

“REMEMBER BATAAN, NEVER FORGET”



The three “files” you will encounter in this packet provide a deeper look into the experiences of some of the people you met in *The Boys of Bataan*.

This resource contains:

- 3 sets of themed historical documents
- Guided group project worksheet

Why Do We Remember?

The town of Brainerd, MN “carries the tradition of the men of Company A wherever they go.”

What are the different ways that Brainerd veterans and residents have carried on that tradition over the years?



Sending Supportive Soundwaves from the Home front

FILE #1



at Christmas Time - 1916.



JULIUS KNUDSEN

Julius became a Prisoner of War on April 9, 1942, when Bataan was surrendered to the Japanese. He was never found.

Listen to the Christmas recording his family made for him at [13:00-16:25] in the documentary!

WANT TO SPEAK TO YOUR BOY?

To Make Records for Men in Service

How would you like to talk to your son, boy friend, brother or close friend who's in the national guard, army, navy or marine corps?

Would you like to tell him of personal experiences or amusing incidents, give him advice or cheer him up with small-talk brought to him in your own voice? If you'd like to do that you may for the opportunity is yours next week.

For the purpose of providing guardsmen or other men in service with a real treat, phonograph recordings will be made at the armory in Brainerd next Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 3 and 4.

Between the hours of 12 to 5 p. m. and 7 and 9 p. m. on both those days, recordings will be made at the small charge of 55 cents per record. The records will run one minute on each side and can be

played back on any standard phonograph.

First planned as a method of bringing a novel and personal Christmas gift to members of the Brainerd national guard now in the Philippines, the idea is being enlarged upon to benefit any men in service to whom relatives wish to speak.

Recordings can be in song, voice, dialogue or any other manner of sound. Some parents plan to have their sons' dogs bark into the microphone. Others will sing their message of greeting while still others will whistle.

Mrs. Louis Knudsen and Mrs. Herbert Paine, mothers of national guardsmen in the Philippines, issue a special invitation to all mothers to make the recordings.

"We are attempting to contact parents of the guardsmen but we wish to emphasize that anyone may make a recording without an in-

invitation at any time between 12 and 5 p. m. and 7 and 9 p. m. on either Nov. 3 or Nov. 4."

Each record will be made in private so that there will be no embarrassment for the person whose voice is recorded. Those who make records are urged to be prepared so that they will not waste time. Six-inch records are to be made and one minute is required to fill each side. The 55-cent charge will cover the cost of mailing the records to the guardsmen in the Philippines. For those who make records to be sent elsewhere, the records may be taken along and mailed directly.

Records for guardsmen will be sent Wednesday, Nov. 5, so that they will reach the Philippine army post by Christmas time.

No appointments will be necessary but those who plan to make records may notify Mrs. Knudsen or Mrs. Paine so that some idea of the number can be ascertained.

Perky Burke: A Woman Goes to War

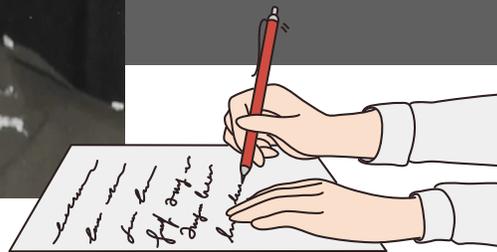
FILE #2



"What else can you do?"

2nd Lieutenant Ed Burke spent the rest of the war as a prisoner of war after being captured by the Japanese in 1942. His wife Pernina "Perky" joined the Brainerd Drum and Bugle Corps (filing reports back to the *Brainerd Dispatch* during their travels) even though she didn't know how to play a drum. "Because what else can you do?"

"St. Cloud's Pernina Burke, 100, has a lot she wants to do," MPR News, 20 March 2018



Drum Corps Battled Admirers In Mardi Gras Line of March

By PERNINA BURKE

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Tuesday, March 1—This is the day we marched! What a parade! We were so tired before we got through, we could hardly put one foot ahead of the other. And just about a block before the end of the parade, someone on the sidelines said: "Why, they look just as fresh as when they started." Ah, me! Aren't looks deceiving!

We were wonderfully received. All along the route we could hear people remarking about our spic-and-span uniforms, our flashy appearance, and our straight lines. Even the fact that our shoes are uniform seemed to impress them.

Mr. Livingstone, secretary to King Rex, warned us beforehand not to be surprised if the crowds closed in and didn't let us by in formation. He said that many times bands have had to march singlefile. We would have had to, too, if Don Sande and Mel Colby hadn't preceded the corps by about ten feet, pushing the crowds out of the way. They really PUSHED them out of the

way, too, and even then the bystanders were snatching at our drum sticks and crowding up so that the outside files bumped against them. Canal street is 171 feet wide, and the people were massed against each other the entire length and breadth of that street, barely allowing us room to pass. The parade route was over 100 hundred blocks, and at no time did we pass a spot where there were spectators lining the sidewalk less than four or five deep, and most of the time it was more than that.

But we did make an impression on New Orleans. It's not likely that they'll ever forget having heard about Brainerd, Minnesota. And when they hear of Brainerd, I'll bet they'll remember us. We were highly praised by all announcers, both radio and television. And wherever we've heard people discussing the parade, they mention that as a marching unit we are very outstanding. Please forgive us if we seem to brag, but we've worked so hard for this parade, it's good to know they liked us. I'm sure King Rex doesn't regret having chosen us to be his official corps.



Source: *Brainerd Daily Dispatch*, 10 April 1942
Crow Wing County Historical Society

Source: *Brainerd Daily Dispatch*, 5 March 1949
Crow Wing County Historical Society

The Brainerd Ladies' Drum and Bugle Corps leave Saturday to participate in parades and drills at the American Legion convention in Faribault.

Bataan Memorial March

FILE #3



The Bataan Memorial March is held yearly at Camp Ripley. The event commemorates the Bataan Death March in April 1942 when captured U.S. prisoners were forced to walk 60 miles in the Bataan Peninsula of the Philippines in WWII.



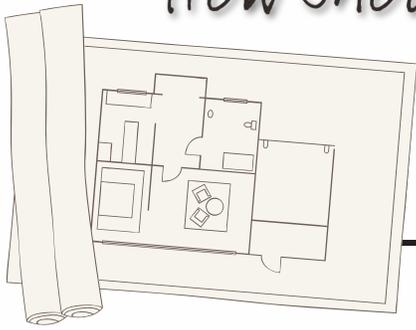
SOURCE: BRAINERDVFW.ORG



SOURCE: BRAINERDVFW.ORG

How Should We Remember?

GROUP ACTIVITY



Design a new event/memorial/experience to honor local soldiers in your town/city. Try to avoid copying memorials you have seen before. Be creative.

What is important to consider when designing this project?

As a group, decide on 3 goals for your project and list them below

- 1
- 2
- 3

Using the goals you have created, use the space below (or the back of this page) to describe your proposal. Consider using sketches or diagrams if appropriate.