

"saw the first plane dive and release a bomb. We thought a wheel had fallen off the airplane and then heard the explosion and saw the smoke rise from the Air Base. After they bombed Wheeler they



came over to our barracks strafing the quarter sand troops. The Wolfhound bugler sounded Call to Arms and two men from my company got hit by the strafing planes. The troops broke into the supply room and we got machine guns and set them up on the roof and around the barracks and started to return fire. Our company was ordered to load it's guns and take up positions south of Pearl Harbor. The road to our beach positions ran right along the shores of Pearl and, as we reached the harbor, the Japs started their second run. At the time the harbor was a mass of smoke and fire and the sky was full of bursting AA shells trying to nail the Japs.. As we passed by I could see many ships burning and sinking. The lives of all of us were changed, directly or indirectly, on that day of

infamy, by what happened there.

"I spent eleven years overseas in the combat branch and am a retired Federal Law Enforcement Officer. It is possible that I am the only former Wolfhound to hold both the Distinguished Rifle and Pistol Badges (Solid gold badges, of which there are fewer awarded than Medals of Honor.).

"I must, also, mention my old buddy, S/Sgt. Ed Fulton, dscd., who was a machine gunner, in the Rgt., and was credited with disposing of seventy Japs, on New Georgia, while they were attacking his position. He was also a PHS."

(Kellin Doyle) "On 7 Dec., the Top said arm yourselves and get to the roof. Defend the Post. He didn't say how to do it - just do it. The supply sgt. wasn't there and we had to break down the supply room door. I was a Pfc. and grabbed a BAR and bandoleer and went to the roof. Our squad leader, Billy Goetz, had a .30 cal. air cooled machine gun and was right beside me. On the first pass I got hit, a nick on the shoulder, and it knocked me down - and made me that much madder. The next plane was so low, on his strafing run, we could see him wave and grin, but he ran out of grin. We led him, like a Mallard, and Billy and I both got credit for shooting him down. They gave us both Bronze Stars for that and I got my first Purple Heart."

(Harold "Sarge" Cook) "Dec. 7, 1941, was a very beautiful and peaceful Sunday and most of the soldiers were lounging around in the mess hall eating all them old Army goodies. I was outside with a few of the boys catching a smoke and jawboning when all these planes came over and started strafing the area. Everyone scrambled for cover. In what seems hours we had men on the barracks roofs

(Cook) "quad, altho, armed only with a pistol and an eight inch likght pole to protect me. All the troops were moved out of Hqs. building and the dependents were all moved in. I was ordered to pick up one of the AT trucks, Red Ellison, and a load of barbed wire and head for the Campbell St. School which was to be the AT hqs. We traveled thru Wheeler Field (all afire) with people running and screaming everywhere, down the Kam Hwy., thru Pearl City area (flames, smoke, and a sickening stench jung over everything). MP's were posted to insure that no one stopped and that unathorized traffic stayed off the road. My company had taken up some field positions and the rest of us were put to work making barbed wire aprons, concertinas which we put on Waikiki Beach, Doris Duke's Channel, and the Ala wai and lived at the Moana Hotel for a spell. We were later moved back to the upper post at Skokie - into tents."



(Fred Edinger) "I came to Hawaii about March 1941, and was assigned to Foxx Co., 27 Inf. Rgt., 25 Inf. Div. It was peacetime and Fighting Foxx was a "jock strap" outfit. The CO's name was Capt. Griffin and the "Bulldog's" name was "Snuffy" Smith. Unless you were one of the atheletes you pulled fatigue duty every afternoon after training in the morning. We were off Wed. and Sat. afternoons and Sunday unless you caught duty. I worked in the orderly room in the morning and went to clerks school in the afternoon. We drew \$21 a day, once a month, and it was then like (oweing your soul to the company store) that we paid off our tabs (PX, beer, barbers, and theater).. These were all issue items and by the time we settled the ledger, at the end of the month, some of us would be in the red. There were a lot of gamblers, also, and a lot of troopers would be broke the next day. The \$3 for \$5 sharks would also stand in the line waiting to collect their loans. I would be remiss if I left out the Mess Sgt. In his domain he had as much power as the Top. This was a very persuasive mess Sgt. and us Pvts. had better get the job done right the first time. I sure hated to catch KP on Fri. because Sat. morning was always inspection and we had to stay till 2200 or 2300 to get the pots and pans and the mess hall shining.

"On 7 Dec. 1941, we were eating chow in the F Co. mess hall when the noise started. I was a Pfc in Hqs. Co. and was told to get the acting 1/Sgt., a big mick named Armstrong. I went to his quarters and knocked at his door. He came out and said 'not to get excited, this was the real thing'. I was 22 years old. We went back to the company area and were told to draw ammo from the supply room and

"go up on the roof with our rifles and fire at the planes which were strafing the barracks.

"It wasn't long before we got word to move out in trucks to defend our assigned beach area. This was from Diamond Head around the south end of Oahu to just pass the blow hole. Our Co. CP was located above Hanama Bay. As we passed Hickam Field it looked like total destruction. We went past Pearl Harbor and saw much smoke there, and on thru Honolulu where people lined the streets to give us moral support they had not offered in the past. We went to our positions and set up machine guns and guard posts. For six months we worked jack hammers and dug gun positions in the coral rock. We were expecting attack from the ocean in the form of two man subs and, right along with all that digging, we pulled guard duty at night. We had a nes 1/Sgt., named Winston, and, I believe Capt. Black was our CO. Our platoon sgt. was Bill "Chubby" Curran and a Cpl. Killian. These were fine soldiers. After six months we returned to Skokie Brks. and had intensive jungle training and loading and unloading on transports. We must have been going somewhere."

(James Jones) "After Pearl Harbor, I was on a beach position in Honolulu, a Cpl. in the Inf. The Beach was deserted then. The pavilion was locked up. We had strung barbed wire along the beach. Our company commander had got permission to put a gate of concertina in the wire so we could swim. Without girl swimmers, tho, it was much less fun, and gradually we all but stopped. I got a double shock that spring, 1942, my father shot himself and I would later speculate wheter a turndown by the Army was more than he could handle. I loved my father and I hated to see him go that way. He deserved a better fate."

(Leo Lefevre) "On Sat., 6 Dec. 1941, my buddy, Pete Sobronski, and I had three day passes until Mon. evening.. We took in all the sights and stayed out all night Sat. night. Sunday morning we woke up, at 0500, near Wakikiki Beach and hailed a Filipino cabbie, driving a 1929 Chrysler, to take us back to Skokie so we could get some more money and clean uniforms. We heard a lot of noise and asked the cabbie what was going on and he said the air corps was having a big manuever. We asked him if he had a radio and to turn it on. It said everybody on pass was to report to their post - war was on. I looked at Pete -- and two guys can't drink out of the same bottle at the same time. We watched Pearl Harbor being blown up and then dropped two gys off at Hickham Field and then went on the the Barracks. The cabbie asked for his fare and we told him he'd better get inside the build-- ing (we were being strafed) before we all got killed. The cabbie stayed up there for three days because he was afraid to go back to Honolulu. We never did pay for that cab ride and - worse, we got beat out of two days leave - still coming. I really wanted to kill those Japs. After the attack we were placed on alert."



Leo Lefevre

(Harold Brushwein) "On 1 Oct. 1941, I was a member of the 27 Inf. Rgt. and was present at the birth of the Tropic Lightning Division. I was a 1/Lt. and acting adjt. of the 1 Btn. under the command of L/Col. Champney.

"Dec. 7, 1941, was a memorable day. I had been given the command of Able Co., Wolfhounds. We had been called out on anti-sabotage duty 27 Nov. My company was responsible for a sector that included the city of Honolulu. We set up a camp in one of the parks. The company had guards on all the important installations that are necessary to keep the city functioning. This included the water plant, electric plant, the oil dump and our end of the Pacific cable to mention a few. We also had two command vehicles with mounted machine guns patrolling the city. The one thing that stuck out in my mind as strange at the time was the fact that we were issued live

"ammo. On all other previous alerts our ammo remained sealed. On this particular morning we had finished our breakfast and the 1/Sgt. and I were inspecting the camp. I heard what I thought was large guns firing from the direction of Pearl Harbor. I mentioned this to the Top and it was probably the shore batteries doing some target practice. We then noticed a plane flying almost overhead. There was a puff of smoke from the AA shell directly behind the plane and I commented that the practice was somewhat realistic - then I saw the meatball on the plane's side. We started back to the command tent and were met by the company clerk telling us that we were being attacked and to strengthen our guards at their positions. This was difficult to do since the company consisted of about 150 men and one officer."

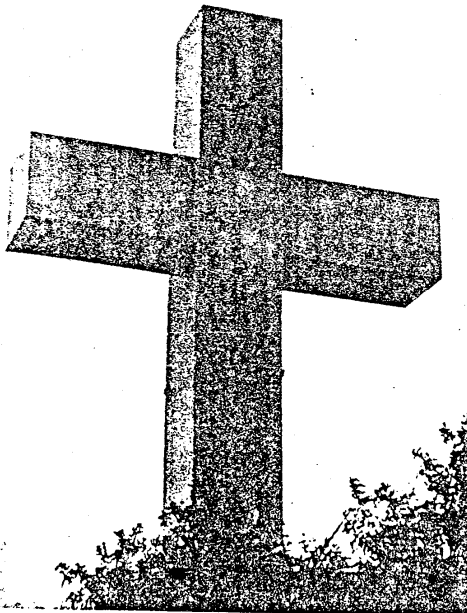
(Phil File) "Immediately after the Jap attack we were posted to installation guard and patrol duty downtown Honolulu. At noon, 6 Dec., two of D Co.'s men had been posted to guard a pumping station up in the valley. In the excitement no one had missed them till the following Wed. afternoon. A command car was sent to pick them up. They were found, walking side by side around the pumping station, afraid to leave their post for fear of being courts-martialed for desertion and afraid to separate so one could go to find out what was happening. They had heard the bombing and seen the smoke but had no ammo to enlighten them. After their sandwiches were gone they'd had nothing to eat and they were in truly bad shape. They spent two weeks in the hospital recovering."

"Bill Austen was on foot patrol downtown, one night, when the Sgt. of the guard came by and Bill said he could hear a radio transmitting. Listening intently we could hear it, also. There were buzzes, clicks, and squawks coming from a building nearby. It was just a short distance to the FBI Office and we quickly got an agent to supervise a raid. When we opened the door, our flashlights shone on the face of a very frightened Jap woman. She couldn't speak and her mouth was opening and closing like a fish out of water. She just pointed up a flight of stairs. At the top we pushed open a door to disclose a group of Japs around a transmitter that filled half the room. They offered no resistance and submitted to arrest. I went with a group of agents to raid a Jap establishment, in the Kamuki District, and when we took the people into custody, one of the young ladies, a German National, promised faithfully that when she got out of prison she would hunt me down and slit my throat."

"After a few weeks of guard duty we moved out of Honolulu and made bivouac between Hickham Field and John Rogers Airport, in an algaroba thicket. We went into an intensive defensive program between Kam Peninsula to Kaneohe Bay and Waikiki and Diamond Head, training with crew served weapons and performing necessary guard and fatigue duties. Breakfast was eaten in the dark so we could be on the job at daylight. Lunch was a sandwich and piece of fruit, eaten on the job, and the evening meal was eaten after dark. Our only entertainment was guard duty."

"The Navy housing for civilian employees at Pearl Harbor was between our camp and the main road. In their infinite wisdom the brass decided there should be a guard posted at the main highway to alert the camp if any VIP's should appear. The cafeteria for the civilians was halfway between camp and the highway. Those individuals fortunate enough to pull gate guard would stop and have fresh eggs and bacon when coming off duty. Inasmuch as our cooks were just learning to master the culinary arts of dehydrated eggs and dried potatoes, this was quite a treat. The cafeteria was off limits to military personnel, but as long as there were no complaints the official eye was turned aside. But, like all good things, it had to end. The serpent entered the Garden of Eden. One of the

(File) "troopers fell in love with a waitress and when he witnessed her giving attention to another, he turned the rival in to the Duty Officer. In the raid that followed, minutes later, several non-coms and numerous other lower ranks were apprehended. Result - strict enforcement in the cafeteria and no more fresh eggs and bacon.



Metal cross at Kolekole Pass.

"For further entertainment we had card and dice games that sprang up wherever two or more persons were gathered together for a few minutes. Someone decided to put a coke machine in the Bn. JF. A few weeks later we started having an unusually large turn out for sick call with identical complaints of upset stomach. The Bn. Surgeon was an astute individual who directed that they 'get rid of that damned coke machine!'. In a few days every stomach was back to normal. Some of the troops had been drinking dozens of cokes a day.

"On the hill above Aiea was a pumping station guarded by the Hawaiian National Guard. One day I was ordered to pack my gear and go up to take charge of the guard detail and straighten out whatever I might find wrong (There must have been suspicions.). When I arrived I found a Chinaman on duty who said the Sgt. had gone down town to look for the rest of the detail. When the Sgt. returned with two of his men

I read him the riot act and made up a new guard schedule designed to fit in with a full time training program. That didn't make me too popular; but, by working them hard they were glad to get to bed at night. While up there, thru an administrative foul up I had been left off the payroll and, after the second pay missed, I complained about it to a buddy in Div. When I went down for the next mess I was told to report to Col. Bledsoe, the Div. C/S. He questioned me about my pay status and advised me the matter would be looked into. The next afternoon a redfaced company commander appeared with a partial pay in his hand. The following day I was relieved of command at the pumping station and returned to duty with the company.

"I was then given the AT Platoon, 37 mm AT gun, etc. Never having seen a tank larger than the little tin boxes the 11 Tank Co., at Skokie, had we thought the little gun was the last word in defense against armor. We knocked ourselves out practicing thru gun drill. We had one squad, Phillips gunner, Miller no. two, and Rozniak driving that could go into action with the truck rolling at thirty MPH and get the first aimed shot off in under five seconds. I think Seasome was squad leader. At the command Action! Rozniak would throw the prime mover into a skidding 180, literally slinging the gun around to point in the firing direction while the crew hit the ground running to unhook the pintle, spread the trails and simulate loading. I don't know why no one was ever injured during this constant drill; however, this training really paid off three years later, on Luzon, when we met a Jap tank bearing down on us at 35 MPH.

(File) "As training intensified we were moved from the algaroba flats back to Skokie, but not into barracks. We were bivouaced near the known distance firing range. I was detailed a Btn. Sgt./Mjr. which took me away from the troop activity I preferred. I tried to do my best, but my heart was never really in administrative matters. Our Btn. CO was L/Col. Claude Jurney, as fine a soldier's commander as could be found.. If it hadn't been for his patience with me I'm sure I'd have gotten the "short shrift". My Btn. clerk was Allen D. Snyder.

"We practiced daily climbing up and down mock-ups of ships sides with landing nets hung on them. We were given verbal description of so-called Higgins' Boats, which would appear to be the typical landing craft for beaches - like we were going somewhere.. Then we were issued OD uniforms and given the opportunity to go to our barracks and secure our foot lockers and personal possessions and ship them back to the ZI. My parents were in Alaska and I made up a package to be sent to them. They actually got it.

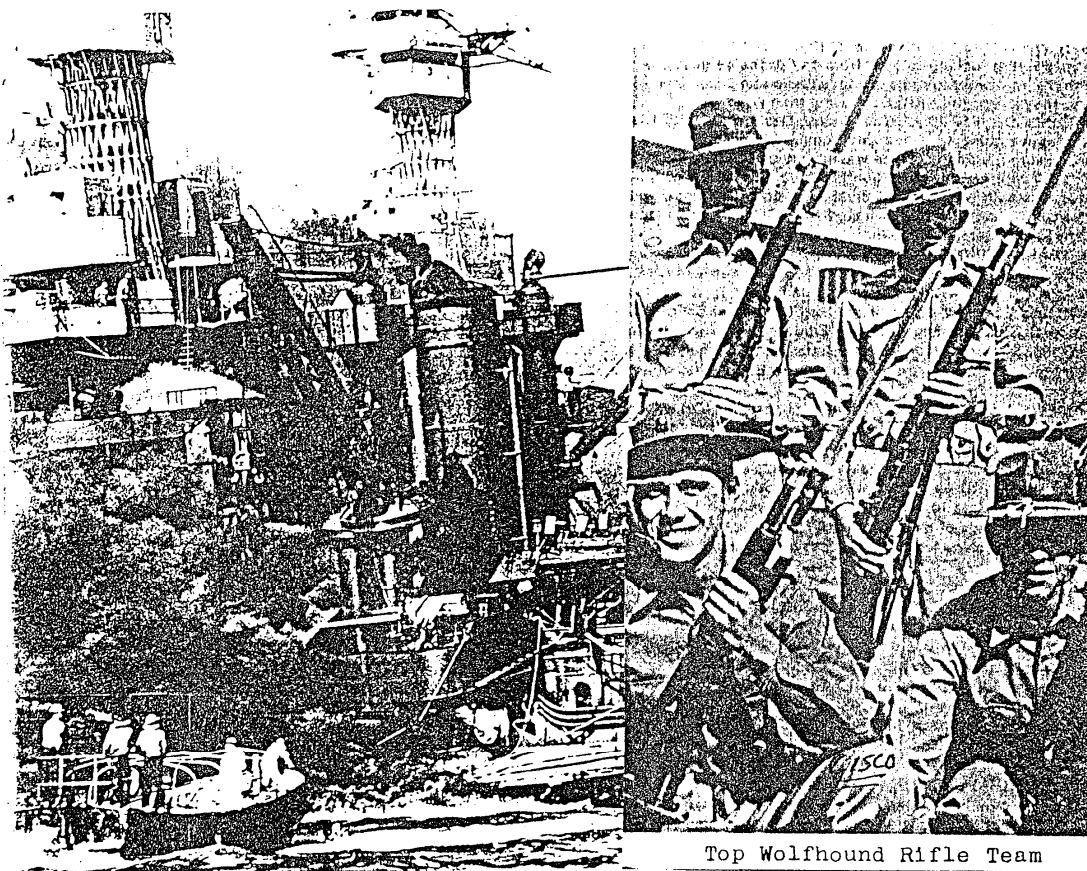
(Charlie Davis) "My wife and I had been at Schofield Barracks since July 1941 and, as an almost new 2 Lt., I was assigned to the 27th Inf. Wolfhounds. In accord with a Hawaiian Dept. anti-sabotage plan, our 2 Btn., was alerted in Nov. 1941, and we were deployed in the Honolulu area guarding vital installations. On Sat., 6 Dec., I was officiating a football game at Schofield Barracks and, early the next morning, I received a call on EE8, connected with the Hawaiian exchange, the Japs were bombing Wheeler Field - the fighter base near Schofield Barracks."

"After passing the message to the Btn. CO, Mjr. Tom Griffin, I went outside to witness the Jap planes start their bombing runs on the ships at Pearl Harbor. We then reverted to our Department reserve mission and consolidated at Ft. Shafter. Among my most vivid memories of this time are the premature birth of our daughter, on 8 Dec., several fights our units had with other friendlies during the excitement, placing a Jap midget sub commander in the Shafter stockade.

"After intensive training during the first eight, or nine months of 1942, we boarded ships heading for Australia. En route we were ordered, because of our offensive in the Solomons, to Noumea, New Caladonia. There we regrouped and sailed for Guadalcanal."



Division soldiers on Waikane Trail in Hawaii in 1942.



Top Wolfhound Rifle Team

Defense of Oahu conducted by 25th Division in 1942.



Obituary of Rev. John W. Scannell

The Rev. John W. Scannell, resident of San Diego, CA., died on February 14, 1998, at 91 years of age. Mass will be held at St. Therese Catholic Church and interment at the Riverside National Cemetery.

Father Scannell was born in Ottumwa, Iowa, on March 28, 1907. He received a B. A. Degree from St. Ambrose College, Davenport, Iowa. After studying at Kenrick Seminary, St. Louis, Mo. and St. Thomas Seminary, Denver, Colo. (receiving an M. A. Degree) he was ordained to the priesthood on May 26, 1934, for the Archdiocese of Denver. He served for nearly seven years at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Colorado Springs, Colo. He joined the Army Reserve Officers' Association in Colorado Springs and was commissioned an officer in the Chaplain Corps of the Army of the United States in January, 1940.

Called to active duty, he was the first chaplain to serve at Camp Callan, Torrey Pines Mesa, San Diego, California, on March 31, 1941. Camp Callan was a Coast Artillery Replacement Center. Every 13 weeks, 7,000 men received basic training. San Diego at that time had 75,000 inhabitants.

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Chaplain Scannell volunteered for overseas duty and sailed from Fort Mason, California, on April 7, 1942. Arriving in Oahu, April 17, he was assigned to the Tropic Lightning 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks and attached to the 35th Infantry Regiment. After three weeks he was ordered by the Hawaiian Department to report to the 24th Infantry Division and was attached to the 19th Infantry Regiment (The Rocks of Chickamauga).

In the fall of 1942, the 25th Infantry division was ordered to a combat zone. Lacking chaplains, Chaplain Scannell volunteered to fill one of these vacancies and on Nov. 7, 1942, reported for duty and was attached to the 27th Infantry Regiment, called the Wolfhounds. Most of the 25th Division's fighting took place in the jungles of Guadalcanal, the Solomon Islands and the Island of Luzon.

During his three years overseas, Chaplain Scannell received the following decorations and citations: the Legion of Merit, the Silver Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, the American Defense Theater Ribbon, the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon, the Philippine Liberation Ribbon, the Victory Medal, and the Presidential Unit Citation (25th Division).

(OVER)

Chaplain Scannell's military service may be best epitomized by the award and citation relating to the Legion of Merit:

"Chaplain (Captian) John W. Scannell receives the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in the Solomon and Philippine Islands from Dec. 1, 1942 to Mar. 17, 1945. Chaplain Scannell voluntarily joined an infantry regiment which was departing from Hawaii to participate in the Solomon Islands campaigns. During operations at Guadalcanal he was constantly in the front lines rendering first aid, removing the wounded to safety, and encouraging the men. In New Georgia, before his own unit was committed to action, he voluntarily accompanied another unit going into combat without a chaplain and served in the front lines throughout the unit's part in the campaign. Rejoining his own regiment he remained in the front line during its engagements on Sagekarasa, New Georgia, Arundel and Kolumbangara Islands. At Luzon he was wounded by a sniper as he was giving the last rites to a wounded soldier on the battlefield. Always sharing the hardships of camp life during the intervals when his regiment was not in combat, he took part in all training activities, marches, manuevrs, and set a high example of conduct for the men. Chaplain Scannell's services beyond the call of duty aided immeasurably in maintaining high morale and efficiency through many major campaigns."

Father Scannell was the founding pastor of Christ the King Church in Denver, Colorado, and St. William the Abbot Church, Fort Lupton, Colorado. Fr. Scannell was a Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus (Balboa Assembly, San Diego) and a life member of the Disabled American Veterans.

Surviving his death is a remaing sister, Gail Palmer, Everett, Washington, also four nieces and one nephew - Rita Redlinger, San Diego, Ca., Mary Voorhees, Ames, Iowa, Janet Mick, Abilene, Texas, Carol Moore and Richard Kurtz, Davenport, Iowa. Also many great-nieces and nephews including Kurt Redlinger and Katherine Zubel here in San Diego.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that contributions be made to Birthline of San Diego, 3650 Clairemont Dr., San Diego, CA 92117; (619) 270-2491.

ments of the Division? Colonel Douglas Sugg had taken his 27th Infantry Regiment on a slogging expedition toward Bairoko Harbor aimed at cutting the enemy's supply and retreat route. Near Zieta, the Wolfhounds ambushed and annihilated 200 enemy soldiers. On the 9th of August, with Lieutenant Colonel Joe Rynock's 1st Battalion in the lead, the Wolfhounds made contact with a patrol from Halsey's Northern Landing Force. The juncture of the two forces, north and south, was complete. Overall control of the force was then vested in Lightning Joe Collins and his Division. Spearheaded by the Wolfhounds, the U. S. troops reduced one outpost after another and finally entered Bairoko Harbor late on the afternoon of August 24.

The Division's 35th Infantry, meanwhile, had been off on an ambitious undertaking of its own—the capture of Vella Lavella Island, 14 miles to the northwest at the entrance to The Slot, astride the Jap supply route. To take this island Admiral Halsey designated a new Northern Landing Force under Brigadier General Bob McClure, newly appointed assistant commander of the 25th. McClure's task force consisted of his old regiment, the 35th, under Colonel Everett E. Brown, the 64th Field Artillery; Company C of the 65th Engineers; Company B of the 25th Medical Battalion; the 4th Defense (USMC) Battalion; and the 58th (USN) Seabees. McClure's force won the island and turned it over to New Zealand troops in mid-September.

Following a brief respite at Piru Plantation, Douglas Sugg took his 27th Infantry and a force of Marine Corps armor to Arundel Island where a fierce fight for possession was being waged. Arundel, too, fell victim to the Wolfhounds and the Marines.

By Christmas of 1943 all of the units of the Division had assembled in New Zealand for a "break" that was more than welcome after 12 months of island-hopping and jungle living. It was exactly one year since the Division had seen its first combat on the Canal and everyone went wholeheartedly about the proposition of enjoying the holiday.

When the Division left the happy hunting grounds of New Zealand, however, it had come to a parting of the ways with General Collins, who was ordered to the ETO and an important command under General Eisenhower. Now the Tropic Lightning was under the command of Major General Charles L. Mullins, Jr., a 50-year-old infantryman from Nebraska.

On New Caledonia, Mullins went about the job of rebuilding the combat-depleted, sickness-thinned ranks of the Division he had inherited. Getting it ready for more was a big order. But, in time, the replacements were welded into the outfit, the equipment was brought up to snuff, the prescribed maneuvers had all been maneuvered, and, on January 11, 1945, the Tropic Lightning men clambered down scramble nets, poured into landing craft, and started toward the shore of an island named Luzon.

The Division landed in the San Fabian area and drove across Luzon's Central Plain to crash full force into the enemy six days later at Binalonan. After the Binalonan fight, the GIs of Charley Company of the 161st Infantry found themselves speaking with awe about the bravery of their company aid man, T/4 Lavern Parrish, a Montana boy. Two wounded riflemen were pinned down under a merciless hail of enemy fire. Parrish went to their rescue, reached the first man and pulled him under cover. Then he went back to get the other.

He had to go through a 25-yard area in which there was no protection at all from the flying lead, but he made it and thus heroically saved two lives.

Division patrols, meanwhile, learned that nearby San Manuel was well organized for defense and that it was held by a strong force. General Mullins launched the 161st against it, strongly supported by air bombardment and artillery.

In the early hours, the One-Six-One's Charley Company encountered heavy enemy crossfire in attempting to attack over an open field on the approach to San Manuel. The company fell back to the shelter of a ditch. Medic Parrish caught sight of two wounded men out beyond the ditch in full view of the enemy.

Instantly, the heroic aid man left his sheltered position and started working his way across the field. He managed to bring both men in, but on his second trip he realized that many more wounded were still lying out in the open field. He went right back, snaking from one casualty to another until he had treated 12 men. Three of the more seriously wounded he carried back with him to the ditch. He made the others as comfortable as possible under the circumstances and hurried back to tend the 37 casualties in his company. As he moved down the line of wounded men, Parrish talked soothingly to them, boosting their confidence. Then a Jap mortar shell landed in their midst, and when the smoke cleared away, the men of Charley Company saw the medic's shattered body on the ground. In a few minutes, he was dead.

On January 26, the 161st finally crashed through San Manuel by sheer force of arms. Thirteen soldiers of the One-Six-One gathered after the battle at regimental headquarters for a sort of unofficial celebration, and a group picture was taken. Although there were thirteen, they jokingly called themselves the "Dirty Dozen." They were the last of the regiment's Old Guard remaining on the roster.



Rev. John W. Scannell

Born
March 28, 1907

Ordained
May 26, 1934

"The Grand Adventure"
February 14, 1998

Pray for Priests

The Wolfhounds, meanwhile, driving southeast, occupied a front extending from San Leon to San Quentin. The 35th rejoined the Division after an assignment as Sixth Army Reserve and the Division moved on to capture Umingan, Lupao, and San Jose and destroy a great part of the Japanese tank force on Luzon.

As the spring of 1945 came into full bloom in the war-exhausted world, the 25th headed for the knock-down, drag-out fight at Balete Pass—key to the Cagayan Valley and the cornered hordes of Yamashita. There was peace now in the ETO; the Nazi armies had capitulated to Ike Eisenhower's forces. Elsewhere in the Pacific, Leyte, first of the Philippine Islands to have been liberated, was secured: the Marines had provided a fighter base within 400 miles of the Japanese heartland by their capture of Iwo Jima; the new Tenth Army under General Simon Bolivar Buckner, Jr., grandson of a Confederate general, had the situation well in hand on Okinawa, effectively denying the East China Sea to the enemy; and on Luzon, the GIs who had marched south and taken Manila had already freed thousands of American PWs who had been taken during the Bataan and Corregidor campaigns. Now General of the Army Douglas MacArthur was impatient to get this campaign done with and turn full attention to the invasion of Japan.

South of Kapintalan, General Mullins launched a wide turning movement around the enemy's flank, blocked the Old Spanish Trail, and beat back a series of strong counter-thrusts. The Wolfhounds captured a series of ridges that brought them within two miles (on the southeast side) of the Pass. The 35th kept Highway Number Five open, while the 161st overcame fierce enemy resistance and captured the heights

300 yards west of and directly overlooking the Pass. Real estate came high in this sector. But by May 8, the Wolfhounds were only 500 yards east of the Pass. Still the Japanese fought on doggedly.

Finally, on May 13, the Division's attack carried the Pass and drove on toward Santa Fe. But the toll of dead and wounded was high. Among those left behind in U. S. Army Cemetery Number One at Santa Barbara was Jim Dalton, by then a brigadier, killed by a sniper in the battle for the pass. Later, the Philippine Legislature renamed Balet "Dalton Pass" in his honor.

For another month, the Division continued to pound away at the Jap defenders in their mountain perches, but by the end of June all of the 25th's elements had been ordered to Camp Patrick, south of Tarlac, to retrain for OLYMPIC—the code name for the proposed invasion of Japan.

Taking stock of itself, the Division found it had suffered more combat deaths than any other U. S. division fighting on Luzon—1,134. In addition, it had suffered 3,271 battle wounded and listed one man as missing in action.

Then came August, the month of the

historic dropping of the A-Bomb.

Instead of OLYMPIC, it was BLACKLIST (a plan for the occupation of Japan in case of collapse) that was put into operation. The 25th, after three extra weeks on shipboard due to storm and typhoons, marched ashore in the Wakayama area on October 2.

It was the start of a 57-month tour of occupation duty for the Division, unbroken until the fateful Sunday morning of June 27, 1950, when electrifying news started rolling through the regimental areas. "The Reds are invading South Korea! We're gonna have to go!"

The 161st Infantry was replaced by the 24th Infantry. So when the Korean conflict got underway, the Division went to war with three regular regiments in its order of battle—each woefully understrength, each operating for economy reasons with only two battalions instead of the required three.

Its commanding officer as the Korean struggle got under way was Major General William B. Kean, who had been wartime Chief of Staff of the First Army in the ETO. Kean's 25th rolled out of Camp Majestic near Gifu, out of Camp Sakai near Osaka, and out of the Shimokayama Barracks.

Hastily loaded on boats, the men poured ashore at Pusan, Korea, less than two days later.

The situation into which the 25th plunged was desperate. Some elements of the Division were in the thick of the fight by the ninth of July. The end of the month found the men wearing the Tropic Lightning patch on their shoulders strung out along the northwestern fringe of the shrinking Pusan perimeter.

In August, General Walton H. Walker, overall field commander in Korea, ordered the 25th to man the southwest sector of the 140-mile-long perimeter to guard against a threatened enemy breakthrough to Masan, an eventuality that undoubtedly would have doomed Pusan and the American beachhead. Task Force Kean included the 35th RCT (regimental combat team), the 5th RCT (fresh from Hawaii), the 1st Marine Brigade (also newly arrived) and a battalion of the Republic of Korea Army. It undertook a counteroffensive which secured the left flank of the U. S. Eighth Army and relieved the threat to Masan.

The Wolfhounds, meanwhile, had been jabbed by General Walker as his "Fire Brigade."

"In those days," recalls its famed battle commander Lieutenant Colonel John Michaelis (he is now a brigadier general stationed at West Point), "it was nothing unusual for us to fight near Masan in the south one day and help knock out a North Korean breakthrough near Taegu, 80 road miles away, the next day."

The Wolfhounds came through their baptism of fire at Sangyang-ni in high spirits with a Distinguished Unit Citation to show for their brilliant fight on the vital main supply route. They beat the enemy in the Chinju Gap, threw them back when they penetrated the 24th Division's lines near Yongsan, and stopped them cold in the "Bowling Alley" approach to Taegu.

They played a vital role in wrecking the last "all-out" North Korean offensive against the perimeter in September when the Reds had surged almost all the way to Masan and the situation was so desperately gloomy that there was widespread talk back home of a possible "second Dunkerque." The prophets of gloom didn't know about the fighting spirit and the professional skill of the Wolfhounds.

The Wolfhounds, the men of the 27th Infantry, are a proud lot. Their beginnings go back to very early American history. There was a 27th Infantry Regiment in the War of 1812, and it was revived during the Civil War, later to be consolidated with other regular infantry units. The present 27th dates back to February, 1901, when it was reorganized at Plattsburg, New York, under Colonel Richard I. Eskridge.

By March, 1902, the regiment was assembled at Malabang on Mindanao Island to fight the Moro tribesmen. Few open roads through the wilderness could be taken, so the new commander, Colonel Frank D. Baldwin, led his regiment through the jungle by the "Ganassi Trail," a long-deserted route. On May 2, the Battle of Bayong was fought near Lake Lanao, and a 27th Division soldier, 1st Lieutenant Charles G. Bickham of Dayton, Ohio, became the regiment's first Medal of Honor winner. One year later, to the date, First Lieutenant George C. Shaw earned a Medal of Honor on almost the same battlefield.

After the rebellious Moros had been subdued, the 27th left Manila for Nagasaki, Japan, and after a brief stay there, sailed for Honolulu and then to the United States for the only stateside assignment it has ever known. Its home station was to be Fort Sheridan, Illinois. But 1906 found it rushed off to Cuba to help quell local disturbances there, and in 1912 the

25th Division Medal of Honor Winners



Pictured here is the Congressional Medal of Honor, awarded to soldiers, sailors and Marines who in action involving conflict with an enemy, distinguish themselves conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty. It is the highest military decoration of the U. S. armed forces.

CIVIL WAR

QM/Sgt. George C. Williams, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Great Britain

Pvt. Robert Wright, Company G, 14th Infantry Winderock, Conn.

ARIZONA (VS OUTLAWS)

Sgt. Benjamin Brown, Company C, 24th Infantry Virginia

Cpl. Isaiah Mays, Company B, 24th Infantry, Virginia

BOXER REBELLION

Musician Calvin P. Titus, Company E, 14th Infantry No. Hollywood, Calif.

PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION

Lt. Charles G. Bickham, 27th Infantry Dayton, Ohio

Lt. George C. Shaw, 27th Infantry Pontiac, Mich.

WORLD WAR II

S/Sgt. Raymond H. Cooley, Company B, 27th Infantry Richard City, Tenn.

Capt. Charles W. Davis, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Montgomery, Ala.

*Sgt. William G. Fournier, Company M, 35th Infantry Winterport, Me.

*T/5 Lewis Hall, Company M, 35th Infantry Columbus, Ohio

M/Sgt. Charles L. McGaha, Company G, 35th Infantry Crosby, Tenn.

*T/4 Laverne Parrish, Med. Det., 161st Infantry Roman, Mont.

KOREA

*Sgt. Donn F. Porter, Company G, 14th Infantry Ruxton, Md.

Pfc Ernest E. West, Company L, 14th Infantry Wurtland, Ky.

*Pfc Bryant H. Womack, Med. Company, 14th Infantry Rutherfordton, N. C.

*Sgt. Cornelius H. Charlton, Company C, 24th Infantry Bronx, N. Y.

*Pfc William Thompson, Company M, 24th Infantry Brooklyn, N. Y.

*Cpl. John W. Collier, Company C, 27th Infantry Worthington, Ky.

*Capt. Reginald B. Desiderio, Company E, 27th Infantry El Monte, Calif.

*Cpl. Benito Martinez, Company A, 27th Infantry Fort Hancock, Tex.

Capt. Lewis L. Millett, Company E, 27th Infantry So. Dartmouth, Mass.

*Lt. Jerome A. Sudut, Company B, 27th Infantry Wausau, Wis.

*Sgt. William R. Jecelin, Company C, 35th Infantry Baltimore, Md.

*Pvt. Billie C. Kanell, Company I, 35th Infantry Poplar Bluff, Mo.

*SFC Donald R. Moyer, Company E, 35th Infantry Keego Harbor, Mich.

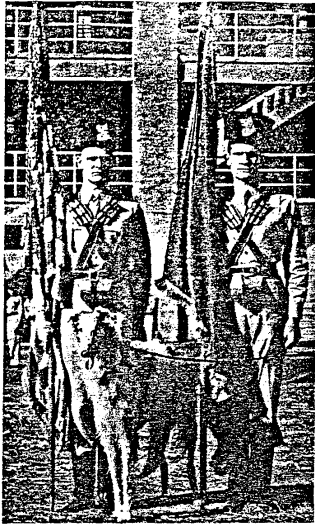
**Known to be dead.*

Account of Russell Ailing

Jan

I was with Service and Headquarters Co. and I remember every night losing sleep to "Washing Machine Charlie" (a single enemy plane whose sole purpose was to disrupt sleep after night. Usually the carburetor was adjusted, or perhaps of sync simply to create odd noises.) and wondering when the bomb would hit. We were bivouacked by the Matanikan Rive also spent long nights wondering what that noise was - perhaps Japanese sneaking into the area. One morning we all woke the perimeter wire with no recollection of where we were got there. We could credit it all to that nectar of medicinal alcohol and grapefruit juice. In this side of no matter what the recipe was - better known to all vets "juice". One afternoon, in Jan., the "old man" "requested" "volunteer" to run a message up to the "front", wherever in the hills above Kokumbona Beach. I finally found them were hospitable enough to invite me to stay overnight but however, I decided home cooking was more appealing. Night on, as only it can in the jungles, and I was most anxious back before it closed in. Authors; anyone in the jungle with dusk falling has got to be apprehensive about all the enemy, animals, sudden death and always the unknown, that is a part of our natural fears of such a situation. "I jumped out of my shoes when somebody said "Halt - or I'll shoot". I had found my way back to my base, with the sun disappearing behind the hills, and was I ever happy. A couple weeks later was in the "field hospital", on the Canal, for two weeks before flown to the Navy Base Hospital "Roses" in New Hebrides with malaria, yellow jaundice, and whatever it took to drop me to 118 lbs. After two months I was reassigned back to the States who were waiting to ship to New Zealand "to fatten up" for the next campaign. We spent three months in a little town north of Auckland (Warwick?) and they were beautiful. Then we shipped back to New Cal for training for the Philippines. It was then I lucked out as I was able to get shipped to the States on points (with my 32 months overseas) just prior to the Battle of the Philippines. All in all I consider myself fortunate to have served with the best outfit in the Army at that piece. I was 69 in April 1985.

Wolfhounds Step Out



Where does a four footed Wolfhound march in a Wolfhound parade? You can't find the answer in the I. D. R., but the famous Wolfhound Regiment—the 27th Infantry—has their Wolfhound mascot, Kolchak II, lead the procession.

The present mascot's predecessor, Kolchak I, died in 1935. The regiment struggled along without a mascot for some years but when Colonel E. F. Harding took command he promptly commissioned an officer returning to the mainland to "get a Wolfhound." The mission was duly executed and in April, 1939, Kolchak II arrived in Hawaii to enter upon his life time enlistment with the 27th Infantry.

Kolchak II is a pure bred Russian Borzoi. He is registered in the American Kennel Club under the name Aleksandr Woronzova Kolchak. He was 20 months old on November 17. He measures 36 inches in height, 72 inches from nose to tip of tail and weighs 81 pounds. He attends all major athletic contests and marches with the regiment in ceremonies.

Kolchak is more than a mere mascot for he personifies both the name, Wolfhounds, by which the 27th Infantry is known throughout the army and the unique Siberian service during which it acquired its name.

Shown with Kolchak in the above picture are the Regimental Color Sergeants, Staff Sergeant W. "Bill" Boydston, a former Division Light Heavy champion and later the only enlisted referee in the Schofield Boxing Bowl, and Staff Sergeant R. P. "Bob" Racicot, former Wolfhound star in track, basketball, baseball and football.

The Cossack hat, belt and boots worn by the color guard—the Band also wears 'em—may have been designed to please Kolchak II as well as the spectators at ceremonies who approve these colorful trappings of a colorful regiment.

—St. Sgt. J. T. (Scoop) Learnihan, 27th Inf.

46 7

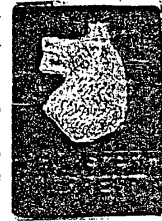
"ons, and lived in tents on the beach.

"In Sept. 1940, the Rgt. went on a big march from Pupukea Hts. to Skokie. Periodically we would be loaded on the old one lugger "Pineapple" train and taken some place for field problems. Hikes to Waianae over Kole Kole Pass for firing problems was quite frequent. Also, had a long hike to Skokie from Ft. Weaver in 1940.

"My first morning as a Wolfhound found me totally unprepared for the blast of the Rgtl. "Hell Cats" who blasted us out of the rack during the wee hours of the morning. In 1940 and early 1941, the Rgt. received a lot of new equipment: new AT guns (37 mm), modern trucks, and the tempo was really stepped up. No longer did we haul around those small, old "one pounders" on the backs of mules. Now we had a sleek 900 lb. cannon with modern half ton trucks to pull them. The "Pineapple Div." was being changed from the old square division to the triangular concept. A cannon company was added and then later an AT company as training intensified."

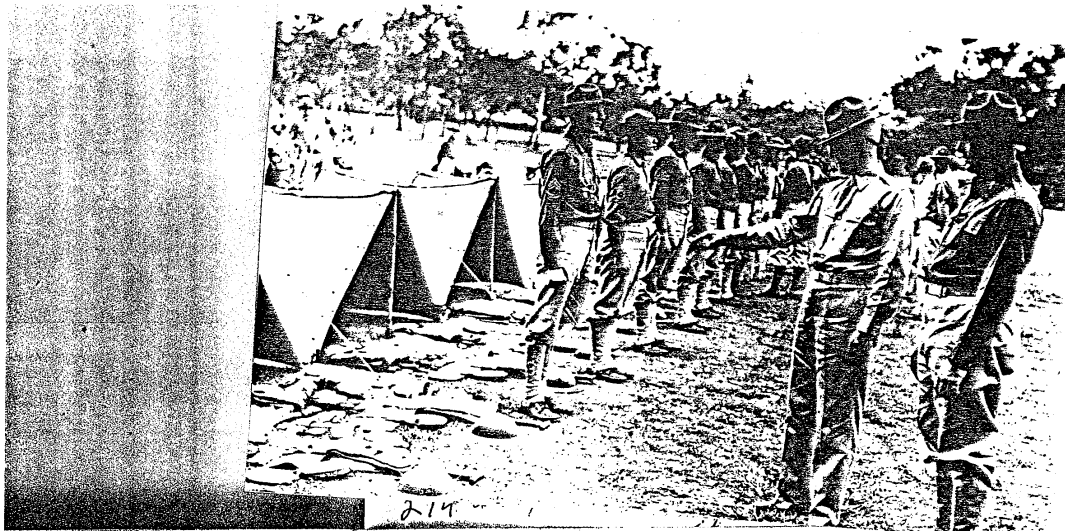


To paraphrase the Honolulu Advertiser, "An old soldier faded away; however, two lusty sons were born to carry on the duties and traditions of Hawaii's own. The two sons were



the 24th and 25th Infantry Divisions and the Island symbol for sustenance, the Taro, became their emblem. Ten weeks later the two regular army Rgt.s, the 27th Wolfhounds and the 35th Cacti, in the triangular set up, (The Washington Nat. Guard Rgt., 161, would later complete the Div. TOE.) would receive their baptism in the fires of WW II's first assault on U.S. Territory.. In late 1943, speed and aggressiveness, symbolized in the slashing gold bolt of lightning, became the 25th Division's forte."

(Clarence Irwin) "I was a 2 Lt. with the 34 Rgt. enroute to Manila. We arrived in San Francisco on 3 Dec. 1941, scheduled to sail on Sunday afternoon; however, that was postponed until 16 Dec. when we sailed and arrived at Honolulu five days later - we were taken by trucks to Schofield Brks."



LE FOR GUADALCANAL

military parlance. In both capitals, the symbol, and its possession a point of

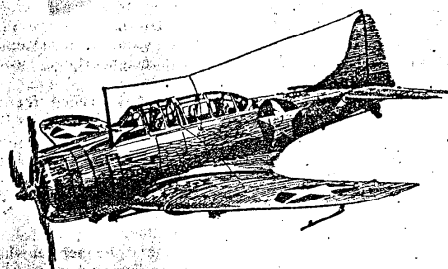
ver 27, 1942, the *New York Times* n. authority in Washington "would outcome of the current engagement," ould be fought "to a decisive finish" ermine the course "of the war in the r the next year." Knox refused com- etested newspapermen with a fervor by the American Civil War general, 'man, maintained his customary icy or, Nimitz confined his remarks to had not yet been reached. attitude was evident on Guadalcanal laid in Division operations to drive ie Poha River and establish an ad- it Kokumbona.

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"HOW LONG CAN THEY TAKE IT?"

Even before Roosevelt's instruction of October 24 to the JCS, some steps had been taken to strengthen American positions in the Pacific. On October 19, General Marshall alerted the 25th Division (Major General J. Lawton Collins), on garrison duty in Hawaii, to move as directed to either Halsey's or MacArthur's area. The following day, Halsey had canceled the Ndeni operation and ordered the One Hundred Forty-seventh Infantry (previously detached from the 37th Division and slated as occupying force) to prepare to go forward.

An advance echelon of the Army's 43rd Division, also on the move, was delayed en route. On October 26, the *President Coolidge*, a converted transpacific liner carrying one of its regiments to Espiritu Santo, hit two U. S. mines and sank as she entered the harbor. Few lives were lost, but all the regiment's equipment went down with the ship.



SBD Dauntless
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all
P 274 *