

First Los Banos Prisoners Back

After dreary months in Jap prison camps, Staff-Sgt. Cortez H. Kindred and three Consolidated-Vultee Aircraft Co. employees yesterday returned to Los Angeles.

J. M. Nicholas of 1823 Cochran Ave., Thomas S. Terrill of 1807 N. Allen Ave., Pasadena, and George Messenger, St. Paul, Minn., were greeted at the Grand Central Air Terminal by their wives. They are three of the first contingent of liberated Los Banos prisoners to return.

To Visit Mother

Sgt. Kindred, en route to visit his mother, Mrs. Jacob Klepping in Long Beach, was greeted at Union Station by Mozelle Britton, widow of Alan Dinehart and a former schoolmate. Despite the fact that he lost 42 pounds during imprisonment at Cabanatuan and is suffering from shell shock as a result of the terrific artillery barrage laid down by Americans before his release, Sgt. Kindred "looks swell," Miss Britton said.

The civilian pilots, first held at Santo Tomas and then Los Banos camp, shook their heads over the diet of rice and peculiar greens. Nicholas said he dropped to 110 pounds from a normal 122, while Terrill lost 65 pounds. The last two weeks, they said, they were barely fed enough to exist and Nicholas contracted a slight case of beriberi.

Awaited Passage

Nicholas and Terrill were in Manila awaiting passage back to the United States after ferrying PBY's to the Dutch when they were captured. Messenger was the company station manager at Manila.

Alfred W. Smith, San Diego, another Consolidated-Vultee pilot, stopped off in Honolulu to visit his father, an official of the Hawaii Air Lines, while A. E. Kalkowsky, Annapolis, Md., still another pilot, stayed in San Francisco.