

# Ghosts of Bataan's Bloody Yuletide Spur Santa On

## War Prisoner of Japanese Puts His Heart Into Job of Delivering Gifts



To On lem Will Plan Tues-

### Sidney Evans, 29, Has First Christmas at Home Since 1941; Employed at Post Office

When Sidney Evans, 29, of 1516 Flint avenue, plays Santa Claus these days as he delivers the mail for Uncle Sam, his heart is in his work.

The ghost of Christmas past is with him . . . seeing him of Dec. 25, 1941, when he was in the foxholes of Bataan; of 1942 and 1943, when his Christmases were spent in the hellhole of Cabanatuan prison camp; and of 1944, when, because he was too sick to work in the cool interior of Honolulu that day, he spent Christmas shivering with cold and pneumonia under a single thin blanket on the floor of Japanese prison barracks.

### First Christmas at Home

This is his first Christmas at home since 1940. Last year he was in a hospital in North Carolina, recovering from beri beri and a variety of other diseases of malnutrition resulting from his long captivity.

### He is looking forward to turkey and all the fixings with his family of a few months, the former Miss Dorothy Allard of 1216 Conant, and a visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Evans of 1202 North Ninth street.

His next get started on the idea of eating a real Christmas dinner last year. But he had recovered sufficiently for the banquet to turn him loose on a turkey and stuff. But how on a Christmas morn for the preceding four years.

### On Bataan in 1941: C rations. The guns of the Japanese, who had just taken Correll, so much as eat their Christmas candy with bombs for an accompaniment.

At Cabanatuan in 1942: A Red Cross package containing two cans of meat, a can of dried milk, and a box of chocolate. The Japanese he spent these as Christmas presents. Evans ate one can of meat and a square of chocolate for Christmas dinner. He saved the chocolate for a square a day as long as it lasted. He doesn't remember when he drank the milk. His regular fare was rice and salt.

### Honolulu, 1944: Rice, and some green pea flakes. The Japanese called a vegetable stew, made by boiling through, or four pounds of something, or mustard greens in about 10 gallons of water.

At Cabanatuan, again, the food of the Americans held prisoner there, varied the vegetable stew, but never got to eat any of the vegetables. If a prisoner was caught eating vegetables from the garden, he was beaten or shot.

### Was Fed to Miss Coal

The Honolulu, the prisoners were forced to mine coal deep beneath the surface, and that's what Evans means day if he hadn't had pneumonia or had he could work for it was, he had no fuel and no fire, and the weather was bitterly cold.

### Evans was a farmer before he enlisted in March, 1941. He was a cowboy in the rodeo at El Paso, was captured on Correll.

Some 210 workers in the post office this season, 160 are veterans of World war. It, according to Postmaster J. C. Alcock.

Several of them spent the Christmas season of 1945 in the coniferous forests, at the gateway of Germany's in the blood and the lost Battle of the Bulge. Others were on the high seas.

Sidney Evans, who spent Christmas, 1941, on Bataan, was captured by the Japs and spent the next three Yuletides in prison camps, and was in hospital recovering last year, is enjoying his job now. He is driving a parcels post truck for Uncle Sam, delivering Christmas gifts. He is shown above loading them into a sack.

### 3 War Veterans To Gene Maddin Staff, DA-Elect Discloses

Tom Moore Jr., Watson Arnold, H. C. Pittman To Be Employed; Coy Barrett To Be Retained

District Attorney-Elect Gene Maddin, himself a veteran, announced Saturday that three ex-servicemen will be among the local assistants serving with him after he takes office on Jan. 1, 1947.

The veterans whose appointments were announced Saturday include Tom Moore Jr., H. C. Pittman and Watson C. Arnold, continuing as an assistant in the office with Coy Barrett, who has served since District Attorney Stansell Bryan.

The appointments must be ap-

### Police Helpless In Traffic Rush

Waco's traffic situation may be bad on any normal day, but during Christmas shopping the Austin avenue downtown intersections are creating a problem difficult for police to handle.

A stream of traffic on Fifth, headed south from Washington, was to show an automobile through Fourth Street light changes before crossing Austin. Most of the trouble was from motorists attempting to park or to park and discharge passengers. A traffic cop was on duty, but despite a good workout in dashing up and down the block, he couldn't do much about the situation.

### Plenty of Dolls, But Dresses Are Needed by Chest

Toy Chest Headquarters Busy Scene as Kivans and Volunteers Prepare for Santa Visits

A sure sign that underprivileged children will see a postman Santa Claus, so far as toys are concerned, is obtained by going to the Kivans-sponsored Toy Chest, with headquarters at Fifth and Washington avenues, and by walking down to the basement of the building and looking at the rows of dolls, games, metal wagons and stick horses, doll houses and many other kinds of children's playthings.

### All-Time High For Christmas Mail

Beautiful Toys Reconstructed

# Evans Sidney

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jopolony  
Mon, Jul 23, 2018