

Mother's Hope For Sons' Lives Rewarded

Mrs. Sarah Sallee Gets Word From Boys In Jap Prison Camp In Philippines; Apparently Lost For Year And Half

A mother's unwavering faith in a Higher Power which would not fail to protect her sons was rewarded a few days ago when Mrs. Sarah Sallee of 318 Alta avenue received two postal cards direct from her sons, Pfc Heze Franklin Sallee and Private James W. Sallee, prisoners of Japanese in the Philippine Islands.

The young men left in the fall of 1941 with members of the 192nd Tank Battalion of the Harrodsburg National Guards. One of the boys was contacted infrequently; the other was not heard from for over a year and a half.

The time passed slowly for the courageous mother, but her patience and faith were not dimmed.

On February 20, official notification came from the War Department that son Heze Franklin was a prisoner of the Japanese in the Philippines. Not until June 12 did the same message come concerning James W. And then silence again!

Another eight weeks went by before the typewritten cards direct from the boys were received last Friday.

Bearing the mark of the Imperial Japanese Army, the postals list a number of statements concerning a man's health and condition, which are underlined where they apply to the soldier in question.

Both cards are addressed from Philippine Military Prison Camp No. 1.

Information concerning Private James W. Sallee shows that he is "in excellent health, uninjured," and requested that his allotment to his mother be continued. His personal message was "Hope you are all well. Don't worry. Hope home soon."

Pfc. Heze Franklin Sallee, who was two months old and the youngest of five children when his father died, was reported to be "in good health, and uninjured." His message was "See that Hazel (his wife) and the baby are taken care of."

The soldier father has apparently never received letters which told him that his baby was lost at birth in December, 1941.

A third son of Mrs. Sallee, Chief Petty Officer John D. Sallee, is on the Atlantic with a supply ship according to his most recent letter which reached here a week ago.

"I have so much to be thankful for", said the mother of the boys in the prison camp when she received their cards. Expressing her sympathy for every mother who has sent sons to war, she said sinachly, "I am going to keep on hoping and praying until the war is over!"

HarrodsburgSallee

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