

Fate of Kentuckians On Bataan Not Known

Bataan fell yesterday and the fate of many Kentucky National Guardsmen, serving with a tank battalion mentioned several times in dispatches from the peninsula, was sealed behind a wall of Japanese silence and censorship.

Among them were two sons of Mrs. Mary Alice French, of Harrodsburg, Sergts. Edward and Morgan French, who went into service with a Kentucky National Guard tank company late in 1940.

While they may have made good an escape to Corregidor or one of the other Manila Bay island fortresses still holding out, it is probable that a letter, scrawled in pencil by both brothers on a medical department form labelled "Progress Notes," dated and censored "February 11, 1942, P. I." will be the last direct word from them for many months.

"Getting Along Just Fine."

"Hello Mom and Pop," Edward began with the traditional and appropriate radio greeting of the fighter. "Well, I am writing for both of us. We are getting along just fine and how is everyone back home? When you get this letter, write and tell everyone hello for us. We had a nice warm winter over here. Tell Gladys I



Edward French. Morgan French.

said hello and that I will write to her later on . . ."

Later, Morgan took over:

"I sure would like to know how the tobacco sold this year. I'll bet you all had a cold winter, didn't you. It seems funny over here. The sun shines right on just like it was summer all of the time. . . . Mom, I guess this letter seems short and silly, but this is about all we can say now, so write as soon as you can. . . ."

Letter: French Brothers

Clipped By:



jopolony

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