry (PS). The Dallas Morning News, dated September 13, 1942, contained an article stating that Lt Cheaney was killed in action (January 30) and was buried in the church yard at Abucay (Abucay). John E Olson, author of "Anywhere-Anytime", the story of the 57th Infantry during World War II, wrote that "*morale was shaken by the death of Lt. Cheaney. This lithe, dauntless, contagiously enthusiastic officer whose six foot two inch frame towered over the small Scouts, had been a constant example for his men...he recklessly exposed himself in order to encourage his men...it was his second day in combat and less than two months after he arrived in the Philippines....that a Japanese sniper made a direct on him.....Lt. Cheaney may have been saved had we been able to reach him and rush him to the surgical hospital.*" Another article spoke of his grandmother receiving the news of his death. The article also stated that Cheaney had graduated in June, married in July, and had visited in Dallas while on his honeymoon. His bride was Adele Grigsby Jackson of Ennis. I presume this to be Ennis, Texas. For his action in combat on January 13, 1942, Lt Cheaney was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

It boggles the mind to think of the talent, brain power, and abilities, represented by the 158 West Point graduates who lost their lives in the hands of the Japanese. Who knows how many future military leaders that were Majors and Captains that were just beginning to reach their potential in their chosen profession, only to be cut down in the prime of life. There are quite a few mentioned that are listed on the tablets of the missing as well as those who were buried in mass graves, before the Japanese allowed records to be kept by some officers in the prison camps. Many families just know their loved one is buried somewhere in the Philippines, Taiwan, Manchuria, or Japan. This does not take into account the enlisted personnel that shared the same fate as their officers.

Lt. Colonel Hal Clark Granberry
Meridian, Mississippi

Hal Granberry's name sort of appeared out of nowhere. His grandfather, Simeon S. Granberry, was teaching at Mississippi College in 1866 when he was called to be the first Superintendent of the Confederate Orphans Home at Lauderdale, Mississippi. An acquaintance called the Lauderdale County Archives and told me that he had purchased some land on Old Poplar Springs Road and there was a rather large tomb stone in the woods close to the house. Investigation confirmed that Granberry had indeed owned the property in 1870 and died in 1871 and was buried there. This lead us to Rose Hill Cemetery where Sim S. Granberry, son of Simeon, was buried. The son and his wife, Lucy (Lula) Nelson Granberry are resting in lot number 371. In the lot is another stone; "Col. Hal C. Granberry, January 4, 1898, died December 15, 1944, WW II, lost on prisoner of war ship Pacific area." This discovery certainly sparked a lot of interest; who was Colonel Hal Granberry? His name was not inscribed on the tablets on the front of the Lauderdale County Court House with other World War II veterans who gave their life.

Hal Granberry first attended Meridian Public Schools, then Marion Military Institute, Marion, Alabama. A world war was raging in Europe and American entered the conflict in 1917. Granberry enlisted in the Army Air Service (Aeronautical) on August 12, 1918 in Jackson, Miss. He was posted to Park Field, Tennessee, for flight training. This installation later became part of NAS Millington, near Memphis. The war ended on November 11, 1918, as did Granberry's service. General Orders issued November 30, 1918, authorized the immediate discharge of military personnel. Private First Class Granberry was honorably discharged effective January 14, 1919. After being discharged from the Army Air Service, he prepped for West Point in Orange County, New York. On his fourth attempt, Granberry was accepted in the Class of 1923, appointed by Congressman W. W. Venable of Mississippi. He reported to the Academy on June 13, 1919. Because his age was a bit higher than the average first year student, his classmates nicknamed him "Granny." Cadet Granberry must have had a rocky road during his four years, as he graduated number 243 of a class of 263, and was posted to the infantry. On graduation day, June 12, 1923, 2nd Lt. Granberry married his academy sweetheart, Molly Andrews Cary, of Albany, New York. Granberry reported to Fort Howard, Maryland, serving until September 12, 1924, when he was detailed to the Air Corps at Brooks Field, Texas, for Primary Flying School instruction. Granberry was relieved on January 6, 1925, and assigned to the 38th Infantry, at Fort Logan, Colorado. His marriage to Molly ended in divorce during his tour of duty at Fort Logan. During his Fort Logan tour, Lt. Granberry apparently met Virginia Watt. On June 10, 1927, Lt. Granberry reported to Fort Sill, Okla., serving there until being posted to Fort Monmouth, N.J., September 7, 1928, as a student officer at the Signal School. On January 16, 1928, Granberry married Virginia Watt, daughter of Harry and Juanita Watt, of Denver. The

wedding took place at the St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Denver. Virginia was a senior at the University of Colorado in 1920 and a member of Delta Delta Delta Sorority. During her school years, Virginia was quite active in Tri-Delta Sorority. On May 30, 1920, she and her sorority sisters were sponsors of a formal dance given at the Brown, in Denver. In December 1921, she was a committee person, representing her sorority, in a drive to raise money for a state hospital and medical school. Virginia is listed in several society columns as attending luncheons, teas, and wedding parties in Denver. The Rocky Mountain News of Sunday, August 27, 1922, lists Virginia as an incoming teacher in the Denver schools. She taught at Lincoln School three days a week and the other two days were spent at Logan School.

Granberry was promoted to 1st Lt. of Infantry on August 25, 1928, and graduated from the Signal School on June 12, 1929, and assigned to the 14th Infantry at Fort Davis, The Canal Zone. He was appointed Aide de Camp to General C. D. Roberts and served in that duty from February, 1930, until July 31, 1931. Virginia Granberry's sister, Margaret, was living with the Granberry's in the Canal Zone. The 1930 census lists Granberry and wife as well as Margaret J. Watt. Margaret is listed as a "step daughter" but actually was a sister-in-law. An announcement in the Tampa Tribune of August 24, 1930, spoke of a tea given by Virginia, announcing Margaret's engagement to Lt. Robert F. Tomlin of Florida. Tomlin graduated number 177 of 261 in the West Point Class of 1928. Margaret returned from the Canal Zone on May 19, 1931, on board the Steam Ship St. Mihiel, landing at New York. On October 23, 1937, Margaret and a daughter, Peggy, age 5, departed the west coast on the S.S. Lurline bound for the Hawaiian Islands. Lt. Tomlin was assigned to the 64th Coast Artillery at Fort Shafter, Hawaii. The Steam Ship Lurline played a small part in history in December, 1937, transporting Amelia Earhart and her wrecked Lockheed Vega back to California after crashing in Honolulu on her first attempt to circle the globe.

Apparently Tomlin and Margaret were divorced in later years as his widow was listed as Alison V Tomlin at the time of his death in 1951. The 1940 census shows Lt. Tomlin as single and living in Los Angeles. His official Army record lists him as a battery commander at Fort MacArthur. Margaret is listed as Margaret J. McLamb, living in New London, Connecticut. Also living with Margaret is Peggy McLamb, her daughter, age 8, who had been born in Florida. Her father was Lt. Tomlin. Margaret's previous address was in Galveston, Texas, as was Lt. Lamb's. Margaret married Nathan Alton McLamb sometime between 1935 and 1940. Nathan McLamb was stationed at New London in 1940 as commander of the USAMP Brig-General Absalom Baird. The Baird was a U S Army Mine Planter. McLamb was a 1927 USMA graduate. Colonel McLamb retired in 1950. An article in a 1961 "Assembly" magazine noted that Colonel McLamb "died in his sleep" on Christmas Eve, 1960. He had been severely injured by a hit and run driver and never fully recovered. An early 1979 issue of the "Assembly" noted that Margaret had moved from San Francisco to Missouri and died of a stroke on December 29, 1978. She had been the house mother of the ATO Chapter at the University of Missouri. Arrangements were made by a daughter living in Springfield, Missouri, and Martha was returned to the San

Francisco National Cemetery to be buried by her husband. A daughter and son were listed as survivors as well as a sister, Marian (Marion) Virginia Fussell of Pasadena, California, Colonel Granberry's widow. There were also five grandchildren.

The Granberry's returned to the United States from the Canal Zone on July 29, 1931, as Virginia is listed as arriving at New York on the Steamship St. Mihiel from Panama. His next duty assignment was at Fort Benning as a Company Officer in the 29th Infantry, where he served until September 16, 1933, at which time Granberry was assigned to the Advanced Infantry School as a student officer. The Advanced Infantry training was completed on June 15, 1933, at which time he was placed on leave and en-route to his new duty station at Fort William McKinley, the Philippine Islands. The reporting date was October 2, 1934, and his assignment was commanding the Headquarters Company of the 57th Infantry (Philippine Scouts). This was Lt. Granberry's first trip to the Philippines and also his first involvement with the 57th Infantry. His wife, Virginia, was with him on this tour. An article in the paper noted that she attended a tea given by Delta Delta Delta Sorority with another sorority sister from the University of Colorado. His promotion to Captain came on August 1, 1935. After serving in the Philippines, Captain Granberry was relieved on July 22, 1936, and ordered to report to Fort Snelling, Minn., to report by September 30, 1936. His duty at Fort Snelling was Commander of a company of the 3rd Infantry. His duty here lasted until October 1, 1938, at which time he was ordered to Fort Huachuca, Arizona, as a Company Commander in the 25th Infantry.

Granberry's service record is unclear after arriving at Fort Huachuca. It does indicate that he was promoted to Major of Infantry effective July 1, 1940. At some point, he was ordered back to the Philippines before the war began. A Boulder, Colorado, newspaper story indicates that Granberry sailed for the Philippines in November, 1941. On December 8, 1942, the War Department notified his wife, Virginia, that Lt. Colonel Granberry was captured and a prisoner of the Japanese. Apparently when Granberry was ordered to the Philippines, Virginia returned to Denver, and then took a job as house mother of the ATO Chapter at the University of Colorado, in Boulder. Colonel Edmund J. Lilly, commander of the 57th Infantry (PS), noted in his diary that "*on or about January 15 (1942) we had two very welcome additions to the regiment.....Lt. Colonel Hal C. Granberry reported for duty from Source Command, where he had been Signal Officer.*" An article in the Boulder newspaper described Granberry's signal operations on Bataan as successful and operating at a high rate of efficiency. Granberry had been promoted to Lt. Colonel effective December 24, 1941. Colonel Lilly noted that Lt. Colonel Granberry was assigned as Regimental S-4, Supply and Logistics. Because of his splendid training and record as an infantry commander, Granberry was assigned to command the 2nd Battalion of the 57th Infantry (PS). He directed the operations of the 460 men under his command with courage and a real knowledge of infantry tactics during the Bataan operations. Colonel Granberry was known to be out front of his men, leading them into action. His actions from January to the surrender in April earned him two Silver Stars and a Legion of Merit. The most noted operation Colonel Granberry commanded was clearing Longoskawayan Point

of Japanese infiltrators. Granberry's Scouts arrived late on the night of January 27th and began the attack on the morning of the 28th. The fighting was fierce for several days, with the Japanese being pushed back to the point that they began, ripping off their clothes, and jumping off the cliffs rather than being captured. American losses were heavy, but by February 8, the Japanese were all dead.

On the morning of April 9, 1942, the end came on Bataan. General Edward King surrendered his command to the Japanese commander. Lack of supplies, support, air cover, and exhaustion spelled the doom of Bataan and eventually Corregidor on May 6.

The fall of Bataan initiated one of the most tragic events in the glorious history of the United States Army. The battle had an estimated 10,000 American and Filipino soldiers killed, 20,000 wounded, and 75,000 prisoners of war. Lt. Colonel Granberry was one of the POW's. A couple of important issues sprung from the surrender; firstly, the Japanese considered those who surrendered not as POW's but as captives, and secondly, they had no idea there would be so many and the actual condition they were in after months of fighting with very little medical attention or a proper diet. These two factors lead to the death of many American and Filipino soldiers.

Immediately after the surrender, the Japanese began gathering the prisoners in groups of one hundred or more and marching them off towards the railhead at San Fernando, about 60 miles. Lt. Colonel Granberry survived the march and imprisonment at Camp O'Donnell. Because of the excessive death rate at O'Donnell, prisoners were transferred to Cabanatuan. Little is known of events in Colonel Granberry's life while in custody of the Japanese. The Boulder newspaper noted that Mrs. Granberry received a card dated July 22, 1944. The card was the first word in over a year; he stated that his health was good and the assumption was that he had received a letter she had written based on a remark in the card. The Archives has in its collection a card mailed from Philippine Military Prison Camp # 1, not dated, addressed to Ashley Snow, Jr. in Pensacola. This was actually from the Camp at Cabanatuan. Colonel Granberry stated his health was good, wanted Snow to check on the interest on a life insurance policy loan, and asked him to have Virginia to keep her address current with the Adjutant General. Mrs. Granberry received another card on January 19, 1945. She had no idea at the time of receiving the card that he was seriously wounded on a Japanese hell ship. The Japanese captors were very slow in communicating with the Red Cross about the prisoners they held. This left lingering doubts in many American's at home as to the fate of their family member.

The labor shortage in the Japanese Empire home islands prompted the Japanese to rethink their POW problem. The general philosophy was to allow the prisoners, or captives, to die of starvation, disease, or overwork, and to hurry the process along, just execute them. Colonel Granberry was one of a total of 1619 prisoners gathered from Cabanatuan and other locations to transport to Japan for slave labor. The ones selected were considered to be in better health, therefore, would last longer working in the factories or mines. Those not selected were generally considered to be of such poor health they would not be worth the cost or effort to move

them to Japan or Manchuria. After being moved to Bilibid Prison in Manila, Granberry and the other prisoners were marched to the docks and loaded on the Oryoku Maru for transport to Japan. The Oryoku Maru sailed from Manila on December 13, 1944. Being unmarked as to cargo, the ship was a target for American carrier aircraft and attacked twice, once at sea and again in Subic Bay, where she sank. Colonel Granberry was able to make the beach, although many died in the air attack and many later were shot by the Japanese as they tried to swim to the beach.

After spending time caged in an old tennis court, with very little food or water, the remaining prisoners were loaded on the Enoura and Brazil Maru for transport to Japan. Both ships reached Formosa the first few days of January, 1945, where the passengers on the Brazil Maru were transferred to the Enoura Maru. On January 9, American carrier aircraft attacked the shipping in Takao Harbor and the Enoura Maru was bombed and strafed, killing some 350 prisoners. It was during this air attack that Colonel Granberry was wounded, one report stating that the wound was in the torso. With the Enoura Maru disabled, the prisoners remaining were then transferred to the Brazil Maru to continue their journey to Japan. The Brazil Maru finally reached Japan on January 29, 1945. However, Colonel Granberry was not present to answer the roll call, he died at sea on January 27, as a result of his untreated wounds received on January 9. His body, along with many others who died that day and night, were unceremoniously thrown overboard.

A Boulder newspaper article, dated July 25, 1945, noted that “Col. H.S. Granberry lost his life in December, 1944.” This was the beginning of the use of December 15, 1944, as his date of death. The article stated that he had received a Distinguished Service Cross, a Silver Star, and a Purple Heart for shrapnel wounds. An interesting revelation in the article is that he “*was just old enough to get into the closing days of World War I.*” This prompted further investigation of World War I service we were not aware. We have a picture in our collection, donated by a great niece, of Granberry in a World War I uniform.

An article in the Boulder newspaper, dated September 7, 1946, noted that a “**Legion of Merit Presented Widow of Col. Granberry. Oak Leaf Cluster to Silver Star also awarded posthumously to Col. Granberry.**” The presentation was made by Major R. W. Schmelz and T/Sgt. W. W. Gammill of the U. S. Army Recruiting Office in Denver.

CITATION

“Lt. Colonel Hal C. Granberry, 57th Infantry (Philippine Scouts), distinguished himself by gallantry in action on Bataan, Philippine Islands, on or about April 7, 1942. When the flanks of his command had been over run by superior enemy forces and capture or destruction appeared imminent, he displayed most courageous leadership and complete disregard for his own personnel security in extricating his units from the difficulties in which they were involved. His actions were a great credit to himself and upheld the fine traditions of the military profession.”

Colonel Granberry received his first Silver Star on February 25, 1942, and the Distinguished Service Cross on March 12, 1942. Both awards were recommended by General Jonathan Wainwright and presented during the height of the battle for Bataan. The other decorations bestowed on Colonel Granberry for gallantry and bravery were posthumous. The second Silver Star (oak leaf cluster) and Legion of Merit was awarded on July 14, 1946, on an order signed by General Eisenhower, Chief of Staff.

Colonel Granberry had an outstanding Army career and was a credit to himself and the nation for which he gave his life. He is remembered by a stone in the family plot at Rose Hill Cemetery and listed on the tablets of the missing at the Manila American Cemetery. His is just one more story of the 158 West Pointers who were the victims of a barbaric enemy.

Colonel Granberry had two sisters, Laura and Elizabeth, and a brother, James. Laura married Ashley Snow in Meridian in 1905. Their son was Ashley Snow, Jr, a graduate of Marion Military Institute and in 1927, accepted into Navy flight school, winning his wings in 1930. Snow served as an enlisted pilot and was an interegral part of the United States Antarctic Service. An article in the Omaha World Herald, dated February 15, 1942, notes that Secretary of the Navy, Frank Knox, awarded Earle B. Perce and Ashley C. Snow, Jr, Distinguished Flying Crosses for “extraordinary achievements in hazardous aerial flights.” He retired in Pensacola after 30 years of Naval service. During his career, he was Chief of Staff of Enlisted Personnel. Four “nunataks” on the coast of Ellsworth Land are named Snow Nunataks in his honor.

Colonel Granberry’s father died in 1904, however, his mother, Lula, died in 1950 in Selma, Alabama. She was returned to Meridian and rests in the family plot at Rose Hill Cemetery. We have no record of who placed the stone for Colonel Granberry.

The Individual Deceased Personnel File obtained from the Army shows that the correct date of death is January 27, 1945. The cause of death is stated as “died of bomb fragment wounds incurred in the bombing of the Japanese Prisoner of War Ship Enoura Maru on 9 January 1945 in Takao Harbor, Formosa.” Originally, the Army information showed that he died aboard the Oryoku Maru in Subic Bay on December 15, 1944. His wife, Virginia, was listed as living in Boulder, Colorado. We could not find that Colonel Granberry and Virginia had children. Nothing in our research indicated that they had, so the assumption is they were childless. His beneficiaries were his wife Virginia, and Mrs L. N. Granberry of Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

In the April 1946 issue of the West Point magazine “Assembly”, a fellow officer and hut mate at Cabanatuan wrote of several members of the class of 1923. He noted that he “*saw Granny (Granberry’s academy nick-name) several times on Bataan but the best idea of what he did there was given by the large number of his officers and mess who came to visit him in our shack at Cabanatuan: they all swore by him. He was in comparatively good condition when I left Cabanatuan in Oct. 42. He was a good and loyal friend in good times and tough times, and we saw them plenty tough while together. He is also reported killed on a bombed prison ship on 15 Dec. “44.”*” The same article also mentioned the service and sacrifice of several other members

of the Class of 1923 who gave their lives during the war. Mentioned are: Jose Garcia, a Filipino who continued the war against the Japanese after the surrender, was captured and executed; Howard Breitung, who suffered on the death march, Camp O'Donnell and Cabanatuan, escaped and recaptured, and executed by the Japanese; Cryil Marron, a legal advisor to the American High Commissioner, imprisoned at Cabanatuan and Davao, later killed on a hell ship; David Babcock, artillery officer on Bataan, captured and imprisoned at O'Donnell and Cabanatuan, and died on the Brazil Maru; Hal Granberry, previously mentioned; Ulysses Peoples, an artillery officer, sent to O'Donnell and Cabanatuan, and died in the bombing of the Oryoku Maru at Subic Bay; and James Lindsay, a field artillery officer, captured on Bataan, was on the death march to O'Donnell and later Cabanatuan, and died on a prison ship.

While Colonel Granberry was serving in the Philippines, Virginia worked as the house mother of the ATO Fraternity at the University of Colorado. A Boulder, Colorado, newspaper article dated November 7, 1957, noted that word had been received in Boulder that a previous resident, Mrs. Virginia Granberry, had married William C. Stevenson on October 19, 1957, and he had died of a heart attack on October 22, 1957. *"Friends may write Mrs. Stevenson at her home, 2575 Deodare Circle, Pasadena, California.* We were able to verify that Stevenson was buried at Mountain View Cemetery in Pasadena. Virginia remarried on May 4, 1972, in Los Angeles. Her husband, Paul Fussell, was a corporate lawyer with the firm of O'Melveny & Myers, an international law firm. Paul died on July 16, 1973, in Los Angeles and is buried in Mt. Mausoleum Crypt BB at Mountain View Cemetery with his first wife. Virginia Watt Granberry Stevenson Fussell died in Los Angeles on February 4, 1979. After an exhaustive search, we were able to locate her church membership at St James Episcopal Church in Pasadena. Church records show that Virginia was honored with a memorial service on February 6, 1979, and her ashes were spread on the Pacific Ocean. Her pastor of many years, Dr. Gilbert P Prince, conducted the services at Turner & Stevens Funeral Home in Pasadena. In her later years, Virginia lived in a condo complex at 380 S. Orange Grove Blvd. She was a member of the Valley Hunt Club, The Town Club, and the California Club. In lieu of flowers, she asked that donations be made to the Spastic Childrens League.

An article was written by an un-named classmate in the December 1981 U S Military Biographical Register about Colonel Granberry. He concluded his article: ***"Thus was prematurely ended an outstanding career of a distinguished soldier in service to his country. Hal was loved and respected by all who came in contact with him, and his life exemplified the typical graduate of the Long Gray Line."*** In orders issued in July 1946, signed by General Eisenhower, awarding a posthumous Silver Star and Legion of Merit, Colonel Granberry is described as displaying ***"exceptional meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services and gallantry in action, a great credit to himself and upheld the fine traditions of the military profession."*** Colonel Granberry left a creditable record for a cadet that graduated number 243 out of a class of 263.

NAME	RANK	ACADEMY CLASS	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH	BURIED-MEMORIALIZED @	OTHER INFORMATION
Paul D Bunker	Colonel	1903	59 th Coast Artillery Commanded seaward batteries on Corregidor	3-16-43	Originally buried at POW Camp, ashes moved to West Point after the war	died at POW camp on Formosa. 2 time All American & classmate of Douglas MacArthur. Son in law was Major Thompson B Maury, III Class of 1934
Vincente Lim	Brig Gen	1914	Philippine Army	12-31-44	Manila American Cemetery	beheaded by Japanese at Bilibid Prison
Fidel V Segundo	Colonel	1917	Artillery	12-19-44	Manila American Cemetery	captured by the Japanese and later tortured and executed
Wade R Cothran, Jr	Major	1918	Luzon Force HQ's	1-25-45	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru
Eustaquio Baclig	Lt Col	1918	26 th Cavalry (PS)	11-30-44	Manila American Cemetery	massacred by Japanese at Fort Santiago Prison with other prisoners
Robert H Vesey	Lt Col	1918	73 rd Infantry (PA)	7-3-42	Manila American Cemetery	executed on Mindinao

NAME	RANK	ACADEMY CLASS	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH	BURIED-MEMORIALIZED @	OTHER INFORMATION
Edwin V Kerr	Lt Col	1919	88 th Field Artillery	1-27-45	Manila American Cemetery and memorial at Arlington National	Brazil Maru
Leo C Paquet	Lt Col	1919	31 st Infantry HQ's Co.	1-14-45	Manila American Cemetery	Brazil Maru
Howard R Perry Jr	Lt Col	1919	General Sharp's Staff	1-14-45	Manila American Cemetery	Brazil Maru
Edward H Bowes	Lt Col	1919	31 st Infantry	1-24-45	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru
Kenneth S Olson nickname "Swede"	Lt Col	1919	Finance Corp	1-24-45	Manila American Cemetery	Davao POW Camp and Oryoku Maru
Russell J Nelson	Lt Col	1919	101 Infantry	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru
Howard D Johnson	Lt Col	1919	57 th Infantry	7-2-42	none located	Cabanataun POW Camp
George D Vanture	Colonel	1920	91 st Field Artillery	1-9-45	Manila American Cemetery	Enoura Maru
Pastor Martelino	Colonel	1920	C of S 31 st Infantry (PA)	1-8-45	Manila American Cemetery	executed at Fort Santiago. First Supt of Philippine Military Academy
John T Ward	Lt Col	1920	Quartermaster Corp	4-11-42	Manila American Cemetery	from Mississippi. KIA

NAME	RANK	ACADEMY CLASS	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH	BURIED-MEMORIALIZED @	OTHER INFORMATION
Albert Svihra	Lt Col	1922	HQ's US Army Air Corp Far East	10-24-44	Manila American Cemetery	Ariasn Maru
Ronald G MacDonald	Lt Col	1922	42 nd Infantry (PA)	2-5-45	ashes at Temple, Moji, Japan	Brazil Maru, died at Fukuoka POW Camp, Japan
Ulysses J L Peoples Jr	Lt Col	1923	1 st Corp HQ's	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Cabanataun and Bilibid POW camp and Oryoku Maru
Howard E C Breitung	Lt Col	1923	60 th Coast Artillery	9-30-42	buried at Manila American Cemetery	beheaded by the Japanese for escape attempt
Alejandro Garcia	Major	1923	24 th Field Artillery (PS)	12-31-44	Manila American Cemetery	executed by the Japanese. Commandant at Philippine Military Academy.
Cyril Q Marron	Lt Col	1923	31 st Infantry, 2 nd Bn Commander	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Cabanatuan and Bilibid POW camp, Oryoku Maru
David S Babcock	Lt Col	1923	2 nd Field Artillery CO	12-13-44	Manila American Cemetery	Cabanatuan and Bilibid POW camp and Orykou Maru

NAME	RANK	ACADEMY CLASS	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH	BURIED-MEMORIALIZED @	OTHER INFORMATION
Hal C Granberry	Lt Col	1923	57 th Infantry (PS) 2 nd Battalion Commander	1-27-45	Manila American Cemetery	Cabanatuan and Bilibid POW camp and Brazil Maru
James R Lindsey Jr	Lt Col	1923	23 rd Field Artillery (PS)	1-28-45	Manila American Cemetery	Cabanatuan and Bilibid POW camp and Oryoku Maru
Floyd A Mitchell	Lt Col	1924	91 st Coast Artillery (PS) Executive Officer	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Orykou Maru
Lester J Tacy	Lt Col	1924	41 st Field Artillery (PA)	2-9-45	Jefferson Barracks, St Louis # 82 1-B 1-D	died at Fukuoka POW Camp, Japan
Albert D Miller	Lt Col	1924	92 nd Coast Artillery (PS)	10-24-44	Manila American Cemetery	Arisan Maru
Lewis S Kirkpatrick	Lt Col	1924	59 th Coast Artillery	8-13-43	probably camp cemetery, remains not identified after the war	died of pneumonia . Was senior officer Cabanatuan POW Camp
James E Macklin	Lt Col	1924	Quartermaster Corps	6-22-42	Manila American Cemetery	Death March died at Cabanatuan
Reed Graves	Lt Col	1924	101st Philippine Division	10-24-44	Manila American Cemetery	Arisan Maru
Ralph T Garver	Lt Col	1925	Adjutant General's Dept	4-12-42	Manila American Cemetery	died on Death March

NAME	RANK	ACADEMY CLASS	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH	BURIED-MEMORIALIZED @	OTHER INFORMATION
John H Bennett	Lt Col	1925	31 st Infantry	12-15-44	Manila American cemetery	Oryoku Maru, suffocated in ship's hold
Harry J Harper	Lt Col	1925	31 st Field Artillery	12-22-44	Manila American Cemetery	died at San Fernando after surviving the air attack on the Orykou Maru
Edward C Mack #	Lt Col	1925	57 th Infantry (PS)	4-9-45	Fort Levenworth National Cem	died at Fukuoka POW Camp in Japan
John L Lewis	Lt Col	1925	61 st Field Artillery	1-25-45	Manila American Cemetery	Brazil Maru
Clarence H Smith	Lt Col	1925	45 th Infantry (PS)	10-24-44	Manila American Cemetery	Arisan Maru
Thaddeus E Smyth	Lt Col	1925	194 th Tank Battalion	3-4-45	Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery	died at Fukuoka POW camp in Japan
Clair M Conzelman	Lt Col	1926	Coastal Artillery HQ's Battery	1-11-45	West Point Post Cemetery	Enoura Maru
John P Woodbridge	Lt Col	1926	81 st Field Artillery	1-9-45	Manila American Cemetery	Enoura Maru
Thomas R Horton Register shows cadet from Ohio	Lt Col	1926	HQ Quartermaster Philippine Dept	9-6-42	died Cabanatuan	1942 newspaper shows captured and in prison at Tarlac POW camp

NAME	RANK	ACADEMY CLASS	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH	BURIED-MEMORIALIZED @	OTHER INFORMATION
Maurice F Daly nickname "Mo"	Colonel	1927	Far East Air Force	1-21-45	Manila American Cemetery	Brazil Maru. Cremated with other dead in ship's boilers on voyage
Stanley B Bonner	Major	1927	21 st Field Artillery	1-25-45	Manila American Cemetery	Brazil Maru
Howard J Coyle Register shows cadet from New York	Major	1927	SV HQ Philippine Dept, AF	4-17-42	Manila American Cemetery	executed at Cebu
Theodore Kalakuka	Lt Col	1927	Quartermaster Corps	10-31-42	buried Manila American Cemetery D 1 # 157	died of malaria at Cabanatuan POW camp
Joseph Ganahl	Lt Col	1927	24 th Field Artillery (PS)	2-3-45	Arlington National Cemetery Sec 12 Site 86	died at Fukuoka POW camp, Moji Hospital, Japan.
Montgomery McKee	Lt Col	1927	31 st Infantry	10-24-44	Manila American Cemetery	Arisan Maru
Martin Moses	Lt Col	1927	15 th Infantry (PS) CO	10-2-43	Manila American Cemetery	Captured May 1943 Executed by Japanese. Was active in guerilla movement.

NAME	RANK	ACADEMY CLASS	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH	BURIED-MEMORIALIZED @	OTHER INFORMATION
James S Neary	Major	1928	Ordinance Corps Philippines Deiv	2-5-45	none located	died at Kokura POW camp in Japan
Leslie G Ross	Major	1928	60 th Coast Artillery	1-5-45	Manila American cemetery	Brazil Maru
Fred O Tally	Lt Col	1928	5th Air Base Group	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru
Leigh A Fuller	Major	1928	Infantry	10-14-42	probably buried at camp, remains not recovered after war	died at Cabanatuan POW camp
Hampden E Montgomery	Lt Col	1928	Wainwright's Staff	2-5-45	Arlington National Cemetery	died at Fukuoka POW camp in Japan
Eugene T Lewis from Mississippi	Lt Col	1928	43 rd Infantry (PS)	1-31-45	buried Manila American cemetery Plot B Row 5 Grave # 140	died at Kokura Military Hospital in Japan
Allen Thayer	Lt Col	1928	67 th Infantry CO	1-22-45	Manila American Cemetery	Brazil Maru
James M Ivy	Lt Col	1928	HQ's Philippine Division	4-15-42	buried Manila American Cemetery Plot D Row 6 # 35	KIA - Death March
Frank E Fries	Major	1929	303 rd Engineer Battalion	1-30-45	ashes Yokohama Cemetery	Brazil Maru. Died on Moji docks in Japan

NAME	RANK	ACADEMY CLASS	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH	BURIED-MEMORIALIZED @	OTHER INFORMATION
William J Latimer Jr	Major	1929	Mindanao Force	1-23-45	Manila American Cemetery	Brazil Maru
Dale K Kinnee	Major	1929	Philippine Department	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru, shot in water while attempting to swim to shore
Thomas B Smothers Jr (father of Smothers Brothers)	Major	1929	45 th Infantry (PS)	4-26-45	Manila American Cemetery	died on ferry from Fukuoka POW camp to POW camp in Korea
Cornelius Z Byrd	Lt Col	1929	Quartermaster Corps	2-7-45	buried at Arlington National	Brazil Maru to Fukuoka POW camp where he died
Arthur K Noble	Lt Col	1929	45 th Infantry (PS)	11-1-43	Manila American Cemetery and memorial at Arlington	lead guerilla forces, executed at La Loma Cemetery, Manila
Robert B Lothrop	Major	1930	Post Engineer Fort Mills	10-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	shot while trying to escape off Arisan Maru
Lawrence A Bosworth	Major	1930	91 st Coastal Artillery (PS)	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru

NAME	RANK	ACADEMY CLASS	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH	BURIED-MEMORIALIZED @	OTHER INFORMATION
James N Vaughn	Major	1930	Signal Corps	4-27-42	buried Manila American Cemetery Plot D Row 7 # 254	died of wounds on Death March
Robert F Haggerty	Major	1930	91 st Coastal Artillery (PS)	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru
Harry B Packard	Major	1930	Asst G-2 II Corps	1-27-45	Manila American Cemetery	Enoura Maru
Marshall H Hurt Jr	Major	1930	31 st Infantry Asst G-3	4-3-45	buried Jefferson Barracks, St Louis, Section 82, Site 1B-1D	died at Fukuoka POW camp in Japan
Joe C East	Major	1930	91 st Coast Artillery (PS)	1-15-45	Manila American Cemetery	died at Camp Moji Hospital, Japan, arrived on Brazil Maru
Winston R Maxwell	Major	1930	724 Ord (AVN) USAAF	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Davao POW camp and then on Oryoku Maru
Frederick G Saint	Lt Col	1931	14 th Eng Regt (PS)	1-24-45	Manila American Cemetery	Brazil Maru
James C Blanning	Major	1931	26 th Cavalry (PS)	1-25-45	Manila American Cemetery	Brazil Maru
Harry J Fleeger	Major	1931	26 th Cavalry (PS)	10-24-44	Manila American Cemetery	Arisan Maru
John N Raker	Capt	1931	34 th Pursuit USAAF	10-24-44	Manila American Cemetery	Arisan Maru
Howard M Pahl	Major	1931	72 nd Infantry (PA)	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru

NAME	RANK	ACADEMY CLASS	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH	BURIED-MEMORIALIZED @	OTHER INFORMATION
Charles I Humber Jr nickname "Polly"	Lt Col	1931	Mindanao Force G-2	1-22-45	Manila American Cemetery	Brazil Maru
James T McClellan	Major	1931	4 th Infantry (PC)	1-27-45	Manila American Cemetery	Brazil Maru
Robert D Glassburn	Major	1932	60 th Coast Artillery	1-30-45	ashes at Yokohama Memorial	died at Moji Hospital in Japan, Brazil Maru
Erven C Somerville	Major	1932	91 st Coastal Artillery (PS)	2-11-45	West Point Cemetery	died at Fukuoka POW camp in Japan, on Brazil Maru
Dwight D Edison	Lt Col	1932	59 th Coastal Artillery HQ	12-23-44	Manila American Cemetery	died on march to board Enoura Maru
William H Maguire	Lt Col	1932	45 th Infantry (PS)	1-31-45	none located	Brazil Maru, died at Kokura POW Camp
William R Thomas	Major	1932	24 th Field Artillery (PS)	2-13-45	none located	Brazil Maru, died at Fukuoka POW camp
William H Ball	Major	1933	Coastal Artillery	5-26-42	Golden Gate National N-2328	KIA on Bataan
Harry Julian	Major	1933	59 th Coastal Artillery	10-24-44	Manila American Cemetery	Arisan Maru

NAME	RANK	ACADEMY CLASS	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH	BURIED-MEMORIALIZED @	OTHER INFORMATION
Thomas K MacNair	Major	1933	60 th Coastal Artillery	12-14-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru
Harry W Schenck	Capt	1933	59 th Coastal Artillery	2-21-45	buried US Military Academy	Brazil Maru, died at Fukuoka POW camp
George H Crawford	Major	1933	60 th Coastal Artillery	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru
Samuel M McReynolds Jr	Capt	1933	59 th Coastal Artillery	2-1-45	none located	Brazil Maru, died at Kokura Hospital in Japan
Peter P Bernd	Capt	1933	7445 Ord Co (AVN)	10-24-44	Manila American Cemetery	Arisan Maru
Charles F Harrison	Major	1933	Chemical Warfare	5-22-44	Union Cemetery, Leesburg, VA	“murdered by the Japanese while attempting to escape”
Roy D Gregory	Lt Col	1933	Visayan-Mindanao Force	10-24-44	Manila American Cemetery	Arisan Maru
Miller P Warren Jr nickname “Boots”	Major	1933	57 th Infantry (PS)	1-9-45	buried on beach at Takao, Formosa	Enoura Maru
Byron E Bugge	Colonel	1934	USAAF	3-4-45	buried Koishikawa Cemetery, Japan	Shot down in B-29 over Japan, beaten to death by interrogators

NAME	RANK	ACADEMY CLASS	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH	BURIED-MEMORIALIZED @	OTHER INFORMATION
Thompson Brooke Maury III ("Brooke")	Major	1934	Provisional FA Brigade	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru - son in law to Colonel Bunker
Howard M Batson Jr #	Major	1934	29 th Field Artillery	1-30-45	died at Kokura Military Hospital-buried Yokohama	Brazil Maru
Lawrence K Meade	Captain	1934	92 nd Coast Artillery (PS)	9-24-42	buried Manila American Cemetery Sec H -8 - 124	died at Cabanatuan POW camp
Edmund W Wilkes	Captain	1934	52 nd Infantry (PA)	6-26-42	buried Manila American Cemetery Sec H - 12 - 98	died at Cabanatuan POW camp
Richard A Smith	Captain	1934	91 st Coast Artillery	1-27-45	Manila American Cemetery	Brazil Maru
Stanley Holmes	Major	1934	33 rd Infantry (PS)	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru
William S VanNostrand	Lt Col	1934	CO- 81 st Infantry	1-9-45	none located	Enoura Maru
John M Jones	Major	1935	26 th Cavalry (PS)	10-24-44	Manila American Cemetery	Arisan Maru
John Neiger	Major	1935	II Corps Hq's	12-14-44	Arlington National Cemetery	Oryoku Maru
Carl Baehr Jr	Major	1936	24 th Field Artillery (PS)	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru

NAME	RANK	ACADEMY CLASS	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH	BURIED-MEMORIALIZED @	OTHER INFORMATION
Harry R Melton Jr	Colonel	1936	USAAF	9-14-44	Manila American Cemetery	shot down in Burma, died at Burma # 5 POW camp
Lawrence F Prichard	Major	1936	Mindanao Force	1-7-45	Manila American Cemetery	Davao POW camp and Enoura Maru
William J Priestley	Major	1936	57 th Infantry (PS)	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru
Karol A Bauer	Major	1936	31 st Infantry (PS)	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru
John C Goldtrap	Major	1936	93 rd Infantry (PA)	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru
Campbell H Snyder	Major	1937	14 th Engineers (PS)	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru
William E W Farrell	Captain	1937	31 st Infantry Regt	1-26-45	Manila American Cemetery	Brazil Maru
William P Baldwin	Major	1937	102nf Infantry 2 nd Bn CO	12-14-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru
Godfrey R Ames	Captain	1937	60 th Coast Artillery	1-31-45	buried at USMA West Point	Brazil Maru, died Moji POW Hospital Japan
Phillip G Lauman Jr	Major	1937	HQ's Luzon Force	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru
William J Dunmyer	Major	1937	II Corp Asst. G-2	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru

NAME	RANK	ACADEMY CLASS	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH	BURIED-MEMORIALIZED @	OTHER INFORMATION
Homer H Uglow	Major	1937	45 th Infantry (PS)	1-30-45	Yokohama Memorial plaque	Davao POW camp, Brazil Maru, died at Kokura Military Hospital, Japan
Charles J Browne	Major	1937	92 nd Infantry (PA) 3 rd Battalion Commander	1-9-45	Manila American Cemetery	Enoura Maru
Richard F Hill	Major	1937	61 st Infantry (PA) XO	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru
Horace J Greeley	Major	1937	24 th Pursuit Group	1-31-45	cremated and ashes from camp at Daiyuji Temple until burned down.	Brazil Maru, died at Kokura Military Hospital, Japan
William H Traeger	Major	1937	45 th Infantry (PS)	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Davao POW camp, Oryoku Maru
William L Robinson	Lt Col	1937	General Sharpe's staff Visayan Mindanao Force	1-9-45	Manila American Cemetery	Davao POW camp, Enoura Maru
Hueston R Wynkoop nickname "Bish"	Major	1937	57 th Infantry (PS)	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru
Charles S Hoyt Jr	Major	1937	45 th Infantry (PS)	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru
William A Gay *	Major	1938	HQ's Luzon Force	12-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Oryoku Maru

NAME	RANK	ACADEMY CLASS	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH	BURIED-MEMORIALIZED @	OTHER INFORMATION
George Kappes *	Captain	1938	92 nd Coast Artillery (PS)	10-15-44	Manila American Cemetery	Arisan Maru
Frederick A Miller *	Captain	1938	60 th Coast Artillery	10-24-44	Manila American Cemetery	Arisan Maru
Joseph R Barker II *	Captain	1938	26 th Cavalry (PS)	11-1-43	Manila American Cemetery	organized guerillas on Luzon, betrayed and executed by the Japs with others at the Chinese Cemetery, Manila
Edgar S Rosenstock *	Captain	1938	Coast Artillery Corp	1-31-45	none located	Brazil Maru, died at Kokura Military Hospital, Japan
Frederick J Gerlich *	Captain	1938	59 th Coast Artillery	10-24-44	Manila American Cemetery	Arisan Maru
Lawrence C Baldwin *	Captain	1938	60 th Coast Artillery	2-4-45	none located	Brazil Maru, died at Kokura Hospital, Japan
Ralph B Praeger *	Major	1938	26 th Cavalry (PS)	12-31-44	Manila American Cemetery	guerilla leader, captured and executed by the Japs
James R Holmes *	Captain	1938	59 th Coast Artillery	10-24-44	Manila American Cemetery	Arisan Maru

NAME	RANK	ACADEMY CLASS	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH	BURIED-MEMORIALIZED @	OTHER INFORMATION
Samuel L Barbour Jr *	Major	1938	23 rd Field Artillery (PS)	4-13-45	buried Manila American Cemetery Sec D-2-270	Brazil Maru, died at Fukuoka Camp # 3 in Japan
Earle M Shiley *	Captain	1938	60 th Coast Artillery	2-2-45	buried Jefferson Barracks, St Louis on 9-27-49	Brazil Maru, died Fukuoka POW camp in Japan
Louis N Dosh *	Captain	1938	57 th Infantry (PS)	1-20-45	Manila American Cemetery	Brazil Maru
Robert A Barker *	Captain	1938	31 st Infantry	1-17-45	Manila American Cemetery	Brazil Maru
Coral M Talbott *	Captain	1938	31 st Infantry	7-21-42	buried Parkview Cemetery, Peoria, Ill.	Died at Cabanatuan POW camp
Edgar H Dale *	Captain	1938	71 st Infantry (PA)	2-16-43	buried, ashes returned to Arlington National Cemetery 10-29-48	Cabanatuan POW camp, Nagato Maru, died at Osaka POW camp, Japan
Collin B Whitehurst Jr *	Major	1938	Visayan Mindanao Force	10-24-44	Manila American Cemetery	Arisan Maru
John H Davis Jr	Captain	1939	91 st Coast Artillery (PS)	1-1-45	Manila American Cemetery	Enoura Maru
Charles E White	Captain	1939	92 nd Coast Artillery (PS)	9-7-44	Manila American Cemetery	Shinyo Maru sunk by USS Paddle off Mindanao

NAME	RANK	ACADEMY CLASS	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH	BURIED-MEMORIALIZED @	OTHER INFORMATION
Phillip H Lehr	Captain	1939	91 st Coast Artillery (PS)	12-31-44	Manila American Cemetery	Enoura Maru
Kenneth C Griffiths	Captain	1939	24 th Field Artillery (PS)	8-22-42	buried Manila American Cemetery Plot F Row 7 # 13	most likely died in pow camp
George T Brietling	Captain	1939	43 rd Infantry (PS)	1-20-45	Manila American Cemetery	Davao POW camp and Brazil Maru
Samuel A Madison	Captain	1939	59 th Coast Artillery Fort Drum	2-3-45	buried Manila American Cemetery Plot B Row 14 # 140	Enoura Maru
Donald R Snoke	Captain	1939	59 th Coast Artillery	1-11-45	Manila American Cemetery	Enoura Maru
Rudyard K Grimes	Captain	1939	57 th Infantry (PS)	10-16-42	buried Elmwood Cemetery, Abilene, Texas	died Cabanataun POW camp
Herbert H Eichlin Jr	Captain	1939	31 st Infantry	1-27-45	Manila American Cemetery	Brazil Maru
Wiley L Dixon Jr	Captain	1939	23 rd Infantry (PA)	1-20-45	none located	died at Zentsuji POW camp in Japan
John F Presnell Jr	Captain	1940	14 th Engineers (PS)	1-19-45	Manila American Cemetery	Brazil Maru
Robert G Cooper	Captain	1940	59 th Coast Artillery	1-9-45	Manila American Cemetery and Arlington National Cemetery	Enoura Maru

NAME	RANK	ACADEMY CLASS	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH	BURIED-MEMORIALIZED @	OTHER INFORMATION
Joseph V Iacobucci	Captain	1940	Philippine Dept Hqs	3-14-45	buried Jefferson Barracks, St Louis, ashes returned 9-7-1949	Brazil Maru, died at Fukuoka POW camp
Robert I Wheat	Captain	1940	92 nd Coast Artillery (PS)	2-22-45	none located	Brazil Maru, died at Fukuoka # 22, Tadakuma Coal Mine
Vincente E Gepte	Captain	1940	General Lim's XO (PA)	8-28-44	buried North Cemetery, Manila	worked in underground, executed by Japs
John J Murphy Jr	Captain	1940	61 st Field Artillery (PA)	9-7-44	Manila American Cemetery	on Shinyo Maru sunk by USS Paddle
Walter I Wald	Captain	1940	61 st Field Artillery (PA)	9-7-44	Manila American Cemetery	on Shinyo Maru, sunk by USS Paddle
Augustus J Cullen	Captain	1940	Coast Artillery HQ's	2-9-45	none located	Brazil Maru, died at Fukuoka 3 in Japan
Robert P Pierpont	1 st Lt	1941	14 th Engineers (PS)	10-24-44	Manila American Cemetery	Arisan Maru

NAME	RANK	ACADEMY CLASS	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH	BURIED-MEMORIALIZED @	OTHER INFORMATION
Hector J Polla	1 st Lt	1941	57t Infantry (PS)	1-21-45	Manila American Cemetery and memorial stone Lexington Mo.	Cabanatuan POW camp and Brazil Maru. His diary and calendar found and donated to West Point

NOTES:

* The Class of 1938 had 16 members who died at the hands of the Japanese. All, except Captain Lawrence C Baldwin are listed on a marker to the Class of 1938 in Orange County, New York, the home of West Point.

Two stranger than fiction stories come from The West Point Ring Recovery Program. This program was inaugurated to find and return lost USMA class rings. The Japanese soldiers, as well as officers, had an affinity for robbing the prisoners of rings, watches, fountain pens, and other personnel property. Many graduates lost their class rings as a result of this banditry. Eugene Smith, a civilian contractor captured on Wake Island, had two such rings in his possession at the time of his death. Smith had been imprisoned at Camp Fukuoka during the war. The rings went to his nephew who was a friend of a 1967 West Point graduate, who in turn, got in touch with the Ring Recovery people. One ring, Class of 1925, was determined to belong to Lt Colonel Edward C Mack, who died at Camp Fukuoka on April 9, 1945. The ring was returned to his son, John H Mack, a West Point graduate, Class of 1961. The other ring belonged to a member of the Class of 1934, Major Howard M Batson, Jr. Colonel Batson died at Camp Fukuoka on January 28, 1945. The ring was returned to his nephew, Lt Colonel (Ret) Hugh J Hall, Jr, Class of 1953.

@ Buried/memorialized: if the location is preceded by “buried at” and a plot number, then that’s where the soldier was last buried. Many were removed from local cemeteries or burial places in the jungle after the war and relocated, most to the Manila American Cemetery, however, some were returned to other locations. If shown as “Manila American Cemetery,” they are on the tablets of the missing”, remains not recovered. This also accounts for those on the hell ships. Some remains, such as at Cabanatuan, were not located, therefore not listed on tablets.

RESEARCH SOURCES

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Hell's Guest, Colonel Glenn D Frazier
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MacArthur's Escape by George W Smith
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Various Wikipedia web sites
Philippine Scouts Heritage Society web site
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World War II Memorial web site
POW Network web site
National Grave Site Locator web site
Philippine Defenders web site
Find A Grave web site
Arlington National Cemetery web site
Gloria Terry
Laura Granberry Snow