

LUZON FIGHTING

“JUST PLAIN HELL”

SAYS LOCAL BOY

**“THE TOUGHEST COUNTRY I EVER
SAW,” SAYS PFC. ROBT GELTZ
OF WEST LIBERTY**

April 5, 1945

With the 38th Division on Bataan—
A grueling, forced march of three
miles through mountains and jungle-
clad valleys enabled his battalion of
the 151st Infantry to encircle and cut
off thousands of Japanese in Zig Zag
Pass, Luzon, Pfc. Robert C. Geltz of
West Liberty, Illinois, related recently

“It was the toughest country I ever
saw,” Pfc. Geltz declared. “Sometime
you had to hack your way with a bo-
lo for a hundred yards, while climbing
straight, it seemed.

“And every time you got into a
clear space,” he continued, “there
would be snipers and machine guns
zinging away at you. It was just plain
Hell for a while, fighting your way
for mile after mile, against an enemy
you couldn’t even see.

“But we did the job on schedule,
and closed a trap on the Japs,” he
concluded.

Geltz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert
Geltz, R. R. 1, West Liberty, is a vet-
eran of the Mariveles operation, dur-
ing which time his outfit became
known as the “Avengers of Bataan”.
He also holds the Asiatic Pacific and
Philippines Liberation ribbons with
two campaign stars and the Combat
Infantry Badge.