

## Christmas Day, 1941, Comes April 10, 1945, For Sgt. Quinn

Cigaretts stopped the show at the Melvin Quinn residence, 705 Osmond avenue, yesterday.

First, because they were rare items.

Second, because they were packed in Sgt. Charles Quinn's 1941 Christmas package which he opened for the first time yesterday.

Sergeant Quinn, son of Mrs. Carrie Quinn, 311 Morton avenue, was captured by the Japs at Corregidor in May, 1942, and liberated with 510 others from Cabanatuan in January.

His brother, Melvin, mailed a Christmas package in November, 1941, addressed to "Sgt. Charles Quinn, 192nd tank battalion, Philippine Islands." It was returned in June, 1942, and kept by Melvin against his brother's return.

The sergeant, who joined the Army in 1941 and volunteered for overseas duty, arrived in San Fran-

cisco March 9 after more than two years as a prisoner of the Japs. He had his first steak in three years with Robert Gardner, former Daytonian living in San Francisco, when he returned to the United States.

"The Japs took the cigarettes sent to us through the Red Cross because they didn't like the victory slogans on the packages," he said. "Most of the time we used lily leaves for tobacco."

"Our tank company was on Bataan when the Japs bombed it and moved in. After the surrender it was every man for himself, and three of us managed to escape to Corregidor. Within two months the Japs were there, too."

"I was placed on a detail to collect scrap iron for the Japs. We were under enemy supervision and received some pretty rough treatment. Later we were taken from Corregidor to build air strips at Nichols Field in Manila. All the clothing they gave us was a pair of ragged shoes, a straw hat and a pair of shorts. We were paid about 5 cents a day in worthless Japanese money. They fed us a diet of rice, dried fish and sweet potato vines."

### Became Ill

"I got beri-beri and was sent to Bilibid prison camp. My weight had dropped from a normal 160 pounds to 95. American doctors treated us in a makeshift hospital at Bilibid, using Red Cross supplies."

"They were sending most of the able bodied men from Bilibid to the Japanese mainland to work in factories. After six days, I was sent to Cabanatuan. I was lying in my bunk early one evening when I heard shots and the yelling of the Yank Rangers. It took only 22 minutes for all of us to evacuate the camp. We joined American forces, flew to Luzon and within a few days we were put aboard a ship headed for home."

## Otterbein Fund Drive Past Halfway Mark

The centennial goal of \$20,000 for Otterbein college alumni in the Dayton area has passed the halfway mark, Judge Robert U. Martin, chairman of the local committee, announced last night.

Leaders expressed confidence that the goal will be oversubscribed before the campaign closes early next week.

Twenty-five alumni, headed by Mrs. T. E. Newell, Mrs. William Calihan, Rev. Edwin Burtner, Rev. Ralph Tinsley, Rev. Edward Hammon and Dorothy Allsup, will aid solicitation in the Dayton area.

Dr. L. M. Hohn, superintendent of the Miami conference, indicated that the United Brethren churches in this area have raised more than 30 percent of their separate quota during the first seven months of a three-year campaign period.

Increased endowment, new facilities, equipment and improvements will be derived from the

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## Quinn Christmas Package Apr 45

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