

File: 553-1

Title: Camp History

Origin: Wake Island

Dates: 8 Dec to 23 Dec '45 Classification:

Authenticity: Originals signed

Source: Unknown

Extracted by _____ Date _____ Microfilmed _____ Date _____

AG-KI Form 91 (20 July 45)

Scanned (No. 11)

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ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
RECOVERED PERSONNEL DIVISION
ROUTING SLIP

FROM

Asst. Dir.

10/1 1945

TO:

Director _____
Asst. Director _____
Executive Officer _____
Asst. Ex. Officer _____
Legal Officer _____

FOR:

Approval _____
Information _____
Initials _____
Signature _____
Appropriate Action _____
Correction _____
Note & Return _____
File _____

Administrative Branch 11 _____
Allot & Benefits _____
Plans & Operations _____

Adjudication Branch _____
AUS 3rd-Section _____
Civ 2nd-Section _____
RS-2nd-Section _____

Invest. & Review Branch 2 _____
Special Investigation _____
Archives _____
201 Files _____
Liaison Officer _____

Finance Branch _____
Disbursing Section _____

Chief Clerk _____

AG-KD Form No. 5 (7-23-A5)

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ARCHIVES FILE NUMBER 3553-1

TITLE CAMP HISTORY

ORIGIN WAKE ISLAND

DATES DEC. 8th TO DEC. 23rd 1945

AUTHENTICITY ORIGINALS SIGNED

SOURCE UNKNOWN

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INTER-COM SHEET

File No. _____ Subject: Brief Report on Operations on
Wake Island, Dec 8 to 23, inc, 41

Date	From	To	Remarks
29 Sep 45	AG 29 RD	Capt Kremen, Recovered Person nel, AFFAC	For appropriate action <i>Jm</i> OTI

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Manila, P. I.,
September 17, 1945

SUBJECT: Brief report of operations on Wake Island, December 8th to 23rd inclusive, 1941.

TO: Commanding General, H. A. F., Hickam Field, T. H.
(C. C. to CSigO & C of AC)

1. At daybreak on December 8th, 1941 (Wake Island time) the information broadcast from Headquarters H. A. F. at Hickam Field relative to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor was received by the operator on duty in the radio trailer (located at the airfield) and immediately transmitted to me. Without delay I awoke Major Devereaux, U. S. M. C. Commandant and apprised him of the situation. I then began the removal of the truck (transmitter unit) and trailer (receiving unit) from positions alongside the runway at the airfield to a new position some 750 yards distant from the airfield. This required the use of all personnel including those enlisted men who had been on duty during the night. The job was completed by 1145, at which time communication was reestablished with Headquarters H. A. F. at Hickam Field. Ten minutes later Japanese aircraft bombed the airfield and P. A. A. establishments. Eight planes were destroyed at the field and the P. A. A. radio station was demolished. The U. S. M. C. radio station was also knocked out. Two machine gun bullets passed through the trailer without causing damage or casualty. Sergeant J. B. Rex, Signal Corps, was slightly wounded in the back by a bomb splinter.

LOCATED
AT THE
AIRFIELD
WAS
DESTROYED

2. After the departure of the enemy aircraft the radio truck and trailer units were again shifted to another location. On December 9th, the enemy airforce came again and dropped bombs sufficiently close to trailer position, to indicate that they were aware of its location. After the departure of the planes, the location was again changed. On the following day, the U. S. Naval radio facilities were bombed and destroyed completely, leaving the Air Corps - Signal Corps unit the only remaining means of communication. On December 11th, during a raid bombs and machine gun bullets struck very close to our position. After the planes departed the units were again moved. These units being the only remaining means of communication, all facilities were immediately offered to, and accepted by the U. S. Naval Commandant, and there after all U. S. Naval traffic was handled through our unit. On the night - December 11th - 12th, indications being that the enemy was intent on locating and knocking out these units, it was decided to abandon the truck and trailer, sacrificing mobility for security. The units were consequently dismantled from truck and trailer, and set up inside of an uncompleted concrete tubular magazine, which was afterward covered with eight feet of earth.

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3. A keying line was provided to the U. S. Navy C. P., which was now using our facilities. From the 12th to and including the 23rd the Navy was given their frequency at any time they required it, 24 hours a day. The Army, of course, retained control and maintenance of the transmitter keeping out watch on Headquarters H. A. F. meanwhile. The five enlisted men, throughout the entire seige of Wake Island (December 9th - 23rd inclusive) performed an outstanding job of maintaining instantaneous communication under daily air attacks, little sleep and poor and meagre food. THE ENTIRE

INDIVIDUALLY ARE HEREWITH CITED FOR VALDROUS SERVICE +
IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT EACH BE DECORATED WITH THE

SILVER STAR

Henry Stanley Wilson
HENRY STANLEY WILSON,
Captain, Signal Corps,
Commanding.

Capt. W.S.W.

4

MILITARY RECORDS - HAWAIIAN AIR FORCESIGNAL DETACHMENT AT WAKE ISLAND

ROSTER:

Captain Henry S. Wilson, Signal Corps - Commanding
 Staff Sergeant E. G. Rogers, Air Corps
 Staff Sergeant C. H. Hotchkiss, Air Corps
 Sergeant C. W. Dilkes, Air Corps
 Sergeant J. B. Rex, Signal Corps
 Pvt 1/c1 P. F. Fultrup, Air Corps

WILSON, HENRY S., CAPTAIN, SIGNAL CORPS.

December 8th, 1941 - Wounded in right leg above knee by bomb splinter, during bombing of Pan American Airways area. Wound dressed by U. S. Naval Surgeon Kahn. Minor wound - No Complications.

December 23rd, 1941 - Captured by Japanese Naval Forces, after surrender of Wake Island by U. S. Naval Commandant. Previously I had destroyed all codes ciphers, cipher devices etc by burning. Radio transmitter rendered inoperative by burning out transformers and smashing meters.

January 1, 1942 - Bacillary dysentery, temperature 104 degrees, lay in Japanese hospital six days without food or medical attention. On January seventh removed to Prisoners' Hospital established by Dr. Shank (Civilian contractor's surgeon).

March 10th - Recovered.

March 11th, 1942 - Ordered to labor by Japanese constructing roads. Refused, claiming exemption from labor as an officer, under provisions of international law. - Upheld.

March 12th, 1942 - Protested formally, in writing to Japanese authorities to the use of enlisted men prisoners on labor involving construction of machine gun positions, as a direct violation of international law. Protest rejected and prisoner's labor continued on military projects.

May 11th, 1942 - Left Wake Island for Japan, together with all U. S. Ser- vice men prisoners remaining on Island, on Japanese transport "Acama Maru".

May 16th, 1942 - Arrived in Yokohama, Japan. Sent to Ofuna concentration camp for questioning (See separate report).

May 30th, 1942 - Sent by railroad to Zentsuji P. O. W. Camp, on Island of Shikoku, arriving May 31st, 1942.

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January 10th, 1943 - Confined to bed with beri-beri and edema accompanied by high fever and swelling of all extremities. Recovered February 5th, 1943. Weight 110 pounds.

December 29th, 1943 - Chronic Diarrhea continuously to June 10th, 1944. Weight on recovery 107 pounds.

June 23rd, 1944 - Sent from Zentsuji P. O. W. camp to Rokuroshi P. O. W. camp (Fukui Prefecture) before leaving Zentsuji, transferred 500 yen from my savings account to fund to provide for Sergeant Rogers.

September 7th, 1945 - Liberated by U. S. Eighth Army. Weight 110 pounds.

September 8th, 1945 - Left Rokuroshi for Yokahama en route to U. S.

ROGERS, E. G., STAFF SERGEANT, AIR CORPS.

December 8th to 23rd (inclusive) 1941 -

Exceptionally meritorious service above normal call of duty assisting the maintenance of communication for Navy, as well as own unit, with little sleep, poor food and under daily air attacks. Recommend decoration for valor - "The Silver Star".

Henry Stanley Wilson
HENRY STANLEY WILSON,
Captain, Signal Corps.

December 23rd, 1941 - Captured by Japanese Naval forces upon the surrender of Wake Island.

January 12th, 1942 - Sent to Japan on Japanese Naval Transport.

January 19th, 1942 - Arrived in Yokohama, Japan

January 28th, 1942 - Sent by Rail road from Yokohama to Zentsuji P. O. W. Camp.

February 8th, 1944 - Pneumonia, Recovered with no apparent ill-effects on February 24th, 1944.

July 1, 1944 - Wrenched back while engaged on Japanese prisoners' work party. Recovered and resumed work July 15, 1944. Apparently no ill-effects.

June 23rd, 1945 - From this date to end of war nothing further is known regarding this soldier.

REX, J. B., SERGEANT, SIGNAL CORPS.

December 8th, 1941 - Wounded in back by bomb fragment while on duty in Radio Trailer Station. Wound dressed by Naval Surgeon Kahn, minor wound - No complications. Recommend award of "Purple Heart".

Henry Stanley Wilson
HENRY STANLEY WILSON,
Captain, Signal Corps.

December 8th to 23rd (inclusive) 1941 -

Exceptionally meritorious service above normal call of duty assisting the maintenance of communication for Navy, as well as own unit, with little sleep, poor food and under daily air attacks. Recommend decoration for valor - "The Silver Star".

Henry Stanley Wilson
HENRY STANLEY WILSON,
Captain, Signal Corps.

December 23rd, 1941 - Captured by Japanese Naval Forces upon the surrender of Wake Island.

January 12th, 1942 - Sent to Japan on Japanese Naval Transport, arriving in Yokohama January 19th, 1942, but not landed. Believed to have been sent to Shanghai, China P. C. W. Camp. No further information obtainable up to end of war.

HOTCHKISS, C. H., STAFF SERGEANT, AIR CORPS.

December 8th to 23rd (inclusive) 1941 -

Exceptionally meritorious service above normal call of duty assisting the maintenance of communication for Navy, as well as own unit, with little sleep, poor food and under daily air attacks. Recommend decoration for valor - "The Silver Star".

Henry Stanley Wilson
HENRY STANLEY WILSON,
Captain, Signal Corps.

December 23rd, 1941 - Captured by Japanese Naval Forces upon the surrender of Wake Island.

January 12th, 1942 - Sent to Japan on Japanese Naval Transport, arriving

in Yokohama January 19th, 1942, but not landed. Believed to have been sent to Shanghai, China P. O. W. Camp. No further information obtainable up to end of war.

DILGES, C. W., SERGEANT, AIR CORPS.

December 8th to 23rd (inclusive) 1941 -

Exceptionally meritorious service above normal call of duty assisting the maintenance of communication for Navy, as well as own unit, with little sleep, poor food and under daily air attacks. Recommend decoration for valor - "The Silver Star".

Henry Stanley Wilson
HENRY STANLEY WILSON,
Captain, Signal Corps,

December 23rd, 1941 - Captured by Japanese Naval Forces upon the surrender of Wake Island.

January 12th, 1942 - Sent to Japan on Japanese Naval Transport, arriving in Yokohama January 19th, 1942, but not landed. Believed to have been sent to Shanghai, China P. O. W. Camp. No further information obtainable up to end of war.

FULTRUP, P. F., PRIVATE FIRST CLASS, AIR CORPS.

December 8th to 23rd (inclusive) 1941 -

Exceptionally meritorious service above normal call of duty assisting the maintenance of communication for Navy, as well as own unit, with little sleep, poor food and under daily air attacks. Recommend decoration for valor - "The Silver Star".

Henry Stanley Wilson
HENRY STANLEY WILSON
Captain, Signal Corps.

December 23rd, 1941 - Captured by Japanese Naval Forces upon the surrender of Wake Island.

January 12th, 1942 - Sent to Japan on Japanese Naval Transport, arriving in Yokohama January 19th, 1942, but not landed. Believed to have been sent to Shanghai, China, P. O. W. Camp. No further information obtainable up to end of war.

A true copy of records kept by the undersigned:

Henry Stanley Wilson
HENRY STANLEY WILSON,
Captain, Signal Corps.

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