

**JAP LIES DIDN'T STICK**

# Repats Convalesce In Brandon Hospital

[Special to The Winnipeg Tribune]

BRANDON, Oct. 17.—Hitler's claim that "a whopper, told often enough, will stick," wouldn't work for Tojo, according to Sgt. G. M. Faulconer, of Treherne, Man., repatriated member of the Winnipeg Grenadiers now convalescing in the Brandon Military hospital.

Sgt. Faulconer arrived in Brandon Monday night with a group of 22 Canadians liberated from Japanese prison camps. All members of the group were brought to Brandon Military hospital.

The propaganda fed to the Japs was fantastic, he said, but when the Jap guards tried to pass it on to the prisoners, they always got an argument.

"They would say Tojo was number one, but we'd come right back with Churchill and Roosevelt. Then they would knock us down, but they knocked us down so often we got used to it. It was just like lining up for chow."

Faulconer lost 50 pounds during his internment. "The fellows who had roughed it when they were kids in Canada, working in mines and on farms, could take it better," he said.

The boys who went straight from school into the army grew to maturity and became "the finest men you could want to know."

Morale in the camp remained incredibly high, Faulconer said. "Sometimes a young lad would break. It would seem like a load would come over him, getting heavier and heavier, and everything ahead seem so black. There was nothing you could do but put a clean towel near him and tell the others to stay away until he snapped out of it."

L/Cpl. E. H. Bergen, 598 Corydon ave., Winnipeg, was strolling up and down the ward looking the picture of health, but he admitted he still felt a bit weak.

Pte. W. L. Irwin, 154 Hill st., Norwood, was probably the happiest man in the group. His brother, Cpl. R. H. Irwin, R.C.A.M., arrived by car from Winnipeg Tuesday morning and hospital authorities allowed Pte. Irwin to drive home in the afternoon.

Many of the men found relatives waiting for them when they arrived Monday night and the rest are expecting them to arrive in a day or two.

The group came via C.N.R. to Brandon North and were brought to the hospital in ambulances. A local committee was on hand to ensure them a warm welcome and treats were placed in the ambulances for them.

Others well enough to be interviewed today were: Sgt. H. M. Winram, Neelin, Man.; L/Cpl. I. Slipchenko, 767 Magnus ave.; Pte. D. Michalek, 341 Flora

ave.; Pte. R. Dalzell, 733 McGee st.; and Pte. T. H. Haskayne, Carman, Man

This is the first group of Pacific repats to arrive at the Brandon Military hospital.