

use as Falls Bottcher

A145FX

95

WITH 32ND DIVISION IN THE PHILIPPINES, JAN. 16-(AP)-
CAPT. HERMAN BOTTCHER, LEGENDARY HERO OF THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC
CAMPAIGN WHO BECAME A CITIZEN BY SPECIAL ACT OF CONGRESS, HAS BEEN
KILLED IN ACTION.

DIVISION HEADQUARTERS ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE GERMAN-BORN
SOLDIER, WHO WON BATTLEFIELD PROMOTION FROM STAFF SERGEANT TO
CAPTAIN IN NEW GUINEA'S BLOODY BUNA CAMPAIGN, WAS MORTALLY
WOUNDED BY ENEMY MORTAR FIRE DEC. 31 ON A HILL OVERLOOKING LEYTE'S
NORTHWEST COAST.

DURING THE LEYTE FIGHTING AS IN PREVIOUS NEW GUINEA CAMPAIGNS,
BOTTCHER OPERATED ALMOST CONTINUOUSLY BEHIND ENEMY LINES, HARASS-
ING AND GATHERING VITAL INFORMATION. HE SOMETIMES REMOVED ENEMY
BRIDGES PIECE BY PIECE AND HID THEM IN THE JUNGLE FOR LATER
AMERICAN USE.

HW1052PP NM

ONCE HE CAPTURED A JAPANESE CAPTAIN IN AN ENEMY REAR AREA, THE
HIGHEST RANKING ENEMY PRISONER OF THE LEYTE FIGHTING.

AS "EYES AND EARS OF DIVISION" HE DREW HIS GREATEST PLEASURE
FROM OUTSMARTING JAPANESE AT THEIR OWN JUNGLE-FIGHTING GAME.

DEATH CAME FROM LOSS OF BLOOD AFTER A MORTAR BLAST HAD SHAT-
TERED A LEG AND ARM WHILE HE WAS ENGAGING A NUMERICALLY FAR SUPERIOR
JAPANESE FORCE.