

# GRENADIER RETURNS FROM THE DEAD

## Mother Dies Happy After Hearing News

One Winnipeg Grenadier who was reported dead, who was given a memorial service in Norwood Presbyterian church, and whose mother received the Silver Cross, is now reported alive and well.

He is Pte. William Lawrence Irwin, son of J. H. Irwin, 154 Hill st. His mother was buried last Wednesday but before she died she became conscious, the good news was given her and she murmured, "Thank God, now I can die in peace." This was told to The Tribune Sunday night by Pte. Irwin's sister, Mrs. W. F. James.

A telegram came in March, 1945, saying Bill had died Aug. 12, 1944. But April 29 nine letters came to the Irwin family from people who had heard a Japanese broadcast. Hope stirred in their hearts.

"But still we couldn't be too sure Bill was really alive because we didn't know the date of the broadcast—it could have been given before he died," said his sister.

Then, the end of August when mail written in March and February was received in Winnipeg, a friend brought to the Irwin family a letter received from Bill in which he stated he had been in Japan for a long time. This news was told Bill's mother just before she died.



PTE. W. L. IRWIN  
... alive and well

Ottawa was asked to check up and Saturday night the answer came in a wire from the director of records: "Pleased to inform you Pte. Irwin previously reported to have died is now officially listed as a prisoner of war."

"We're still anxiously awaiting more news, to know just where he is. But it looks as though we're going to have a reunion yet. My brother, Cpl. R. H. Irwin, is back from overseas; so is my sister's (Mrs. J. G. Baldwin) husband; I have two more brothers in Win-

nipeg, John and James, and also a sister, Mrs. T. H. Diehl."

But sad news came for another Grenadier family. Mrs. D. Webster, 330 Edmonton st., went to the station Sunday night to help welcome home Pte. Harry Atkinson. She pressed close to see if he looked well after his ordeal; she hoped she could judge from him how her own son would be.

When she got home news came that her son, Pte. Robert McLeod, had died in the Far East, July 15, 1945. Members of the Hong Kong auxiliary broke the sad news.

Further cables announcing the liberation and homecoming of members of the Winnipeg Grenadiers were received by several other Winnipeg and Manitoba families during the weekend.

P. J. Dickie, 27 St. George rd., received a cable from Guam Sunday, saying his brother, Cpl. E. W. Dickie, member of the Winnipeg Grenadiers, was coming home by plane. Cpl. Dickie was taken prisoner at Hong Kong.

Safe in Allied hands is Pte. David W. Moffatt, according to a cable from Guam received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. David Moffatt, of Shoal Lake. His wife is living at Montreal.

The Red Cross has notified Mrs. C. Lancaster, 351 Harcourt st.

[Continued on Page 2, No 4]

# 4

## NEWS OF GRENADIERS

(Continued from Page One)

Sturgeon Creek, that her son, Pte. William Lancaster, Winnipeg Grenadiers, has been liberated from a Japanese prison camp. Pte. Lancaster was captured at the fall of Hong Kong.

Mr. and Mrs. William Delbridge, 874 McDermot ave., Sunday received word that their son, Pte. Albert Delbridge, 27, a Winnipeg Grenadier prisoner, is now officially reported safe in Allied hands and that his health is good.

Mrs. W. Cameron, 118 Lipton st., got a letter from her son, Pte. Harry D. Cameron, Saturday. "It was written away back in October, 1944. Then, a couple of hours later, I got a wire from Guam saying he was safe and would be home soon. I was so excited."

Harry served in Jamaica and Sherbrooke, Que., before he went to Hong Kong. He was with C company that saw some of the worst fighting.

Mrs. Morgan, 411 King Edward st., received word Saturday her husband, Cpl. Francis John Morgan, was safe. He worked as a medical orderly in a camp hospital near Yokohama. He has two daughters, Sharon, 4, and Diane, 3. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. S. Morgan, 233 College st.

Mrs. Smith, 305 Vaughan st., has received a wire from her husband, Pte. W. J. Smith, from Guam: "Coming home, all's well." "Isn't that grand!" she exclaimed.

Pte. Arthur T. Ballingall, 25, who was a prisoner with the Grenadiers at Hong Kong, is safe and well in Guam, and expects to be home soon, according to word received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Ballingall, 752 St. Matthew's ave. His wife, Winnie, resides in Toronto.

Two brothers, George and James, have just returned to Winnipeg from service overseas, and a sister, Jean, lives here.