

Your Letter From Home

"I wish to marry your daughter, sir."

"Do you drink, young man?"

"Yes, thanks, but let's get this other matter cleared up."

—The Star Wings
Esler Field, La.

Royal 400 Oil Company
The Fort Dodge Grocery Co.
The Fort Dodge National Bank
Veterans of Foreign Wars
The Gates Dry Goods Co.
The Fort Dodge Creamery Co.
The Fort Dodge Serum Co.
The Tobin Packing Co.
The Elks Club of Fort Dodge

Sent To You With The Best Wishes Of

Iowa Auto Supply Company
American Legion and 40 and 8
Clinic Pharmacy and Supply
Lowa-Illinois Gas & Electric Co.
Fort Dodge Tent & Awning Co.
Rialto & Strand Theatres
Brady Transfer & Storage Co.
Becker Florists
Larry Geer Ballrooms

She: "Does your new boy friend like to go out and gamble for money?"

Her: "No, indeed! He'd rather take me home and play for fun."

—The Star Wings
Esler Field, La.

Radio Station K V F D

Sponsors of "Your Letter From Home" heard over KVFD daily 12:45 p. m., Monday through Friday

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WRITTEN EVERY FRIDAY

September 28, 1945

☛ **DEAR JOE:** The big frost is a comin'. For two days now the weather forecasters have been a beatin' the drums, and hoisting the storm signals. They've had snow in the Dakotas and northern Minnesota. Yesterday it rained. Last night the temperature sneaked down and down and tonight, the medicine men who know where the weather comes from and how, are saying, "Watch out, it's going to get mighty cold. A killing frost is on its way." . . . I'm not enough of a farmer to know just how badly we are going to be hurt but we'll be hurt some. Not all of the corn is in the clear . . . I hate to think of that cold wave because tonight we'll be sitting outside high up in the stands, holding a hand mike and trying to keep warm as we watch and describe the game between the Dodgers and Sioux City Central . . . People are talking about a big home coming party that we'll have for you next summer when we hope nearly everyone will be home. It'll be the hundredth anniversary of the statehood of Iowa and we ought to have a wonderful party . . . Any kind of a party'll be pretty wonderful, Joe, if all you guys and gals are home . . .

☛ **AROUND THE TOWN.** Fred Cooper, "Coach" to you, has been appointed superintendent of the boys school at Eldora. He takes over Monday. We hate to see "Coop" leave Fort Dodge, but it's a break for a lot of kids at Eldora, who need a friend like "Coop". He'll do a great job for them. We'll all have reason to be proud of him . . . Atomic bomb story 385. During the war the Horn Manufacturing Company built a door on government order, 10' x 10', 18 inches thick. All the fittings were bronze. The inside of it was filled with concrete. It weighed 13 tons. No one at the plant knew what it was being built for or why. Now it comes out. It was the door to the inner sanctum atomic bomb laboratory . . . The new Horn factory will employ 350 men to start with . . . There are 1400 jobs now waiting to be filled in Fort Dodge . . . L. S. Rogers, 1406 South 23rd Street, flagged down an I. C. train last July 31st near Gypsum when he discovered a break in one of the rails. The train was able to stop in time to avoid an accident. Now Rogers has the I. C. medal for meritorious service . . . Earl Watrous, who ran over and killed James Urban, was fined \$300 for drunken driving by Judge John Schupp . . . Another paper drive tomorrow with Frank McTigue still driving . . . The Women's Club, the Junior Chamber of Commerce and Radio Station KVFD are jointly sponsoring the first Winter Chautauqua. Celebrities who will appear are Will Durant, author; Emily Kimbrough, editor and author; Margaret Bourke White, famed photographer and Count Carlo Scerza, great liberal Italian statesman. Tickets for all four meetings are \$2.50 including tax . . . The Harvest Festival will become an annual affair . . . The duck season opened last week with several bangs. What the hunters brought home were mostly blue wing teal . . . Sizzler Elmer Wheeler, world's greatest "How to sell 'em" salesman, will talk to Fort Dodge salesmen next Wednesday evening, as the guest of Radio Station KVFD at the High School auditorium . . . "Madame Arden", Mrs. L. C. Keller was doing a nice business with an office in the Carver building, forecasting the future—for money. Then the police stepped in and Mrs. Keller had to fold after being fined \$150.00. You can't do that sort of thing without a license . . . The F. D. Independents blanked Adel Sunday 4 to 0 knocking former Detroit hurler, Phil Manders out of the box in the second inning . . . John Cody, S 1/c, a prisoner of the Japs since his ship was torpedoed in the Pacific in September of '42, has been liberated. He had been held in a prison camp in Java . . . Bud Fisher, of Brechwald and Fisher, has sold his interest in B and F to his partner and is going back to Wisconsin to run the family paper mill with his two brothers . . . Traditional after-math Boone - Dodger game - A fight developed near the post-office. Two Dodger supporters were locked up for a short time . . . The Fort Dodge Tent and Awning is shut down for a change over to peacetime manufacture. The change will be completed by October 1st . . . First Blue Diamond party of the fall followed the Boone-Dodger game . . . Sgt. John R. Atwell has gained twenty pounds since his liberation from a Jap prison camp . . .

☛ **DOWN THE CENTER AISLE.** Helen Liljegren, of Gowrie, and Cpl. Leonard Koessel, of Seattle, Washington, September 1st in Oceanside, California . . . Marian Varner, of Detroit, and Col. Don Speery sometime soon. Marian is a Lauren Bacall look-alike . . . Elcaner Lechray and Sgt. Robert T. McNeilly, August 18th in Fort Dodge . . . Maxine Raymond and Robert Lanning, TPM 3/c, September 16th in Fort Dodge . . . Sylvia Lurie and Petty Officer Marvin S. Pill in Hollywood, October 2nd . . . Phyllis Carlson and Ensign Robert Howell, of Cleveland, September 18th at Gowrie . . . Phyllis Hice and Sgt. G. F. Scheaff, Jr., of Fullerton, Nebr., soon . . . Mrs. Maxine Porter and Leo B. Croley, of Bartersville, Oklahoma, Saturday, September 22nd in Minneapolis . . . Elizabeth Jeanne Fisher and Cpl. Dwight McKimmie, of Afton, Iowa, soon . . . Josephine Enzauro and Pfc. Lee Roy Byron, of Callendar, in Fort Dodge, September 16th . . .

☛ **SCOREBOARD.** We dood it again. For more years than Boone fans like to remember the Dodgers have had the Indian sign on the Toreadors. And this year the Dodgers added another win, hard won, to that long string of victories. Baldus, new Toreador coach, brought a smart well-coached team to Dodger Stadium. Sparked by Welin at quarter and powered by big Jim Sturtz from the full back slot, it gave a beautiful exhibition of how the T formation should work. There were nine letter men on the squad. The Dodgers took the field minus the services of Capt. John Fiesler and on the side lines still crippled sat full-back prospect Leffler. The Dodgers made a brilliant start with Ollie Buckner plunging through the line, and Heinie Wasem and George Constantine working off tackle and an occasional quarter back sneak by Al Potter. Within three minutes the ball was on the Toreadors two yard line. But there the Dodger attack crumpled against a Torea-

dor stone wall. Then Welin and his crew took over. Almost without effort they worked the ball back to mid field. The first half ended with no other scoring threat. There was no loose play on either side. It was rugged football. For the Dodgers on defense, Irv Robinson from his roving position was all over the field. The superior Dodger weight and the sensational line plunging of Ollie Buckner and the break-a-way running of Heinie Wasem were just enough in the second half to beat the Toreadors 13 to 0. George Constantine kicked one extra point. The other was blocked. Buckner made both touchdowns. Tonight's game at Sioux City is against a capable opponent. Sioux City has defeated Aberdeen and North High, of Des Moines. Fiesler and Leffler will both be available for this game however. Dodger passing has been a disappointment. But so far, we haven't had to use it. Constantine and Weld are both capable passers and have excellent receivers in Fiesler and Eide.

☛ **WAR'S GRIM TOLL.** Last May the Navy department listed Edward Kallin, S 1/c, as missing in action. Now it is reported that Kallin was killed on April 29th while serving on the U. S. S. Hazelwood. The Hazelwood was struck by a Jap suicide plane . . . Sgt. Donald Harper, previously reported missing, was killed in action in Germany, March 3rd . . . Robert Kallansrud, S 1/c, reported missing by the Navy two years ago, is now presumed to be dead. He was on the U. S. S. Helena when it was torpedoed and sunk in Kula Gulf, Solomons, July 6th, 1943 . . .

☛ **ENJOYING MOM'S COOKING.** S/Sgt. Roy Blunk, of Moorland, is home for good after service in the C. B. I. with the 14th air force . . . S/Sgt. Wilbur Strauss is home for good. One of the original members of Co. B, he was overseas from February of 1942 . . . S/Sgt. Chester Gerth, of Barnum, from England . . . Pvt. Jack Hoyer from Camp Hood, Texas, enroute to Fort Riley, Kansas . . . John Hinks, SM 2/c, from service aboard a submarine in the Pacific . . . Phil McAlpine home for good from Fort Knox, Ky. . . . Cpl. Bernard Parrott from 42 months overseas honorably discharged . . . Sgt. John Halligan, of Moorland, is home for good, back from Porto Rico, and now being heard daily over KVFD. That's right, he's on the staff . . . Lt. Ralph Bastian from the U. S. S. Massachusetts. Ralph, who was in command of turret three on the big ship, is home for good, honorably discharged. The Massachusetts was one of the first back, coming back via the Aleutians and docking at the Bremerton Navy Yard . . . Capt. Wm. J. Whalen from the west coast . . . Pvt. Carl R. Johnson enroute to Amarillo, Texas . . . S/Sgt. Lewis Beck back from Italy for good. Lewis is starting to work at Gralnek Motors Monday . . . WAVE Isabelle Ulm from Washington . . . T/Sgt. Earl Crimmins from the ETO . . . Russ Loot, BM 1/c, after eight years in the Navy . . . Sgt. H. A. "Andy" Schill enroute to Salina, Kansas. From there he goes to Europe . . . Pfc. Delmer Borer from a hospital at Memphis, Tenn. He was wounded in Europe . . . Pvt. Donald Strait from Fort Benning, Georgia . . . T/Sgt. Richard Elsberry, of Leigh, is reporting back to Jefferson Barracks with 111 points. Two gets you ten he'll be out soon . . .

☛ **GOING UP.** John D. Bockert—S 2/c to AM 3/c; Robert Brattmiller—Pvt. to Pfc; Vern C. Swanson is now rated a Sgt.; O. W. Amandus—Pvt. to T/4; John E. Ford—T/5 to Sgt.; Keith C. Livasy—Pfc. to Cpl.; Alvin Askelson—Sgt. to T/4; Bernard Hayden—Pvt. to Cpl.; LeRoy Daiker—F 2/c to 1/c; Robert E. Marsh—2nd Lt. to Lt.

☛ **BELGIUM.** "Thanks for something few service men had during the war," writes Sgt. John E. Ford to the sponsors of YLFH from Antwerp, Belgium. "It was by far the best paper of its kind that I have seen while in the Army." John is with the 76 General Hospital which was formed in '42 at Camp White, Oregon, mostly from Iowa boys. They were at Leige until a few weeks ago. "By the looks of things now we'll all be eating Christmas dinner at home this year." . . . Pfc. Merton Sweet, who says he doesn't know anything about baking, is in a bake shop in Leige, Belgium. "But you don't need to know anything here. The POW's do all the work."

☛ **DAS REICH.** Pfc. Foster Funk missed the first shipment home from his outfit while in the hospital. He's out now at Regensburg, Germany. "I still have hopes of being home for Christmas."

☛ **HOME AGAIN.** Sgt. Ralph E. Christenson is now Mr. Christenson and is getting his mail at Merville, Iowa, Box 194 . . . He is now Mr. Emory Niehaus and living at Allison, Iowa . . . Robert J. Zeer, S 1/c, and S/Sgt. Elbert J. Zeer are both out of service, honorably discharged and are going back to their old jobs at the Bork Chemical Company. Bob was in the Coast Guard for three years and was discharged at Portsmouth, Va. Elbert was in the ETO with the 79th Division. He was in three and a half years . . . Lt. Frank Sims, bomber pilot and prisoner of war for thirteen months, has been discharged and will be back at a KVFD mike soon . . . Cletus D. Hair and his family will be starting back from the west coast on October 6th. They have been in war work. Cletus reports that the football out there leaves something to be desired; the stadia are not good and there is no entertainment between halves. Practically uncivilized, I says . . . "Old beat up ex air corps" Jim Skophammer is playing on the football team at Iowa along with Ralph Woodard and Art Johnson. Ralph is starting at end this Saturday and Art will be in there at starting full back. "Just to plug the Hawks a bit, the team is looking pretty good—straight goods." Jim got out Sunday, Sept. 2nd, the day they signed all the deals in Tokyo Bay . . . He is now Mr. H. G. Bodenstener and is at home at Austin, Minn. . . . Ralph Barnes, of Duncombe, is home from Italy, back from the wars and once more in civvies.

☛ **COMING HOME.** Phil Nugent is on his way home from the ETO . . . Clifford Chatland, EM 2/c, is on his way to New York City from Tokyo on the Battleship Mississippi. His father, Henry, writes that Joe Steinberg, who used to have a fruit market across from the State Bank, is now selling papers in Los Angeles at the

corner of Hill and Sixth. Ted Steinberg is a doctor in the Navy . . . L. M. Segreto, CCS, is leaving the USS Sangay at Hawaii and heading for home. "It's going to be swell to be back" . . . Sgt. Joe McCarville is leaving Namur, Belgium, heading for home. "Like thousands of other Dodgers I have devoured the contents of YLFH completely and with much delight. Best regards to Ken Peterson." . . . Pfc. Glenn Cassen, of Humboldt, is on his way back from Okinawa . . . Pfc. Walter E. Smith is leaving Warrington, England, and is on his way home . . . Sgt. Harold Armstrong is on his way back to the good old USA from Dacca, India . . . Sgt. Everett L. Johnson is on his way home from Warrington, England . . . Ross W. Edwards, AMM 1/c, is now at Guam awaiting transportation back to the states. Ross has forty-five points and ought to be out soon . . . Pfc. George C. Brown is leaving the ETO for the old home town . . . Lt. William K. Huskey is on his way home . . . T/4 Oliver Amandus, radio operator with the 40th Division, is on his way home from Panay, P. I., headed for Gowrie . . . Lt. Robert Tucker is on his way home from Ie Shima.

☉ **PACIFIC.** Daggone, after us giving her the promotion to 1st, Wilma Iren Strom writes from Saipan that she is still a mere 2nd Lt. in the Army Nurse Corps. "Please, please let me be a mere 2nd Lt. so that I can be happy again. What I really want is to be a civilian again." Wilma thinks that she is going to get her wish and says that she will probably be home by the middle of December. "Say hello to Wilb and Leal—both in Germany—I bet I beat them home yet." . . . Pfc. Arthur F. Vermule, of Lohrville, is in Luzon . . . Cecil L. Wills, Ph M 1/c, is shipping out for Guam . . . Lee H. MacDowell, ABM (CP) 2/c, now aboard the Anzio, has thirty-three points. "But there are more coming my way and I hope to see you soon." . . . Eugene Conway, S 1/c, is on Okinawa and sends a drawing of the NOB-A-60 hauling in cases of beer for the boys in SLCU 40. May be just wishful thinking.

☉ **LA BELLE FRANCE.** T/4 Dorothy Schubert is still at Versaille, France, but hopes to be on her way home soon.

☉ **OVER HERE.** Neva Thompson, S 1/c, at Wave Barrack No. 40, Patuxent River, Md., is homesick for the sight of a familiar Dodger face. Anybody around, please drop in . . . S/Sgt. Garth Witte is at Barksdale Field, La. His brother, Arlo, is just out of the army after three years in the Pacific and is back at 27 11th Avenue SW with his wife and small son, Gary . . . Sgt. Ray S. Newbrough says hello to all his friends from Chico, California . . . Pvt. Robert Halliday is at Fort Ord, California, and Pvt. John Halliday is at Camp Adair, Oregon . . . Cpl. Lloyd Pohl is at Dyersburg, Tenn.

☉ **SERVICE PAPERS AND INSIGNIA.** A swell snapshot taken at Tezgaon Field, Dacca, India, of the Dodgers there—FO James Rigby, Cpl. Floyd Zeka, Sgt. Harold Armstrong, T/5 Robert Zeka and Sgt. Jim Richie, of Somers. Thanks, Floyd. A few months ago Tezgaon Field was the largest C-54 base in the world. The ships were used in ferrying goods over the Hump. "The pioneers, and many others, later lost their lives in accomplishing our task. What makes it treacherous is the weather and the terrible down drafts." . . . The Stationair from Harvey C. Weiss, CY, Naval Air Station, Hilo, Hawaii, T. H. Thanks, Harvey . . . The Camp Hood News, Camp Hood, Texas, from T/5 Theron Fellers. Thanks, Theron . . . The 482 AAA Doodle Bug from Munich, Germany, from T/5 Stanley G. Johnson. Thanks, Stan . . . The Army Times and the Communicate of Camp Livingston, La., from Lt. George Hendricks at Camp Beauregard, La. Thanks, George . . . The Okie City Times from Ch. W. T. Paden, Okinawa. Thanks, W. T. . . . Our Job, being a history of the advance section engineers, from Cpl. Anthony Gargane. Thanks, Tony, and for that copy too of the Yank . . . The Tac-Times from S/Sgt. George M. Webb, Erlangen, Germany. Thanks, George . . . The Pied Piper published on the U. S. S. Hamlin from H. L. Hutchison, SSMT 1/c. Thanks, Howard. The Hamlin was one of the ships that took the sea planes to Kerama, 17 miles off Okinawa, four days before the landings on Okinawa. "The tailor shop sure is busy now getting the blues fixed up for stateside. I'm hoping it will be soon."

☉ **GOOD FELLOWS GET TOGETHER.** Through YLFH, Bruce Miller, S 1/c, somewhere out that-a-way, has been able to locate Jerry Mann, Max Treloar, Dewayne Crinnigan, and is going to see Howard Greff. He still is looking for Jim Peters and Tom Jordan . . . Dean F. Linn, AEM 1/c, of Lehigh, now in the hospital at the Naval Air Base in Jacksonville, Florida, met a Dodger Wave there named Bette. Last name unknown so far. "I was sure glad to see someone from home." Thanks, Dean, for the Jax Air News . . . Sgt. R. N. Smith, of Clare, was going ashore on Okinawa that day we were celebrating the defeat of Germany. "Last night I saw Dick Zimmer with the Jurgens' Marine show at the Soldiers Bowl . . . I think that program for out-of-towners (the Harvest Festival) is swell. Am glad there are still business men in Fort Dodge that have wide-awake ideas . . . Sgt. Olin J. Magge, Zeka Zimmer, and Silvio Ranconi on Okinawa. Olin is now at Yokosuka Airfield, 29 miles south of Tokyo.

We play all requests. When sending them in, include the address and telephone number of the person for whom they are to be played when that is possible. Thanks.

☉ **PANAMA.** Johnny Bockert, AM 3/c, is at Coco Solo Air Base, Panama. "At the present time it is raining but that isn't unusual for this country. In fact I have only been here a little over a week and I am already getting web footed."

☉ **ALASKA.** Pfc. John Charles Madson, reporting from Fairbanks, Alaska, finds things rather high priced—hamburgers, fifty cents a-piece; pie, twenty-five cents a cut; and good steaks, \$3.00 and up. "I would like to get out of here before winter sets in. It averages sixty below."

☉ **FROM THE FIVE CORNERS OF THE WORLD.** Sgt. Vern C. Swanson, APO 102, New York. "I've been receiving your letter for a long time and it's about time I wrote you one. It was a year ago tonight that I climbed on that boat for the E. T. O. I've been through the Seigfried line, crossed the Rou River, the Rhine River, and ended up on the banks of the Elbe. Oh, yes, my letters are still coming addressed to Pvt. On December 4th, I made Sgt. but I never got around to writing you. It is already getting fall here in Germany. After spending a summer here, I can understand why they don't raise corn. They just don't have corn weather. Since the new R-Day of September 2nd, I have 65 points and hope to be going to the States sometime soon. I can hardly wait to get back to Dayton to my wife, and my son that I have never seen."

Sgt. Henry Forrest Ferguson, Topeka, Kansas. "That day of days for all service men has arrived for me also. Today I get that wonderful white piece of paper which will return me to my 'friends and neighbors'. It has been more than three years since I became one of Uncle Sammy's nephews in uniform, and most of it has been a fine experience. For more than two years I have been stationed here at Winter General Hospital, and my duties have been largely as Educational Advisor and Reconditioning Instructor. I have

helped more than a dozen men-in service to complete the requirements for their high school diplomas and the first one happened to be from good old Iowa. My wife, who has been with me, and I are leaving for the west coast next week. There I shall take up my work with the Department of Justice where I left off over three years ago. And I must mention one more thing. My wife, formerly Genevieve Strauss of Fort Dodge, has read YLFH with as much interest as I have. Many of the men in service who have been mentioned in your columns have formerly been music pupils of hers, and she is happy to be able to follow them. Finally, another sincere thank-you for sending me YLFH for these many months."

Cpl. Quentin J. L. Parker, Manila. "I have now taken a trip on the proverbial 'Banana Boat', across the blue waters of the Pacific and am on the island of Luzon in the Philippines, located about three miles or a little more from Manila. To start off with, I'll give you an idea of what we have to contend with. I came here in June (this year) arriving at the beginning of the Philippines rainy season. The minute I reached my present destination, I jumped from the truck, went knee-deep in mud and have been wading around in it ever since. I am really thankful I don't have to lay in it like some of the boys have done. You would be rather surprised at the food we are now getting. We have had fried chicken, steaks, fresh potatoes, fresh eggs, fresh fruits and even ice cream once. The fresh vegetables are probably coming from one of the largest gardens in the Philippines at the present time, which was planted and is cared for by the Quarter-Master Corps. Science may have found something in dehydration of vegetables but my personal opinion is it will never make a hit with these soldiers when they return home again. The flavor is lost and it will never replace a product direct from Mother-Earth! So much for the food. We are getting rations of cokes every week, bottled in Manila. It's like a shot in the arm for morale to have them. Cigarettes create no problem. I have no idea what the future holds in store for me, but I am in the class of what you might refer to as 'Mr. Inbetween'. The government has Accentuated the Positive (drafting of men under 23) and Eliminated the Negative (discharging the men 35 and over). I am one of those who is not married, no children (of course) and just came overseas, therefore, no battle stars or decorations; the only thing I can collect points on is service, that being three years. The Filipinos are striving to bring back the Pre-War Manila. It seems futile but they maintain that it will require 10 years to reconstruct and bring back to normal the fast way of life lived here. One of the many things the Army has changed here is the driving. For the past 500 years they have driven on the left hand side of the road; now it's the right side and in my estimation it is still, if not more, confusing." Thanks, Quentin, for the paper and the patch. I don't think the plane-television broadcast will hurt anyone.

Lt. Kermit H. Hansen, FPO, New York. "YLFH informed me of the deplorable conditions which have existed in the Eldora Institution. A 'Salute and a Sir' to you for plugging Fred Cooper for appointment as superintendent of the Institution. Anyone who has ever known Fred will plug right with you. My letter to the Governor is in the mails in compliance with your suggestion. In spite of all the publicity to the contrary, the demobilization plan is moving at a snail's pace. I am hoping the process will be accelerated in the near future. Many of us are getting very tired of this GFA duty and our trousers are wearing thin. I hope the people back home will keep demobilization rolling, but faster."

Pfc. Marvin J. McCoy, APO 70, San Francisco. "I left Marseille, France, aboard the U. S. S. Brazil the 17th of July and landed here at Luzon on August 25th, a total of 40 days and approximately 16,000 miles. I guess we left France a couple weeks too soon as I understand a number of the transports changed their course and went direct to the States rather than the Pacific, the lucky guys. During those 40 days I have seen a lot of salt water and a number of places. We passed the Rock of Gibraltar, the coasts of Spain and Africa, and of course, through the Panama Canal. It was there that we were allowed to disembark for a one-night stay, approximately 15 hours. The time there was pretty short but we enjoyed every minute. They took us out to Fort Amador, a beautiful place, and there we had beds with mattresses, sheets and pillow cases—something we hadn't seen since leaving the States. It was great and we had good chow and all the ice cream and coke we wanted, which proved to be quite a treat for these 5,000 G. I's. They had bands out to meet us and we were greeted by the Red Cross, which was a bunch of beautiful American girls. It was hard to depart from there but there was nothing we could do but climb aboard the Brazil again for another three weeks or more on the water. Finally we hit the Philippines landing at Batangas Bay on a really hot day, but of course, over here they are all hot. They didn't have any docks here so we boarded L. S. T's and headed for shore. It was a foreign land but it was great to step off that hot and crowded boat. Our eats were something terrible during the trip and we were a bunch of hungry guys when we hit shore. The natives helped out, though, by greeting us and selling bananas, pineapple and the like. I think I ate about fifteen bananas myself. It was something to sleep on land again that night even though it was in pup tents and on my birthday too. After a few days there, we moved to San Fernando, our present location. Again it was a miserable trip although it only took a couple of days. The box cars they have over here are about half as big as the ones in the states and they packed 44 men and their equipment in each car. We stopped at Manila for about six hours and from what I've seen of it, I would say they got quite a beating."

T/5 Bernard Loth, APO 75, San Francisco. "We left Marseilles the 22nd of last month and after a one day stopover at the Panama Canal Zone and another at Ulithi in the Carolines, we reached the Philippines. I seem to be one of the few guys who haven't met a fellow Dodger overseas, and, except for time home on furlough, I've only met one since I've been in the Army. I'd certainly like to see someone from the old home town if they are in this area. So here's a call for all Dodgers who find the 3159th to drop in for a chat and something better than Army chow. I'd appreciate it if you could send me the latest address of Lt. Bill Rice and if, meanwhile, you'd just pass my congratulations on to him. I'll put my new address below. Give the home town my best wishes."

Lots of fine letters this week. It's swell to get your letters but we sure wish you were home. World series next week. KVFJ will carry them exclusively in this area for the fifth year. Thanks to short wave and Mutual, you'll hear 'em somewhere . . . The state university gets under way tomorrow playing Bergstrom Army Airfield at Iowa City. Art Johnson who was to start at full, is laid up with an ankle injury but Ralph Woodard will be in there at end. Jim Skophammer is on the squad but is not listed in the starting line up . . . Be seeing you, fellow, but soon, I hope.

Your home town correspondent,
Ed. Breen.