

## “Ex-Pottstonian Who Survived Bataan Death March Is Buried,”

October 7, 1948

Pottstown Mercury

### Ex-Pottstonian Who Survived Bataan Death March Is Buried

Funeral services for Lt. Col. Charles B. Leinbach, one of the survivors of the Bataan death march and a former Pottstown resident, were held from the Post Chapel, Presidio of San Francisco, the past Sept. 30. The Mercury was informed yesterday.

Col. Leinbach's death occurred in Takao harbor, Formosa, on Jan. 9, 1945, when the Japanese ship on which he was being transported as a prisoner of war, was sunk.

He was taken prisoner in the action at Bataan, Philippine islands, while fighting with his battalion which was attached to the 57th

Infantry Combat team, Philippine Scouts. He was one of the survivors of the death march which followed the taking of the jungle-covered peninsula.

AN OUTSTANDING GOLFER, Col. Leinbach was known throughout northern California for his part in tournaments held during the three and a half years he was stationed with the 76th Field Artillery at the Presidio of Monterey. In January, 1940, he was transferred to Fort Stotsenburg, P. I., and was accompanied by his wife, Pearl, and daughter, Lorraine, who

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returned to reside in Monterey in June, 1941.

On Sept. 20, 1946, Mrs. Leinbach was presented with the Silver Star Medal, posthumously awarded to her husband, in ceremonies at Ft. Ord, Calif.

The discovery of his body was made after many months of research on the part of the Graves Registration service. The remains were recovered by an American searching party in the Spring of 1946 from a mass grave at Takao Harbor.

It was described in the official report as located "along the beach near the Formosan cemetery about one kilometer toward Kigo from Hamaguri tea-room, Nakasu Beach."

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AFTER THE RECOVERY of the remains, they were shipped to the American mausoleum, Shanghai, China, and at a later date to Honolulu where identification was completed. They were returned to the United States aboard the U. S. Army Transport Sgt. Morris E. Crain, which arrived in San Francisco recently.

Col. Leinbach was a member of Trinity Reformed church.

In addition to his wife and daughter, who now live in San Francisco, he is survived by the following sisters and brothers: Mrs. Myrtle Bell, 222 York street, South Pottstown; Mrs. Lotta Bechler, 251 High street; Reider Leinbach, 12 West Main street, South Pottstown; Lee Leinbach, 602 North Evans street; Laurs Leinbach, Reading, and Owen Leinbach, Youngstown, Ohio.

Interment was made in the San Francisco National cemetery.