

War

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heard from again. A friend, Morris Stern, and I stuck together through most of my service until I got hit by shrapnel. Then he went on to the Philippines and the Villa Verde Trail. He saved my life when I was on the beach and sucked into a cave by undertow. He took me to the medics to remove the coral pieces and stop the infection.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur said the island was secured, but that meant they could bypass the 8,000 or 10,000 Japanese who were still in the jungle. This was our job to clean them out.

We were loaded on trucks and went down the beach a few miles to a trail into the jungle. We walked a couple of hundred yards or more when we came to a fork in the road. It had just started to rain as we got to the fork where the Japanese had a machine gun set up and sprayed us with bullets.

One man was killed and a couple wounded. We dug in our fox

holes. We stayed there all night, and the next day the Japanese did rest of our company. We continued to push inland, but also some of our men were killed or wounded. We were pinned down for four days. The Japanese circled around us.

We were supplied food and clothes by a Piper that flew over and dropped them to us. Some of the munition was fly bitten so we ended up with the runs and malaria. Some of our men were wounded. Out of our 12 men we came back with four who had been lucky.

We had our machine gun set up and as we opened up on them they did also. Our bar man on the other side of the gun was hit and just leaned back dead. Our machine gunner, who was flat on his stomach, was shot through the ankle. I was the loader and was missed. The bullets went over my head very closely. We were finally ordered to pull back and did so in a hurry.

It was raining off and on. The nights were pitch black and the Japanese made so much noise from mortars. We didn't get much sleep. We had our machine set up on the banks of a stream, with a four man crew we were on two hours and off two.

The watch we used had a leather band that broke so I wired it with telephone wire, but the end of it stuck into my wrist and soon I had a fever. I noticed a streak up my arm and a lump in my armpit. I went to the medics and received penicillin. I was put to bed for a couple of days. Then back to duty.

This time we were dug in as guard around the airport. I was in a two-man fox hole with a new man. His teeth were chattering so much it was hard to keep him under control. It was his first action and was he scared. I know what he went through, because we had gone through the same thing some time before.

There was some mortar fire

from the Japanese. They were dropping shells about 25 yards in front of us to keep the Japanese back. I was lying behind a fallen tree, and I heard mortar being hit on the other side. It rumbled both of us off the ground. I wasn't hurt, just scared a little.

Later I was back in the fox hole again. There was some shelling and suddenly I felt like my right arm was hit by a baseball bat. I had been hit by shrapnel. Shrapnel smashed into my elbow and some of the bones were broken. I held my arm and got out of the hole and went over to my friend Morris Stern and told him I was going back for treatment at the aid station.

They gave me shots to deaden the pain and put me on a stretcher to be carried by the native stretcher bearers. At that time there was at least a dozen or more on stretchers waiting. Next to me was a wounded Japanese man. Morris Stern saw the photographers from National Geographic

taking our pictures.

To head for the base hospital the natives were careful with us, but they gave the Japanese a very rough ride. There was no love there for what the Japanese had done to some of them. One time we stopped for a drink on the stream. The Japanese decided to escape. But the guards chased him a little ways, and he didn't come back.

We got to the hospital and as soon as they could they operated on my broken arm and removed the shrapnel. They gave it to me for a souvenir which I still have. I had a cast from my shoulder to my finger tips. It sure was heavy. Later an officer gave us our purple heart medals and thanked us for our service.

The casts were good for a couple of days then the wound would seep through and would have to be replaced. The small was so bad no one could get close until it was replaced and the wound cleaned. I never kept track of the number that I had.

I was eventually taken to a ship to get back to the states. I don't know how long that trip was but at least 30 days. I was able to walk and could go to the mess hall to eat.

We arrived in Triaco and were taken to Letterman General Hospital for evaluation as to where to be sent. A couple of weeks later I was on my way to Billings General Hospital at Fort Benjamin Harrison for plastic surgery.

On a visit to my doctor he looked at it and felt a sharp point. He asked if he could remove it and took out a piece of bone as long as a tooth pick. A few days after it was all healed up.

I went back to the hospital for extended therapy to straighten my arm and it got as good as it was going to be. I still had malaria but got over it in a year or so. I was discharged on disability Sept. 17, 1945.

James A. Scott lives in Farmington Hills.

Golfing

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namentals. The fund-raiser originally began as a competition between the country clubs. This year golfers from 14 country clubs will compete in the Oakland County Cancer Society tournament.

Winners from the American Cancer Society tournaments around the state will play in Boyne Highlands. That winner will compete in the national tournament.

The local event includes breakfast, lunch, two shot gun golfing set up, dinner, auction, raffle and an awards ceremony. Organizers stress that the public is invited to attend all the events.

Items to be auctioned are valued at \$10,000 and include airline tickets around the U.S., Europe, the Caribbean, a weekend stay at

a bed and breakfast, as well as golfing and dinner packages.

A \$25 fee, for people not playing in the tournament, will be charged for the dinner buffet and cocktails, which will be served before the auction.

"I've met so many good friends through the tournament," according to Candy Nelson, a Farmington Hills resident and member of Western Golf and Country Club in Redford Township.

"We're raising money for cancer and we have a nice tournament," Nelson said.

This year Babe Zaharias' place, Penny Zavichas, will attend. The tournament that honors her aunt has grown in the past two decades.

"It's a fantastic tradition," according to Drs. Szeszka, American Cancer Society regional direc-

tor of income development.

"The ladies from the different country clubs have dedicated themselves to it. They use it as a way to take action and make a big statement to help save lives in the future."

Some women have played in memory of a friend or a fellow golfer who died from cancer. In fact, in 1988 the women from Edgewood Country Club played in the tournament in honor of Sally Hope, a club member who died from cancer.

"The players said to each other that they felt there — and we won," Nelson said recalling situations where balls seemed to drop into the holes unexpectedly.

For more information call the American Cancer Society at 557-6353.

Adviser earns high honor

Mississippi State University political science professor Diane Wall is among 16 winners of 1995 Outstanding Adviser Awards to be presented later this year by the National Academic Advising Association in cooperation with the American College Testing Service.

Wall is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Bradley of Farmington Hills and a graduate of Redford High School.

Founded in 1977, the association works to promote quality academic advising at colleges and universities. Its membership includes more than 4,000 faculty members, professional advisers, administrators, counselors and others in academic and student affairs offices.

The organization's annual awards are based on 17 major qualities, such as having a caring attitude and student success rate, monitoring students' progress academically and in careers and recognizing outstanding advising. Formal presentation of adviser awards will be made at the association's annual conference, to be held in October in Nashville, Tenn.

In January, Wall received the Mississippi State University's undergraduate faculty adviser award. Last year, she was honored with a campus award for teaching.

Wall, a member of the Mississippi State faculty since 1983, holds bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from Michigan State University.



Diane Wall



Photo by Rick Smith

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