

# 100 Grenadiers At San Francisco

By PETER INGLIS

(Special to The Winnipeg Tribune)

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 2.—More than 100 men of the Winnipeg Grenadiers, the first to return to North America from their Japanese prison camps by sea, sailed through the Golden Gate in the morning mist today and docked on San Francisco's historic Embarcadero.

They were among 244 Canadian soldiers, captured almost four years ago at Hong Kong, who left Tokyo Bay aboard the battleship Missouri, on which Japan's document of surrender was signed, and who had been transferred at Honolulu to the transport Ozark.

From the dock here they were taken immediately by ferry to Fort McDowell, on an island in San Francisco Bay, where they are being paid and undergoing medical inspection.

On Wednesday evening, with 104 more repatriates who are due to dock earlier that day on the transport Admiral Longman, they will board a special train at Oakland, bound for Seattle.

There, when they arrive on Friday morning, they will be transferred to a Canadian Pacific B.C. coast service ship which will carry them to Victoria, where a celebration will greet them.

Originally it had been planned to bring the liberated prisoners to Vancouver, but the facilities there have been found insufficient and the men are being taken, instead, to camps at Gordon Head, and MacAulay Point on Vancouver Island.

Their 13-car train will include a hospital car, staffed by Canadians, which is being rushed down from Vancouver, and two dining cars. Canadian cigarettes, home town newspapers and playing cards will help them pass the day and a half journey.

Specialists in tropical diseases are being flown to San Francisco by the Canadian Army to accompany the men on their journey north.

Col. George H. Ellis, of Ottawa, director of repatriation who is here to supervise this first sea-borne arrival of liberated prisoners, promises "they are going to get every possible comfort we can give them."

The men may be kept at the Vancouver Island camps for as much as a week before they are sent home on 42 days' leave.

At the camp they will find every home comfort that the army can give them, even to bright curtains, table cloths and white uniformed soldier waiters.

Only one Canadian officer was aboard the Ozark when she docked this morning, Capt. J. A.

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## GRENADIERS AT 'FRISCO

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Reid, of the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps, Toronto, attached to the Grenadiers.

In Wednesday morning's load, aboard the Rodman, will be 25 officers.

Others aboard the Rodman include Lt.-Col. William Home, of Toronto, who became senior officer at Hong Kong after Brig. J. K. Lawson and Brig. Pat Hennessy were killed in action; Major George Trist, of 266 Queenston st., Winnipeg, second in command of the Winnipeg Grenadiers, and Lieut. Peter L. MacDougall, of Quebec, whose mother is staying at Government House in Victoria with Lt.-Gov. and Mrs. W. C. Woodward awaiting her son's arrival.

Honorary Capt. Uriah Laite, of Vancouver, chaplain with the Winnipeg Grenadiers, is also among the Rodman men, who are sailing here directly from Manila.

Another famed Hong Kong prisoner, Major Jack Power, son of Canada's former air minister, is on his way home on the transport Gosper, originally expected to dock here but now due at either Seattle or Victoria on October 7. The Gosper also carries 35 British repatriates.

Two more ships carrying Canadians are expected to dock in San Francisco, the Admiral Hughes, with 160, on Oct. 14, and the General Howe with 26 on Oct. 12, but a number of other vessels which had been listed as coming here have been rerouted, among them the Gen. Longfitt, which may dock at Esquimalt today with 10 Canadians and 300 Britons.

The first civilian repatriates, as far as can be learned here, are due at Vancouver, Oct. 7, on the Empire Haig.

When the transport Admiral Rodman docks here Wednesday morning, more than one-third of the Canadian survivors of the bitter, hopeless battle of Hong Kong will be back on North American soil.

Latest figures to reach Col. George Hfl. Ellis, director of repatriation, show that of 1,469 Canadian soldiers known to have been taken prisoner at Hong Kong, 1,415 have been released from Japanese prison camps.

Of the balance 32 are reported to have died in captivity, leaving 22 unaccounted for.

Two Royal Canadian Navy prisoners in the Far East are both safe.

Seven men have not been accounted for out of 26 R.C.A.F. prisoners.

Twelve ships carrying 5,407 Canadian and British service personnel returning from the Far East are scheduled to dock at Canadian and United States west coast ports within the next few weeks, defense headquarters at Ottawa announced Monday.

The U.S.S. Ozark docked today with one officer and 243 other ranks on board and will be followed Wednesday by the Admiral Rodman with 104 of all ranks.

Other scheduled arrivals, with total aboard in brackets, are:

General Longfitt (10), Esquimalt, B.C., Oct. 2-3; Gosper (55), San Francisco, Oct. 7; General Sturgis (8), San Francisco, Oct. 7; Implacable (2,125), Esquimalt Oct. 11; Joseph Dykeman (44), San Francisco, Oct. 13; Admiral Hughes (160), San Francisco, Oct. 14; Formidable (1,300), Esquimalt, Oct. 17; General Howes (26), San Francisco, Oct. 17; H.M.C.S. Crescent (31), Esquimalt, Oct. 21, and Glorius (1,300), Esquimalt, Oct. 23.