

# SEE GRIM FIGHT IN THE PACIFIC

## Repatriates on Gripsholm Report Japanese Morale High

Jersey City, N. J., Dec. 2. (AP)—American repatriates from the Far East headed for their homes throughout the nation today with a grim feeling that a long, hard struggle lies ahead in the Pacific.

One after another said upon stepping from the Swedish exchange liner Gripsholm to American soil that the morale of the Japanese people still was high, whatever doubts might assail the warlords.

Government officials, who continued questioning passengers today, said they hoped to have all of the 1,494 cleared by noon.

"It is going to be a long story before the war in the Pacific is over," declared Dr. John Calvin Ferguson, 77, of Newton, Mass., a resident of China for 56 years.

He said Japan went into the war with full confidence in victory and that "the Japanese still think they can win."

Russell Brines, of the Associated Press bureau in Manila, who formerly worked in the Tokyo bureau, said on leaving the ship:

"I think the Japanese will keep on fighting at least five more years as things are going now. The vital element in the situation is their ability to continue communications and production.

"The Japanese military has built up what from their callous viewpoint is an ideal combination of religion and state service."

Happy as the repatriates were to see the Statue of Liberty and their homeland again, they expressed concern over the estimated 6,000 Americans, many of them children, still held in Japanese internment camps.

"For God's sake, get them out of there," exclaimed John J. Breneman of Philadelphia, for 50 years an exporter in Shanghai.

"Get the Americans and other internees in Manila home, or they will be a lost tribe," commented Mrs. Jessie Mann, a consular service employee. She said food and clothing were major problems to the internees.

Some of the returning Americans told of losing up to 45 pounds while in Japanese custody, and of gaining back up to 20 pounds aboard the Gripsholm.



**GRIPSHOLM STEAMS IN WITH REPA**  
it sailed past the Statue of Liberty into N  
Canadians aboard, came the song "God I  
years in Jap internment camps.