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The Advocate-Messenger (Danville, Kentucky) · 1 Jul 1945, Sun · Page 1

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Pvt. J. W. Sallee Is Counted Lost In Oct. 24 Sub Action

JAPS' PRISONER WAS ON SHIP BLOWN UP ENROUTE TO ENEMY'S HOMELAND

Private James W. Sallee, son of Mrs. Sarah Sallee of Adams street, was lost in action on October 24, 1944, when a vessel on which he was traveling as a Japanese prisoner of war was sunk by submarine action in the Pacific ocean, it was learned here this week by the young soldier's mother through a message from the War Department, Washington, D. C.

Entering military service as a member of the Harrodsburg National Guard in October, 1941, Private Sallee was captured by the Nipponese at Bataan and confined in a Philippines island prison until October 11, 1944. At that time, a Japanese ship sailed from Manila with 1,775 prisoners on board and their destination other prison camps on the Japanese home islands.

In the south China sea, about 200 miles from the Chinese coast, the vessel transporting the American prisoners of war northward to the Jap mainland was blown up by a submarine. All on board were lost except five men who escaped in a boat and four others promptly retaken by the enemy.

The War Department informed Mrs. Sallee it must be concluded her son and the 1,764 other prisoners unaccounted for perished in the submarine attack.

Entering service with Private Sallee was his brother, Sergeant Heze Franklin Sallee, also a National Guard fron Mercer county. The boys were captured together in the fall of Bataan in the spring of 1942 and had been prisoners at different camps in the Philippines until the sergeant was moved in 1943 to Honshu island, Japan. Cards received from the prisoner at Honshu in January of this year assured he was "OK., comfortable in quarters and working for pay." His wife is a visitor in Danville at this time.

A third brother, J. D. Sallee, with the Navy for 18 years, is now serving in the Pacific theatre of war operations.

Construction Jobs Are

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Mon, Apr 8, 2019

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