

# Hid On Nazis In Potato Bin Flyer Feared He'd "Burst"

While German soldiers searched through the home of a French Maquis member a few months ago, Flt.-Sgt. Lorne A. Mallory, 20, of 195 Hiawatha rd., was only a few yards away, huddled up in a potato bin, holding his breath until "I thought I would burst."

Now home safe, he told of the adventures that befell him from the time his aircraft was forced down after an air operation over France until the district where he was being sheltered by the Maquis was liberated from the bonds of Nazi occupation.

Flt.-Sgt. Mallory, a mid-upper gunner, was aboard a Halifax bomber last December when his adventure commenced. The aircraft ran into difficulties, burst into flame and crash-landed among trees on the side of a mountain.

When the young air gunner regained consciousness his electric flying suit was on fire. He managed to beat out the flames, but not before suffering severe burns about the face, head and shoulders.

For nine hours he wandered about searching for aid. Finally, he was picked up by a Maquis farmer who gave him something to eat and a place to rest. He narrowly escaped capture by the enemy when several German motorcycle troops drove up to the farmyard.

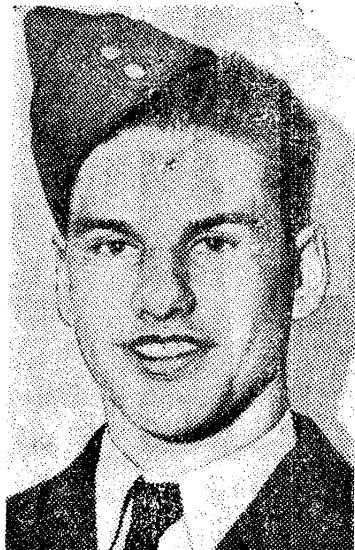
By this time Mallory had been hustled out the back door. He could hear the Nazis questioning the farmer and his wife from his hiding place, under the rear verandah.

A few hours after the Germans had gone, another member of the Maquis arrived at the farm, bringing with him a change of clothing for the Toronto flyer. Shortly after they set out for town.

Although the distance was about five miles, it took the pair several hours to make the trip to the town where a French nun treated the burns. Then, the advancing French army began to shell the small community to drive the Hun into the open.

"I was taken by a nine-year-old lad to a cellar and hidden in a potato bin. I hadn't been there very long when a number of German soldiers came thumping down the stairs in the other part of the cellar," he recalled.

He said he could hear them mov-



FLT.-SGT. LORNE MALLORY  
—(Telegram Staff Photo.)

ing about. During this time he held his breath until he thought he would "burst."

When the French army entered the community a few hours later the soldiers knocked on the doors, calling out that the town had been liberated.

It was only a short journey from France to Britain, to Canada. And now Flt. Sgt. Mallory is home again with his family and friends.