

GRENADIER DUE SUNDAY

Mrs. Eva Linklater, 385 Aikins st., doesn't know what to expect when she greets her Grenadier son at the C.P.R. station, Sunday night.

"His voice seemed so much deeper and older than when he left for Hong Kong four years ago," she said of Pte. Harold A. Atkinson. She heard him Friday night on the national news bulletin of the C.B.C.

Harold will arrive at 6.45 p.m., Sunday, the first Grenadier to return to Winnipeg.

There will be a family party to welcome him home. With Mrs.

Linklater will be her husband, two daughters, a son and daughter-in-law and three grandchildren. They are Mrs. Mabel Rushworth, Maxine Rushworth, Mr. and Mrs. D. Kidd and their two children, David and Bruce, and Mrs. R. Atkinson.

The family party will go from the station to Mrs. Kidd's home for a dinner.

"We don't know what condition he is in, although he weighs 165 pounds, and at one time in prison camp he was down to 115. It depends on his condition whether or not he can stay at home," said Mrs. Linklater.

It was likely he would have to spend two weeks in barracks, building up his constitution, she said.

Harold was flown across the Pacific with ten Canadian soldiers. Another member of the Grenadiers who flew back, Harry Gyselman, son of Mrs. Jean Gyselman, 849 Spruce st., is expected to arrive here Monday.

"Harold went away a kid," Mrs. Linklater said. "Now he is a man." He is 23 years old.

Harold was interned in the prisoner of war camp at Niigata, 150 miles north of Tokyo, in September, 1943. He was reported injured in a typhoon in February, 1944. Harold told in the broadcast how one of the camp buildings had collapsed.

The Canadians worked as stevedores and in coal yards, he said. The diet was bad, but they were able to wangle fish, powdered milk and beans, although prisoners were treated more severely.

Mrs. Linklater's elder son, Ronald, has not been heard from. He was also captured at Hong Kong.

Vancouver Greets • First Grenadiers

VANCOUVER, Sept. 15—(CP)—Ten quietly-happy Canadian soldiers, members of Canada's ill-fated garrison taken prisoner at Hong Kong Christmas Day, 1941, arrived in Vancouver by train Friday to receive a rousing welcome from a crowd of 1,000.

They left for the east by C.P.R. Friday at 9.15 p.m., C.D.T.

In the group were:

Pte. Ernest Buck, Winnipeg and St. Jerome, Que.; Rfmn. F. G. Babcock, Bradan, Que.; Rfmn. Bert Comeau, Barachois, Que.; Rfmn. Alfred Priard, Gaspé, Que.; Cpl. J. C. Campbell, Elmvale, Ont.; Rfmn. John Baskin, Blackland, N.B.; Cpl. J. M. Blacquiere, Summerside, P.E.I.; Pte. Edward Bernard Arseneau, Fort Frances, Ont.;

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5, in Yokohama, were taken by boat to Toyko, then flown to Guam where they rested 24 hours before going to Pearl Harbor by air. Last leg of their air journey was to Oakland, Cal., where they boarded a train for Canada.

Pte. Buck chuckled when asked how the Japanese spread their propaganda among interned prisoners. "They kept telling us all the time how the Imperial Japanese armies were defeating the Allies on all Pacific fronts," he said, "and many times they

told us the Japanese had struck hard at Canada and the United States.

"The Japanese also kept telling us we were soldiers of a 'lost nation' and we would never see our homes again. We surely fooled them, didn't we?"

Munching a chocolate bar given him by the Red Cross, Pte. Atkinson said, "It's the first Canadian bar I've eaten in four years.

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Pte. H. A. Atkinson, Winnipeg; and
Cpl. Mel Carter, Toronto.

Although fairly well informed on the progress of the war, they did not know of VE-day until the end of May and news of Japan's surrender reached them four days late.

The men were turned over to the United States 9th Army, Sept.