

# Elmer Ervin *Sept. 21,* Is Reported as *1945-* Well in Japan

**Adjutant General J. A. Ulio Reports His Condition Is Good and He Will Be Home at Early Date**

The first word from Private First Class William Elmer Ervin since the surrender of Japan was received by his father, Emmitt Ervin of Franklin county, formerly of Newton, Monday, when he received a telegram from Adjutant General J. A. Ulio at Washington, D. C. The message said:

"The secretary of war has asked me to inform you that your son, Private William E. Ervin, has been returned to military control September 8, 1945, and is being returned to the United States in the near future. He will be given an opportunity to communicate with you on arrival. Condition good."

Private Ervin, known at Newton, where he graduated from high school, as Elmer, has been a Japanese prisoner of war since May, 1942, when Corregidor fortress surrendered. He was held in the Philippines for a time and was later taken to Japan, being held at or near Tokyo.

## **Received Old Letters Last Week**

Last week his father and sister, Mrs. Orval Cummins of Newton, received two letters, one written in April, 1944, and the other in July, 1944. About a month earlier they had received a cablegram from him, dated several months before.

The message from Adjutant General Ulio accounts for all of the three soldiers held as prisoners of war from Jasper county. Of these, Private First Class Albert Nichols, son of John E. Nichols of Newton, is safe, and Private First Class Clay Mahan perished when a ship carrying him, and Private Green of Altamont and Private Nichols to Japan was torpedoed a year ago by an American submarine.

Private Green while at Newton last spring told how they were packed like sardines in the hold of a freighter enroute to Japan when the ship was torpedoed by the submarine, which could see no markings to distinguish it from an ordinary freighter.