

George

Henry

James

No. 60

Peter Loring

BKS. II

All this started when  
Ernest Arnold came into  
the cafe and got to talk-  
ing about the Marines. I  
had planned on joining the  
Marine Corps for quite a  
while. So in November  
1939 we both went to  
Dallas and took our ex-  
amination and pass. We were  
called to report on December  
1st 1939. Ernest and I  
left Dallas with six other  
men at nine o'clock the  
fourth of December. Arrived  
in San Diego the six. We  
began our recruit training.  
We finish our training  
and our platoon was split  
up. Ernest went to the  
Marines and I went back to  
the rifle range. After I

finish my duty there. I went  
back to the base for two  
weeks. I left on the U.S.S.  
Bridge for Mare Island Navy  
Yard. Stayed at Mare Island  
for six months. Next aboard  
the U.S.S. Chaumont June 19<sup>th</sup>  
and left San Francisco June  
21<sup>st</sup> for China. Stopped at  
Honolulu 27<sup>th</sup> for three days  
and left. We also stopped  
at Wake Island for a  
short time. Arrived at  
Guam Island the 14<sup>th</sup> July  
for a day or so. Left Guam  
and arrived in Manila  
July 21<sup>st</sup>. Left Manila and  
arrived in Shanghai the  
26<sup>th</sup> of July. My tour of duty  
in Shanghai was a good one  
but short. Only 15 months.

In November 1941 we  
received orders to evacuate  
Shanghai. Went aboard the  
President Linna Madson on  
the 26<sup>th</sup> of November we  
left Shanghai, our destination  
unknown. The first of Dec.  
we landed in Cenangor P.T.

Our stay there was  
being much different than  
Shanghai.

On the morning of the  
7<sup>th</sup> called to arms was sounded.  
We were told that we were  
at war with Japan. Much  
trouble was started with  
organizations. All of our time  
was taken up with work.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> we was attacked  
for the first time. Six  
Japanese Zero fighters came  
over and strafed the yard.

and shot up seven PB7's  
that was anchor there. We  
expended forty six thousand  
rounds of ammunition that  
day at the planes. Received  
word that we was credit  
with two planes. The 13<sup>th</sup>  
we was bombed by 27  
Japanese bombers.

We left Olangapo Christ-  
mas eve and went to  
Mariveles Christmas Day.  
Stayed there until the  
twenty eight and left for  
Corregidor that night. Got  
there the twenty ninth  
in the early morning. At  
noon that day an raid  
signal went and all  
hell broke loose. The  
correct number of Japanese

bombers. I don't know I think there were at least 60 or 70 planes over us that day. We were in middle side barracks that and a bomb came completely through the barracks and we were in. Escape that time

After the bombing our platoon went to Chong Kwan and was station there until the surrender of Germany.

On May 5<sup>th</sup> the night of the surrender I was wounded by shell fire from Bataan.

May 7<sup>th</sup> I entered Malabuta Hospital and stay there until June 29<sup>th</sup>. June 30<sup>th</sup> went aboard a Japanese hospital ship and

arrived in Manila. Went  
to Bilibid Hospital. Remained  
there one night and de-  
parted for Cabanatuan Prison  
Camp No. 2. July 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The first few months  
in camp was very grim.  
The food was scant and  
medicine was none. I can  
not express in words the  
life we had in camp. Men  
were dying thirty to forty  
a day. When I left camp  
for Japan the number  
dead 2740 in the cemetery.

Due to my wounded leg  
I never worked until Jan.  
1943 when working details  
were very heavy on the  
farm. I finally got a  
special duty job on the



from with the civilians  
working on pipes and mortar.  
Stayed on that job until  
March. June I done general  
work. I got another special  
duty job with Capt. Erik  
Mottel on the sanitary de-  
tail inside camp. That lasted  
for a month and July  
I went back to general  
work again. August I  
got a special duty job  
as number in American  
Prisoner Headquarters. Stayed  
there until March 6<sup>th</sup> 1944.  
March 7<sup>th</sup>: Left on outgoing de-  
tail for Japan. Arrived at  
Bilibid Prison around noon.  
Saw a lot of old Shanghai  
friends.

March 8 to 22 -

Stayed in Bilibid. Chow  
is very slim. Cracked corn  
in place of rice and baked  
spuds and most of the time  
the spuds had worms. One  
time we had a ration of  
one spoonful of corn.

March 23 -

Received personal package  
from home and letters.  
Received two packages and they  
were nice. Everyone is fine  
at home.

March 24 -

Left Bilibid this morning  
and went aboard ship at 11:00  
A.M. The Taikoku Maru and  
left at noon.

March 27 -

Arrived at Formosa. Nice  
trip.

April 3 -

Left Formosa for Japan

April 11 -

Arrived at Osaka. It is very cold. Like to be back in the tropic.

April 12 -

Travelled by train all night. Really nice to travel like a human being again instead of traveling in last car.

April 13 -

Arrived at our new camp. I was much surprised at our barracks. Had bed and electric light.

April 13-19 -

Worked around camp. Received bath and soap. It is very cold. Snowed also.

April 13 to 19 -

We are also getting barley instead of rice. Our food is prepared in Japanese style.

April 20 -

Went to work in the mines. First kind of this work I ever done.

April 21 to 24 -

Still working in the mine. Same work. My leg isn't doing so good.

April 25 to 30.

Work as usual. Leg is getting much worse.

May 1 to 20 -

Was issued Red Cross shoes. Work the same. Had a day off also. All this month together has been very hard to get until the Red Cross package came in.

May 21-

Last night we had a black-out. The black-out is still on.

May 22 to 24-

I went back to work and in the same. The leg is still giving me hell.

May 25 to 31-

In this time I have change jobs. Thanks to the Major I have been told that I might get a job in camp due to my leg trouble.

June 1-

I got my special duty job and it's swell. Really help my leg.

June 2-

Everything is going fine. I'm old job around camp today.

June 3-

Didn't do much today. Not feeling so good, to much grass.

June 4-

Carried rations and done miscellaneous jobs around camp.

June 5-

Inspection coming up soon. Work around camp pulling up grass. In the afternoon planted soy-beans. Rumors are coming in that the war is over. I hope so.

June 6-

Worked around camp as usual. Rained a bit also.

June 7-

Same as usual. Rumor that we are to get Red Cross Package again. No inspection yet.

June 8-

Didn't do much today.

June 9-

Same old stuff. Odd job around. They are building another camp across the way from us. Rumor is that the Chinese are going to move in. Still not cigarettes for a long time.

June 19-

Worked as usual. Still no hope about cigarettes. The rumor came in that the Americans landed in France. Hope so. Chew is still very small.

July 11-

Got a new job now. Care and cleaning the latrines. Army medical doctor and captain came in yesterday from Tokyo. Got cigarettes today.

June 12-

Plenty of work around camp. Suppose to be in inspection tomorrow.

June 13-

Inspection is put off until tomorrow. Worked all around camp again. My leg is giving me a trouble again. Dope came in that United States and Japan have agreed with the States, to feed all American prisoners of war.

June 14-

Are still preparing for the inspection. The Japanese Colonel is suppose to be here tomorrow.

June 15-

The inspecting Colonel arrived this morning. He inspected the camp and barracks.



I'm sure he found every-  
thing in perfect order. The  
Colonel also gave us a  
speech, told us to work  
as ordered. Also to take  
good care of ourselves as well.  
Another Dr. said was  
founded.

June 16-

Yuruma almost all day Ration  
came in and had to carry it in.  
Had a earthquake also, it shook  
everything pretty hard. The air-  
raid is still on. The weather  
is pretty miserable. And June too.

June 17

Wof much around camp to-  
day. I forgot to mention about  
the change of diet. We are now  
eating maize which in my opinion  
is not as good as barley. Up  
to date since our arrival there  
we received sixty eight cigarettes.  
WE WERE SUPPOSE TO GET FIVE A DAY.

June 18-

Cleaned out the heads today, nasty job. We are having a big discussion about punishment on a man who stole. In peace-time we have our own means, here the punishment consists of lashing. No cigarette as yet.

June 19-

Things have been a little quiet. Carried rations in the afternoon. Received five cigarettes which makes a total of seventy-three up to date.

June 20-

Today is two months that we have been working in the mine. Had very good fried fish today. Didn't do much work today.

June 21-

Worked as usual around camp. Nothing special happens. Tomorrow should be cigarette day.

June 22-

Worked pretty steady this morning. Cleaned out the room in the barracks try to get rid of the fleas we have to contend with.

June 23-

Worked in the camp yard this morning and yard made this afternoon. Received five cigarettes which makes seventy-eight.

June 24-

Just odd jobs today. No news of any sort.

June 25-

Same as usual. Got ten cigarettes which makes eighty-eight up to date.

June 26-

Rain all day today. I don't think they summer here at this altitude. One personal package came in this afternoon. No name on it. I understand half of its idiom are missing.

June 27-

Sun was out just about all day. Washed clothes and carried rations this afternoon. Quite a bit of air activity also. Starting tomorrow we are supposed to have soy beans in place of maize. Was used soap.

June 28 to 30-

We started to eat beans in place of maize. The soy beans are very hard to eat. It made me very sick. For several days I haven't been able to eat

anything. We got in forty five  
sacks of potatoes and we had  
a meal of spuds which went  
very nice. We are getting a little  
fish which we need very much.  
Was issued five cigarettes which  
makes a total of ninety three  
up to date. Leg Ben hurting a little.  
July 1.-

We are having a change  
in work and barracks. Our  
room with the exception of  
Zull and myself are moving  
to another barracks. I was  
very much surprised we received  
the new cigarettes today, which  
makes ninety eight.

July 2.-

The move was made today  
with the exception of Zull and  
myself. It's commencing to rain.

late this afternoon. We also  
had our pictures taken. I like  
them. I think we had a quite day.  
We still have no grain to  
eat except for two meals  
we had rice. Turnips, beans,  
and potatoes have been our food.

July 3 -

This morning at Tinke, just  
as it started to fire started  
down below. Small explosion  
went off and then a big  
one went off. It knocked out  
window panes and shook things  
around plenty. The men could  
not go to work this morning.

July 4 -

Same as usual. Air raid  
was sounded this morning.  
Nothing else of importance. Also  
no cigarettes as yet. Acta.

BROTHER G. 27