

1945, Admiral Fletcher and his North Pacific fleet were most prominent in the shelling of the Japanese homeland. Many of the meetings to arrange terms for the surrender of Japanese naval bases were held aboard his flagship, the USS *Panamint*.

World War I

Izac, Edouard Victor Michael

Lieutenant, United States Navy; aboard German Submarine *U-90* as a prisoner of war; May 21, 1918; Iowa residence: Cresco.

Citation: When the USS *President Lincoln* was attacked and sunk by the German Submarine *U-90*, on May 21, 1918, Lieutenant Izac was captured and held as a prisoner on board the *U-90* until return of the submarine to Germany, when he was confined in the prison camp. During his stay on the *U-90* he obtained information of the movements of German submarines which was so important that he determined to escape, with a view of making this information available to the United States and Allied naval authorities. In attempting to carry out this plan, he jumped through the window of a rapidly moving train at imminent risk of death, not only from the nature of the act itself but from the fire of the armed German soldiers who were guarding him. Having been recaptured and reconfined, Lieutenant Izac made a second and successful attempt to escape, breaking his way through barbed-wire fences and deliberately drawing the fire of the armed guards in the hope of permitting others to escape during the confusion. He made his way through the mountains of southwestern Germany, having only raw vegetables for food, and at the end, swam the River Rhine during the night in the immediate vicinity of German sentries.

Commander Izac, now retired and living in Bethesda, Maryland, wrote of his escapes on March 12, 1972: "I made many attempts to escape. After five months the last attempt was successful. We short-circuited the lights in the prison camp of Villingen in the Black Forest and two of us prisoners made our way to the Rhine River and swam across into Switzerland, from where we were sent back to our own forces. . . During one of my attempts to escape I jumped from a moving train and although badly injured was recaptured by my two armed guards who broke their guns over my head, shoulders, and back. This later necessitated my retirement from active duty in 1921." Izac moved to California and from there was elected to Congress in 1936 and served five terms. In more recent years he has lived in the Washington, D.C., area.

Lemert, Milo

1st Sergeant, Company G, 119th Infantry, 30th Division; near Bellicourt, France; September 29, 1918; Iowa residence: Marshalltown.

Citation: Seeing that the left flank of his company was held up, Sergeant Lemert located the enemy machine-gun emplacement, which had been causing heavy casualties. In the face of heavy fire he rushed it single-handed, killing the entire crew with grenades. Continuing along the enemy trench in advance of the company, he reached another emplacement, which he also charged, silencing the gun with grenades. A third machine-gun emplacement opened