

Cunningham, Frederick N.

TRACES SON'S FATE
THROUGH NEWS REEL

Mrs. Noel Cunningham Learns
Bethlehem Man Is Confined
to Jap Prison Camp.

Worried about the fate of her son, Frederick N. Cunningham, employed as a lubricating engineer by Standard Vacuum Oil Co. in the Philippines for the past four years, Mrs. Noel Cunningham, 259 East Market Street, this city, went through the rain to the movies here September 7 and got a tip there which led to details about her son's condition.

In a news reel at the theater she saw a short called "Lady from Manila" where Miss Frances Long, daughter of an American legation official in Shanghai, among the very few from the Philippines recently sent back to this country on the liner Gripsholm, held up a boy's sport shirt with her son's nick name, "Neph" Cunningham, written on the back.

Through the theater manager she got the information which led her on the trail of added detail about the condition of her son described months, previously for her by his employers as "hospitalized."

She learned the New York City address of the news reel firm. Her daughter, Joy, employed in New York City as a technical librarian by Shell Oil Co., next discovered for her from the news reel company Miss Long's address in the same city.

Later Mrs. Cunningham and Joy dined with the legation official's daughter and found that "Neph," out of the hospital, was much thinner but well in a Japanese internment camp in Manila.

Miss Long said Cunningham, 31, had been made head policeman at the camp's main gate where she had helped him file records of all packages sent into camp. She estimated about 3500 American and British prisoners of war are located there.

According to Miss Long, who said she had cut Cunningham's hair, the Jap officer in charge of the camp was well educated and intelligent.

She said the prisoners were given a good, but monotonous, subsistence diet. Few stringent rules, Miss Long said, applied to prisoners, but infringement of any of them results in severe punishment.

Mrs. Cunningham told the Globe-Times today that "Neph's" employers had sent money to the Geneva, Switzerland, office of the International Red Cross to provide for its imprisoned employes after learning Cunningham had been confined to a hospital.

Miss Long said she had been sent home from Manila where she had been associated with Cunningham at the gate of Santo Thomas University, internment camp scene.

Cunningham came here to Lehigh University after he graduated from York High School. He was a football player, a Lehigh graduate and well known in Bethlehem.

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