

Fine Career—

# Colonel Mellom Soldier For Many Years

**Came Up Through Every Rank and Has Distinguished Himself As Military Administrator**

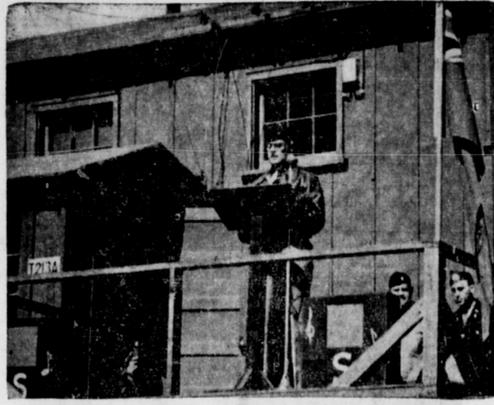
Colonel J. H. Mellom, Commanding Officer of the Prince Rupert Sub-Port of Embarkation, will soon complete his forty-third year of continuous service in the United States Army, having enlisted on October 2, 1902, as a private with Troop D, 4th Cavalry Division. He has worked himself up through every rank and, as a result, has acquired a keen insight into the men under his command.

Coming to Prince Rupert last November from the San Francisco Port of Embarkation, where he was Deputy Port Commander, Colonel Mellom has come to be admired and loved by every officer, G.I. and civilian of this Sub-Port. He has always taken the members of his command into his confidence—their problems have been his problems—and one those occasions when he has been forced by circumstances or necessity to make an unpopular decision, he has called his troops together and personally explained to them why such a move was necessary.

Colonel Mellom spent more than nine years with the Philippine Scouts, a branch of the Regular Army, in the Philippine Islands. As a result, he has followed the Philippine campaign in the present war with no little interest and feeling. He has served as Post Quartermaster at the following Army posts: Vancouver Barracks, Wash.; Camp Knox, Ky.; Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.; Fort Sill, Okla.; Fort Benning, Ga.; and Fort Lewis, Wash. He has also served at the Quartermaster School in Philadelphia as a member of the staff and faculty.

In April 1940, Colonel Mellom became superintendent of the Army Transport Service (now Water Division) at the San Francisco Port of Embarkation, serving in this capacity until July 1944. It was during this tour of duty that he was called upon to do almost the impossible, in the face of the war emergency as it then existed. From a staff of only one officer assistant and a handful of civilian employees in April 1940, he developed with amazing efficiency and speed a working organization of some 275 officers and 8000 civilians—an institution which, under his leadership, soon geared itself to the tremendous task of shipping some 50,000 troops and 750,000 tons of supplies monthly to the fighting fronts. In addition, Colonel Mellom supervised the conversion of numerous ships for wartime needs and played a major part in the establishment and expansion of water transportation and shipping facilities at other West Coast ports.

It is perhaps as a result of



ON V-E DAY—Colonel Mellom, port commander, addresses the military and civilian personnel of the sub-port following the defeat of Germany.

## ATLANTIC AND PRAIRIE PROVINCES SEND GREETINGS OF YANK FAREWELL

From the Premiers of British Columbia's counterpart maritime province of Nova Scotia and of the great central plain province of Manitoba come messages to the Daily News in connection with our special "Farewell to Yanks" edition presented herewith. International goodwill, unity and appreciation are the keynotes of the two messages—one from Hon. Angus L. Macdonald, Premier of Nova Scotia, and the other from Hon. S. S. Garson, Premier of Manitoba.

**HON. S. S. GARSON**  
 (Premier, Province of Manitoba)

During the century and a quarter that Canada and the United States have lived in peace, side by side, the friendly relationship between these two great countries has probably never been more clearly evidenced than by the welcome which has been extended by the citizens of the one country to the fighting men of the other.

Everywhere in the United States, Canadian men and women in uniform have been warmly welcomed by the American people. To a similar extent we Canadians have been honored to have American servicemen in our midst.

Now that our common task has been successfully completed, the intermingling of our people, dictated these past few years by the exigencies of war, will be replaced by a mutual desire of Canadian and American citizens to work side by side in pursuit of peace.

In bidding farewell to those American servicemen who have been stationed at Prince Rupert and other communities

**HON. ANGUS L. MACDONALD**  
 (Premier of Nova Scotia)

Canada is proud and happy to have been closely associated with the United States in the great battle for liberty that is now so gloriously concluded. Not the least of our privileges throughout those trying days was that of being host country to many men of the United States armed forces.

The sojourn of our friends from across the border was greatly enjoyed by us. We trust as they go back home and become absorbed in the pursuits of civilian life that they will feel as we feel when we say, "after all, we are one people."

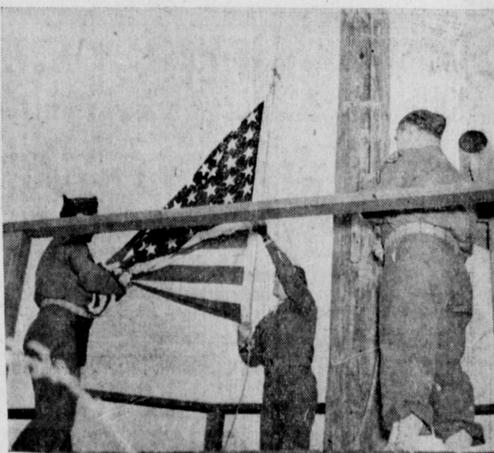
May they and theirs visit us often.

Throughout our Canadian North and Northwest, I am confident they will return homeward to add immeasurable strength to those ties of friendship and mutual understanding which bind our nations together.

this outstanding demonstration of "know how" at a time when our national security was in jeopardy that the War Department yet today finds the services of Colonel Mellom essential. Colonel Mellom passed his sixtieth birthday last December at which time he would normally have retired from active service but, by order of the President, he has been retained on an active duty status beyond retirement. Only two other Colonels in the Army Service Forces share this distinction.

Upon his departure from Prince Rupert, Colonel Mellom will return to San Francisco Port of Embarkation for a tour of duty of several weeks after which he plans to retire and make his home in the Bay area.

One of the characters of Acropolis Hill, familiar to all, is "Muskeg," a bob-tailed collie dog who reports for every formation on the drill field and is always present when crowds gather at the theatre or the ball field.



CEREMONY AT "RETREAT"—Every evening at five o'clock the colorful ceremony of "Retreat" takes place on Acropolis Hill. Here, "Old Glory" is lowered, the soldiers taking care that no part of the flag touches the ground.

A method of turning over barges for repair developed at this Sub-Port has won recognition for the Water Division in the Transportation Corps Journal.

## 10,000 Loaves Baked Per Day

By STAFF SERGEANT RONALD B. MACKALL  
 "Quartermaster Bakery" at Prince Rupert had Big Wartime Job

In 1942 the Chris Mill Bakery, owned by H. K. Christensen, was given the task of supplying bread to the U. S. Army in this area. The bakery was rushed with orders and short of help as employees were leaving their work to join the armed services. Through the authorization of the port commander, four men were placed in the bakery to assist in turning out bread for the needs of the U. S. Army stationed at Prince Rupert.

This arrangement continued until February 1943, when the demand for a greater supply of bread for the forces increased to such an extent that arrangements were made to take over the Chris Mill Bakery. From that time to the present it has been known as the "Quartermaster Bakery," operated under the supervision of the port quartermaster.

During the period of operation the U.S. turned out as many as 10,000 loaves of bread in one day—that number being needed to supply the services in this district. As the Chris Mill Bakery had been supplying bread to the Canadian Navy, the U. S. Army continued this work, and has since added all Canadian forces in this district to its list of customers. In addition to the Canadian forces, the U. S. forces here and at Port Edward, the bakery has supplied all U. S. civilian mess halls and Army Transport boats calling at this port.

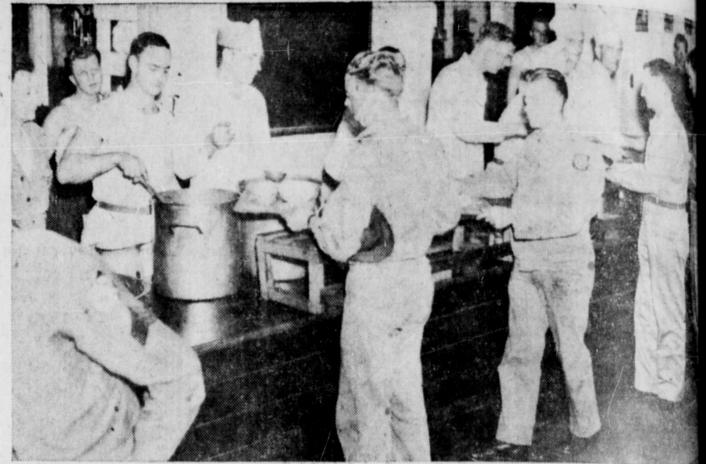
Periodically, the bakery sent bread to laboratories throughout Canada and the United States to have it tested for quality; that is, texture, shape of loaf, grain, odor, taste, aroma, color of crumb, uniformity, etc. The scores in these tests have ranged from 92 to 98 per cent perfect—an unusually high level of performance for any bakery. The excellent machinery of the Chris Mill Bakery, a high quality of Canadian milled flour, and hard work made these results possible.

Everything has not always gone smoothly. There have been many morning calls between 4 and 6 a.m. to the effect that the oven wasn't heating, or that a mixer wouldn't work, and hurried calls have gone out to the post engineers. Through their quick response, their interest in all activities and their skill, it was possible to keep the machinery in efficient working condition. The post engineers' co-operation has been a big factor in our record of not missing a day of production since the Army took over the bakery—some three million loaves of bread ago.

The activities have included more than bread-making. Those fresh, icing-covered cinnamon rolls and home baked pies served by the USO, the Red Cross at Port Edward and the snack bars are made by two of our bakers during their leisure time. Cakes served by the Red Cross with their evening coffee come from the bakery. Christmas 1943, our bakery ovens would have been the envy of any Waldorf-Astoria chef—some two thousand pounds of turkey in the ovens, roasting to a golden brown for G.I.'s Christmas dinners. Wedding and birthday cakes from the bakery have played their parts in many festive occasions, decorated with true artistry, and complete with candles or topped with bride and groom.

Personnel of the bakery at the present time includes: S/Sgt. Ronald B. Mackall, Sgts. Robert Cochran and Eldin Graham; Tec 4 Kenneth L'Heureux, Tec 5 William Brooks and Frank Martin, and Pfc's Emil Borgetti, Mario Bozzo, Donald Brown, Mitchell Castle, John Davis, Jesse Gilliland, Harry Gaetke, Charles Marshall, Hadwin Mellor, Harold Stover and Harry Williams.

As our mission here in Prince Rupert is completed we are anxious to return to our homes, and we know that Mr. Christensen will be glad to resume control of his bakery and to be able to again furnish his high quality bakery goods to the people in this district.



THE CHOW LINE—This is part of the regular chow line at headquarters mess. The dishes out the rations, from left to right, are: Pfc. Omar Butler, behind Butler is Pvt. Albin Cascone, T/5 Edward Atterbury, Pvt. William Harmon, T/5 Odie Bowlware and T/5 Robert Brown.

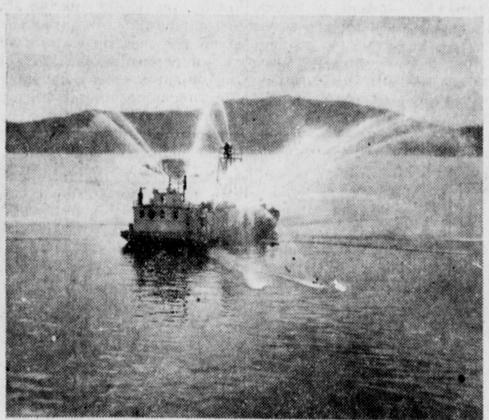
## FIRE BOAT PORT ASSET

By P. S. Rodriguez Sp (F) 2c  
 United States Coast Guard

Upon request of Brigadier General Robert E. Wylie, who recently visited the Prince Rupert Sub-Port of Embarkation, Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington ordered that fireboat CG-63016-F proceed to Prince Rupert from Brownsville, Texas, in October 1943. The craft was brought through the Panama Canal to Seattle where it was specially outfitted for operation in this climate.

Following the alterations, the boat was towed to Prince Rupert and put into service several days after its arrival. Manned by Coast Guard personnel, the fireboat operating under the jurisdiction of the Water Division of the Sub-Port works in close co-operation with the Canadian Navy, City Fire Department and U. S. Army.

The most recent major activity of the fireboat occurred last May when fire swept the superstructure of the Canadian government snagboat Essington and threatened dock installations. At the time the fireboat was anchored just 100 feet from the Essington and the Coast Guard fire fighters went into action



THE FIRE-BOAT—The Army Fire-Boat BSP 1777, commissioned in August 1944, worked in conjunction with the Coast Guard fire-boat and Canadian fire-fighting units in protecting harbor facilities and craft. This barge is capable of delivering ten direct 2½-inch streams at one setting; more than 2000 gallons per minute can be directed at a blaze.

## FISHERMEN BACK AT OLD STAND

Defy Council and Revive Sea-Front Market at English Resort

BRIGHTON, Eng., Sept. 15. —At dusk the market wasn't there; in the morning it was. That's how fast the famous fish market here was restored against all city regulations to its old position on the lower promenade.

For five years, since military authorities cleared the fishermen off the sea-front in 1940, the fish market was kept back in the city. City councillors decided its return would offend fastidious guests, so they made it illegal for the market to return to the old stand.

But Bob Leach, a veteran fisherman, and his men passed the word one day to all wholesale buyers and fishmongers for miles around that "We shall be in the old spot tomorrow morning."

When morning came they were there, right enough, with scales and stalls. The city council doesn't know what to do about it, but the fishermen do. "Here we are and here we intend to stay," announced Leach.

## A.T.S. Aid Neurotics Back to Normalcy

LONDON, Sept. 15. — Men who became afraid of women during long periods as prisoners of war now are being retrained to normality by Auxiliary Territorial Service girls in a re-settlement camp in Northern Ireland.

Officials said it had been found that the prisoners, during years in which they had only men for companions, developed an attitude not merely

immediately. Other fire-fighting agencies arrived shortly after the alarm sounded and the fire was completely under control within an hour of the first call.

One of the most unforgotten characters of the Sub-Port, Corporal "Dip" Page of York, Washington, who as cartoon editor of the Acropolis, gave the G.I.s their own comic-strip sweetheart, "Sally Klotch."

The crew of the CG-63016 wishes to take this opportunity to express its sincere appreciation to the Canadian Navy and City Fire Departments for the splendid services rendered in co-operating with this vessel's activities. We also wish to thank the City of Prince Rupert for the kind and warm hospitality shown us during our station here.

of shyness but of actual fear towards women.

The girls, 95 in all, are volunteers. In a restaurant where men eat, small tables are set out with white cloths and cutlery and forks to give the impression of home life and the "woman touch."

The girls serve the meals in their daily contacts with men are expected to use feminine intuition to make give place to friendliness, are partners for the experience at dances and this has found to be one of the means of bringing the men to normality.

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