**FRANK N. DEFRANCISCO, SR.**

Brick Location: A5

Tec. Sergeant Frank N. DeFrancisco, Sr., managed the hotel in Tokyo, Japan, that General Douglas MacArthur and his staff used at the end of World War II. Sergeant Frank DeFrancisco had a staff of military personnel under him in managing the hotel. Upon his leaving Japan, Sergeant DeFrancisco’s commanding officer wrote, “Supervised and directed 15 personnel in the operation of the 130 room hotel in Japan. Managed the hotel and gave orders for all necessary work to be done. Was responsible for the correct operation of the hotel.”

Frank told of seeing General MacArthur arriving and leaving the hotel and being around with his staff. On at least one occasion he was MacArthur’s driver.

Private DeFrancisco did his basic training at Fort Knox, Kentucky, and went to Manila, Philippines, before going to Tokyo, Japan in 1945. He was promoted to Staff Sergeant on April 4, 1946, and promoted to Tec Sergeant on May 6, 1946. He attended Easter Sunday Mass in Hibiya Hall, Tokyo, Japan, on April 21, 1946. The Mass was celebrated by Reverend Edward J. Lambert of Dubuque, Iowa. He was discharged at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, on August 8, 1946.

Frank’s civilian occupation was with the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Submitted by:

Larry F. Koebel, Sr.

May 8, 2004