

Five Grenadiers Arrive Home

There was a big party—with all the trimmings—waiting for Pte. Jack Hodgkinson, 355 Kennedy st., who arrived home Monday night with four other Grenadiers from Manitoba.

More than 50 friends, his parents and other relatives were at the C.P.R. station to welcome him.

The other four Grenadiers were: L-Cpl. E. J. Whitfield, 21 St. Thomas rd., St. Vital; Pte. John Maruschak, Senkiw; Pte. David Turk, 158 McIntosh st.; and Sgt. T. H. Sinclair, Lockport.

Pte. Hodgkinson was held at Yokohama and Camp Ohasi where he worked in the shipyards and iron mines. When he heard about plans for the big party, he grabbed his relatives and scooted out of the depot.

More than 100 spectators were in the C.P.R. rotunda to see, smile and talk to the boys as they marched down the platform to be greeted by their relatives in the tiny waiting-room.

First one in the waiting room was L-Cpl. Whitfield. As he stepped into the room, a woman from the Grenadier auxiliary pointed to a corner of the room and said "there they are, there they are."

He stopped and looked at the little group—which numbered about 20 people and then broke into a big smile.

L-Cpl. Whitfield was also held at Yokohama and Camp Ohasi. While working in the shipyards and mines he dropped from 165 pounds to 98 pounds. "I've got most of it back now," he said. At the station to meet him were his mother, Mrs. L. Owen; his sister, Mrs. K. Newsome, and other relatives. A brother, George, is serving with the army overseas.

Sgt. Sinclair arrived unexpectedly, but relatives were on hand in the hope he might come last night. He wasn't expected until Monday.

Sgt. Sinclair lost 75 pounds while working in the iron mines.

"I was stationed near Tokyo, but the bombings were so severe that they moved us to northern Honshu in March of this year," he said.

"We traded our shoes, clothes and anything else we could spare for cigarettes," Pte. John Maruschak told reporters. "When we couldn't trade anything, the boys would be just out of luck and would crave a smoke till they were offered one."

Maruschak was imprisoned in Hong Kong, Tokyo and northern Honshu. While in Honshu he worked in the mine mill more than 550 metres underground.