

## Father Receives Dead Hero's Award

# MEDAL SON WON GIVEN TO FATHER

Newport Hero's Bronze Star,  
Won for Defying Foe, Goes  
to Joseph P. Carney

The memory of Ensign Francis Joseph Carney of Newport was honored at ceremonies at the Naval Operating Base yesterday when the Bronze Star Medal posthumously awarded to Carney for defying enemy authorities in a Japanese prison camp was presented to his father, Joseph P. Carney, Newport plumbing inspector, by Commodore Paul S. Theiss, commanding the base.

A Bronze Star also was presented by the commodore to Capt. Joseph H. Nevins.

Immediately following the ceremonies Capt. Charles F. Grisham, executive officer at the Naval Training Station for the past year, succeeded Commodore Theiss as commanding officer of the Naval Training Station. Capt. E. H. Sherman was appointed executive officer. Commodore Theiss, who has been serving in a dual capacity, remains commandant of NOB.

The ceremonies were the first to be held on Dewey Field at the station since before the war and saw the entire ship's company of the station together with all officers and the station band lined up at the field.

Besides Mr. Carney, the ensign's mother, two brothers and sister and other immediate members of the family were present.

Ensign Carney was captured by the Japanese when they took Guam at the beginning of the war. His family did not hear from him for a year when the Navy finally located him at a Japanese prison camp. He was killed last year shortly before the end of the war.

The citation accompanying the medal which was awarded by the Secretary of the Navy for the President, read as follows:

"For meritorious achievement while a prisoner of war in the Japanese prison camp at Kawaiasaki, Japan. During a 3-year incarceration in a Japanese prison camp, Ensign Carney defied the enemy authorities constantly as he bent all his efforts toward effecting a more humane administration of the camp and, despite frequent physical beatings by his captors, succeeded in attaining a high standard of health and treatment for his fellow inmates.

"Unselfish, courageous and determined in his concern for others, he was killed during an air raid while making a futile effort to secure permission to remove the prisoners to a safer area.

"By his heroic actions and tenacity, Ensign Carney was instrumental in achieving better living conditions for the Allied nationals interned during the war, thereby reflecting great credit upon himself and the U. S. Naval Service."



BRONZE STAR MEDAL POSTHUMOUSLY AWARDED to His Son, Ensign Francis J. Carney. Is Presented to Newport Plumbing Inspector Joseph P. Carney by Commodore Paul S. Theiss of Newport Naval Operations Base. Ensign Carney Was Honored for Aid He Gave Fellow Prisoners Before His Death in a Japanese Prison Camp. —Staff Photo

## R. I. Officer's Death<sup>4/25/47</sup> Sends Jap to Prison

The Japanese second lieutenant in command of a prison camp at Kawasaki, Honshu, Japan, when it was subjected to an air raid causing the death of Ensign Francis J. Carney, USN, of 25 Annandale Road, Newport, and other Allied prisoners of war, has been sentenced to imprisonment at hard labor for nine years by an Allied war crimes trial court at Yokohama.

Sentenced to six years at hard labor was a sergeant of the guard under the lieutenant at another camp where Richard Pittsfield Hough of 26 Chambers Street, Providence, was confined, and where prisoners were beaten, abused and mistreated.

The lieutenant, Ryugo Kanetsuna, was charged in the case applying to Ensign Carney with causing prisoners to work in regions exposed to the hazards of war without proper shelter. The air raid occurred on or about July 25, 1945, and caused the death of 22 American and Allied prisoners of war.

The sergeant, Junji Mano, was stationed under Kanetsuna at Tokyo Area Prisoner of War Camp 19-D from May, 1944 to April, 1945, and was charged and found guilty of personally beating and abusing prisoners.

The findings of the 8th Army military commission which returned the verdicts against the two Japanese are subject to review by the commanding general of the 8th Army.

Message from Frank J. Carney, Ensign, Civil Engineers Corps, United States Naval Reserve, which was broadcast by short wave radio from Japan and intercepted on May 28, 1942.

"THIS IS FRANK J. CARNEY, ENSIGN, CIVIL ENGINEERS CORPS, UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE, FORMERLY STATIONED IN GUAM, TO MY MOTHER, FATHER, BROTHERS AND SISTER AT NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND. I SEND THIS ASSURING MESSAGE THAT ALL IS WELL. MOTHER AND DAD, I KNOW YOU WILL BE SURPRISED TO HEAR MY VOICE COMING FROM JAPAN. I AM ENJOYING GOOD HEALTH AND MY SPIRIT IS HIGH. ZENTSUJI PRISON CAMP AT SHIKOKU IS OUR PLACE OF INTERNMENT. WE HAVE BEEN IN JAPAN SEVERAL DAYS AND OUR TREATMENT HAS BEEN MOST COURTEOUS AND CONSIDERATE. OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE JAPANESE ARMY ARE WORKING FOR THE BETTERMENT OF OUR CAMP FACILITIES IN ORDER THAT WE MAY ENJOY THE SIMPLE COMFORTS OF LIFE. ALL EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO MAKE OUR INTERNMENT A PLEASANT ONE. BE PATIENT AND COURAGEOUS AND HAVE NO FEAR FOR MY WELFARE. PRAY FOR AN EXPEDITIOUS AND RIGHTEOUS PEACE. THE CLIMATE HERE IS SIMILAR TO HOME AND QUITE A CONTRAST TO SUNNY GUAM. CHARCOAL BRAZERS DURING THE DAY AND FIVE THIN BLANKETS AT NIGHT....FRUIT, FISH, AND YAMS MAKE UP AN ADEQUATE DIET. PERSONAL EFFECTS WERE LOST IN THE FALL OF GUAM. MY BEST TO HELEN, SARAH, DOT, BUD, AND ALL THE FOLKS. PHIL DUNSMORE IS HERE WITH ME. HOPE ALL AT HOME ARE IN THE BEST OF HEALTH AND ENJOYING HAPPINESS. I WISH TO THANK THE ARMY OFFICIALS AND THE BROADCASTING CORPORATION OF JAPAN FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF BROADCASTING TO MY FOLKS IN AMERICA. HOPE TO BE ABLE TO..... WITH YOU ALL AT A LATER DATE. LOVE, FRANK."



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Zentsuji War Prisoners Camp  
Japan

April 6, 1942

Mrs. Joseph P. Carney,  
35 Annandale Road,  
Newport, Rhode Island, USA

Received in Newport  
Sept. 4, 1942

Dear Mother and Dad:

Writing this note gives me the greatest of pleasure for I know you will be happy to hear that I am safe and in good health. Have been here at Zentsuji War Prisoners Camp Japan since January 15th. Treatment is considerate, with food and lodging adequate. So have no fears for my welfare. Officers are not required to work, so time is passed playing cards studying radio and concrete reading, scarcity of books, walking in front of barracks. Officers are being paid so one can obtain necessities. A canteen is to be opened shortly in which these can be obtained. The men are working cultivating farm land for which they are being paid. If the opportunity arises to send anything, heavy shoes, clothing and technical books would be welcome. Information regarding communication might be obtained through the Red Cross. I do hope that home is as I always pictured it, undisrupted by the war. My best to all, Helen, Jack, Bud and Midge, Sal and the Heintzs, may happiness and good health be yours, my best to Neil and Mother. Remember me in your prayers, there are no Catholic services so I must carry on my devotions in my own little way. I hope a righteous peace may be soon made, so that all may return to their homes. Pay Clerk Dunsmoor, 20 Farewell Street, is here, notify his wife (Kitch), that he is well, in case his letter is not received.

Your loving son,

Signed: Frank

This letter was typewritten, but signed in own handwriting.





ENSIGN FRANCIS J. CARNEY  
DIED JULY 25TH. 1945

