

R.O.W./C. I. - E.K. Fendall

Folder 14

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Title: Mary

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999-2-46-B-3

Volume III

Period May 20-

May 20-I told Joe that if we were not out of here by the time that I filled this book, I would say "to hell with it" and would write no more. He agreed but told me to leave an blank page to record the events of the day of our liberation. I don't know how many months this book will last, but at my usual rate, I'm afraid it will not last 12 and so I'm afraid it won't last long enough, though the stuff I put down is un interesting enough.

We are enjoyed in weighing the group again. This time the rain has interfered some-indicative of what to expect for the next 3 or 4 months. Joe lost a kilo and a half and I lost 2 kilos-due mainly to the fact that we are not eating breakfast, I imagine. No hurt, though-we can both afford to lose it.

Will, besllen rumors, of corn beef and sugar in Cabanatuan and mail-we have had rumors of mail before. I would give up my corned beef for a letter from home. God, how wonderful it would be. But, I'm afraid the rumor is the evidence of loud wishful thinking.

May 21-Frundy again and only 10 more days till the end of May. Joe and I went "howg-wild" today and got a $\frac{1}{2}$ kilo of coffee beans from the commissary. They cost us ₱5.00 which is about \$1.50 a pound gold-pretty darned experience and we realize that we are "blowing ourselves," but we have not allowed ourselves other "luxuries" and so feel that we can afford the coffee this time.

The Japanese have issued us a number of Japanese newspapers-I have been reading some of them, but they are so filled with BS that - get disgusted and gone up. Some of their propaganda is as dammed petty. Of course, if one othared any of the stuff, he would certainly because downcast. This big talking point is to sow dissension between Americans, British, Russian, and Chinese.

May 22-Weather permitting, we are to have an American name tonight. This will be a pleasant interlude.

Marshall has been at his bahay most of the day trying to get rid of ants who have made a nest in the box in which he kept his clothes.

The food is terrible these days-we are in the gourd season again and that is the main part of our diet, that and "sinkamor" a four of turnings grown, have- neither have any taste or any food value. Tonight's supper (the heavy meal of the day) consisted of a spoonful of meat a dipper of turnip soup, and a $\frac{1}{2}$ a cup of tea. This was in addition to the rice which we never mention when referring to a meal because it is always there-just like knives and forks at home-we have rice every meal, and have had ever since we have been in prison camp. For lunch yesterday we had a dipper of bean soup. All of this coupled with the fact that we eat no breakfast since sure makes Joe and I hungry by the time noon rolls around and we can quan up something. We spend some hungry hours these days, but they are not knew to us.

I am having more and more trouble with my nerves and my temper is getting very short. Joe beat me at chess this noon and Frank beat me this afternoon. I find myself getting angry when I am beaten-that is a helluva attitude to have, and I am sorry to find myself getting that way. Damn this place.

May 23 Show last night was "Boys Town" - not a very good show for us-left us feeling, sort of low, at least I did. What we need is something exciting and good like "Boom Town," or "Ground Hotel". But we are ever thankful for small favors.

Joe and I have sure have a lot of trouble with our finances-we are always just

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about one month behind. But we are used to it, because we have been that way ever since we have been in the Army. We have it figured out at the first of each month that this is the month we are going to get on our feet-and we never do, but we get along very well. Before I came to work this morning Joe asked) how many peanuts I wanted (we weren't going to get any more this month at all) I said at least 4 cups. When I went home this noon, he had purchased a ganta (8 cups). This of course, pleased me very much. We have had to deposit \$10.00 out of our reserves anyway which we will have to replace when we get paid next month. We have a lot of fun laughing about it anyway-of course the coffee put a kink in us this month, but it sure tastes good.

Had a musical show tonight-"show boat" theme. Our band is pretty good-a man recently brought in a saxophone from Bilibid and it helps tremendously. May 24-I was late for lunch today and Joe had me ----- day house. I told him I was sure I was going to have the same trouble with my wife when I get married-I can see her now with the meal getting cold and me late for lunch-ck me, what fun its going to be-I mean getting married, not standing her up for lunch.

I played my chess tournament off yesterday afternoon-last 2 games straight. I knew I would-I haven't played any good chess for a week-I don't know what is the matter-I'm sure in a slump. I ask Frank or Joe for a game and then when they beat me I get sore-what a way to treat your friends. I said I was going to quit playing for a week, but I played Marshall a game this morning and Joe one after lunch.

May 25 - Busy in the office making up the pay record forms-a very unvalued system, typically Japanese. The numbers run from night to left etc. One of the Japanese soldiers tried to commit suicide yesterday-took a axe and hit himself in the face. I thought we were the ones who were supposed to break under the strain.

Local papers carry the story of the death of their commander-in-chief of their navy. This may be a good sign, because it might indicate a major naval battle-I hope so because their navy must be licked before we can do much in the SW.

As I think back over what I have written in here (I never read back) I am amused at the change in opinion that I have expressed reference when I expected to be out of here-my dates jump up and down like the "no sale" sign on a cash register doing credit business.

This is a true picture of the way we feel around here-and the changes are caused by the rumors. Actually, of course, no one knows and any prognostication can be only a guess because of the limited information we have.

Alleged radio reports recently sound good and seem to indicate that we have taken the ----- on all fronts.

Had a treat for supper last night-a plate of nice, young osain. I really enjoyed them, though I could still taste them at noon today. All I lack now is the taste for row onions i.e. large ones, and I will have the taste for onions, completely acquired. Joe was proud of these because they came from his goodness which is not doing too well on account of the terrific heat.

Going to have another inspection on the 29th by a general. We are already getting ready with the false stuff-I don't believe any general in any army actually saw how his troops really lived- at least not on a scheduled inspection-and this is no different.

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They revised the old barracks guard for officer's barracks we have to have an officer on guard at night - one for 19, 20, - 21, and one for 22-27. He is responsible if anyone escapes----- thing I ever heard of.
 May 27-Fortune's with us again-we were nearly out of staff for our noon day quansing and the commissary came through for us. We get omain, tomatoes, sausage-so we are well fixed again for the rest of the month.

Joe and I made out a budget which included a cup of peanuts each day. So today, Joe told me that I was to handle all the orders-he would get the stuff, but he would get only what I told him to get. I laughed because, I know how it will work out, but anyway we will try it. The trouble is something always comes up that we feel like we ought to buy-and there you the budget.

The Japanese are in a swivel around here getting ready for the general-checking up on everything-giving us fete about saluting.

Rumors have it that Spain, Portugal, and Turkey are in the war on our side-if this is true, I believe it means the fall of Germany's imminent.

May 28 This month is finally drawing to an end-it has been a terribly long one, probably because of the awful heat. We were not paid till the 12th but it seems that it has been at least a month since we were paid.

One of the pumps broke down, and we have only been allowed to use water for cooking and drinking today. It has been terrible not being able to take a bath. However, I certainly am not complaining, because we have only to think of how short the water was in O'Donnell and the first months here to be ever thankful that we now have all the water we want almost all the time-It is really a blessing-the camp was about 100,000 gallons of water a day now which is a lot for 6000 men-of course the 400 or 500 Japanese use a lot too. We are very lucky on that count.

May 29-Had to get ready for another inspection today-the general did not come inside the camp, though, so we can get our gun came out again and the boys in the ----- can put this bunka back up.

The Japanese finally allowed us to have memorial Day services tomorrow morning at the cemetery-we are allowed to send 1500 men out-and we get a 1/2 day holiday - pretty nice. Originally, they were only going to let 13 people go, but they changed their minds (as they do very often).

Something new has cropped up to interfere with the smooth running of things. Evidently, since they have started paying the enlisted men on work details, they have exceeded their budget or something, because now they are going to turn out a certain number of officers each day-before, the officers were turned out by us to help from having to send sick men out-Now the officers are going to be turned out by the Japanese because it is costing them too much to turn out the EM. Darned silly, especially when the money they use is just paper.

May 30 Had our memorial services-they allowed 2000 to attend. At the last minute, I didn't go because there were others wanted to go and not enough spaces for everyone. Joe went out as a part of the glee club. He said they had a nice service- & few numbers by the glee club from this side and the chorus from the hospital-then a prayer for each faith including the Jewish faith-and taps.

The Japanese general who was here yesterday had wreath presented and the Japanese camp commander presented a wreath personally. The Japanese have a great deal of respect for the dead. White of them to allow the ceremony.

We were paid this afternoon, which formtican was of course, greatly appreciated by all-that 25.00 means a lot to us. This month I contributed 250.00 to the 25000 monthly welfare fund that the Japanese allow the field

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officer to contribute-it is not hard to give money that you never see or never expect to yet some old bastards think they are doing a mighty benevolent thing-damned old skimplints! What a lot of selfish thoughtless people then are in this world.

I read "Tobacco Road" lady-very much disappointed in it.

May 31 - Finally, the last day of the month-another month and the year is half over. Been awfully busy in the officer again-last of the month card count plus getting next month's pay records made out-have to start on pay rolls tomorrow. We has really been humping this last week-I like it that way-makes the time pass.

Not many rumors these days-bits of information permit about a sea battle up north-some fill it was a Major battle. Hope so something should happen soon.

Shortly after 9:00 o'clock last night, we heard the guards blowing whistles, sounding gongs, and there several trucks loads of men leave-we thought somebody had tried to escape and expected a roll call any minute. Fortunately, the trouble was with the barrio near here. We all worry about some one attempting to escape because it means reprisals on us all.

I have been reading "So stands the Rock" today-a very good book.

June 1 How I would like to be home this month-how nice the weather would be there. Here it will soon be raining for we are rapidly approaching the rainy season-it rains now a little each day or night. In some ways, it will be a great relief to get rid of the awful heat we have been having the last couple of months.

Had my hair cut today-Joe wouldn't let me get a "baldy" (have it clipped all over) so I had it cut on top to about 4 length. Frank and I were just saying how hard it was going to be to get used to wearing hair again; long pants, shirts and neckties. Will be uncomfortable for awhile. I just told Marshall-last time I went home to mother, ~~if~~ I had a mistake-this time I will have no hair-I guess she'll be glad to see me though.

Rumors of the resignation of 3 Japanese cabinet members one of which was the Navy minister. We are going to keep close on this rumors for the next 3 months (not that we haven't always) because I believe we will find out whether we are to get out this year have to wait another year.

June 2-Joe and I are both suffering from coffee nerves-since we have been having coffee each morning, we both have trouble with the "shakes". They vary in intensity with the strength of the potion-when we have a batch that I consider good it is pretty bad-I am jumpy as a June bride. I say a batch that I consider good because Joe and I can't agree on the coffee as to how strong it should be I drink it black w/o sugar (everybody drinks it black around here) and always have-I like it strong enough so I can taste the coffee-Joe doesn't think it needs to be that strong. While we don't argue about it, and in the interest of economy, usually drink it the way he likes it, but we tacitly disagree on how strong it should be of course we use the ground over and over adding a little fresh each day-to me the only real good batch is the first ones after we throw away the old grounds-the rest of it is just hot.

The menus are still very ----- at the mess-soup made out of guards for lunch and soup and mis' at night. Hope to be in the corn season before long. We weathered this guard season last year-guess we can get through it again. June 3 - Typical of the Japanese is this new pay business-it went along pretty good last month-reduced the details and all. Everything very nice.

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But this month brought a change, the only reason for which can be that they want to save money. They originally (at the (2nd of this month) said that 3020 of the details had to be officers-they finally cut this to 10%. They have cut the details way down and they make very plain on most of the detach that they went different went sent out in the afternoon then went out in the morning-they say "Word very hard; give their men rest & send out new men. Of course, the only reason they do that is to keep from having to pay the men because unless a man works all day, he --- not get paid. They have never worried about how hard they worked the men and they are not starting now.

Major Snell was out on detail on the farm this afternoon. One of our men displeased the sentries and the sentry told the captain in charge of the group to slap the soldier. He bid & do well enough to suit the sentry, so the sentry called Major Snell over and told him to beat the man. Major Snell didn't do it to suit him, so he beat on Snell. This is a favorite practice of their's-to have, the American officer in charge beat, an American soldier who displeases them-if the officer doesn't do it to suit them, they beat the officer.

June 4-Today they stopped paying the inside details-don't know which it will continue that way or not, but suspect it well.

Their piling seem to be to do each one of the things called for in the Rules of Land Warfare for treatment of prisoners and then not anymore, so they can say they did it.

We sit up to system for paying details write other than paid by the Japanese out of commissary profits- this included the guard, rumors, ration details, barbers, etc. Now this thing will be knocked into a cocked hat. That is one of the big troubles around here- everything we do is changed as often that there is no inspection to do it well - to take anytime in doing it.

The rumors are really good-Russian breakthrough, Spain and Turkey definitely in the war, we sank over 50 Japanese vessels in up north-all good stuff.

June 5 - Very hot again today-there hot days should be over this month and then comes the rain.

We just got an order from the Japanese that these would be no music singing or playing until after June 8. No music was given, but we assume they are in national mourning for the admiral-they better keep it up, because they'll soon be in mourning for everybody-I hope.

Days are getting harder and harder to bear-more and more restless. The rumors are all good-we are on another uprising of the rumor pendulum-this makes us more and more excited about getting out and move and move restless. It is foolish to be swayed so easily by rumors, but I just can't help it.

June 6 - I missed editing today, because I wasn't around the officer general Marinoto arrived in camp this morning from 2 day stay-we had to be ready for inspection for inspection from 12:00 noon on-all quan corn hidden, no bunks visible in other than field officer bahay (Charlie moved his into our Home) and only one adjutant in the office. So I spent the afternoon playing this with Joe-~~us~~ have our arrangement now where we can lay down and play chess between our beds-very convenient. After all our preparations, of course, the general didn't inspect.

Here is another thing typical of our captors-each group had to submit the names of 8 line officers who are to write an article on - Part 1 "Recollections, of Betman and Corregidor and Part 2 "My Present Feelings"- we sub-

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mitted the name of 8 officers and got them right back because they were not field officers-so we had to turn in names of 8 field officers. Of course, this is dope for their propaganda corps to point-we have paid articles written by prisoners in other camps and printed in their magazines. It just makes me burn up with angles to have to do all these utterly silly things - it adds to the uproning of being a prisoner-to have to be captured by a bunch of uncivilized, infastile-minded person is hard to take.

June 7 - This is the pay off-all men on the farm work details now have to go out barefooted-nobody seem to know the reason for it, except that the general is supposed to have seen the men peeing in their work to scoope the mud off of their shoes. So some think that is the reason for the barefoot proposition. Whatever is the reason for it, it makes my blood boil not that it does me any good to get mad, but I would feel pretty bad if I didn't get mad. There will come a day when they will be sorry for these acts.

We had hot-cakes for lunch today. They were quite a lot of trouble to make, since the facilities are not what they used to be. Because the rice ration here has been reduced, we no longer get raw rice from the mess to grind for flour - it has to come from the sources. The, too we have no sugar, so we had to use sirup made out of sugar cakes which came in through the commissary about a week ago. Also, the mess does not keep yeast all the time because they don't have sugar to keep it going, so we had to wait until the mess was going to make a batch of fritters and then get some yeast. All in all, it was quite a job, but they were sure good. We have enough sugar cakes left to make another batch, so we will have to find some flour someplace-another.

To hell with the place is I'm getting more and more restless day after day-rain every evening now, so we have absolutely nothing to do but lay on our bunks and listen to the rain and slap mosquitoes.

June 8 - The first few days of this month have passed by quite rapidly-this is usually true, the latter half of the month being the tough part.

For the past few days, it has started raining everyday about 5:00 pm and continued through the evening-much cooler, but much more disagreeable. The shoes that I had fixed for the rainy season are so good-the right one is broken in the center-beyond fixing-and those were the shoes I planned on marching ^{out} and in - oh, well, there are many others in my situation.

Marshall and I got up the morning at 4:30 to push out another detail-this one was a 300 men detail going to Manila-100 were from our group. Had a lot of shoe trouble-at the last minute, 2 men showed up without shoes-the Japanese say that all men will have shoes. So we can only send out men who have shoes. Eventually, the remaining men in camp will all be barefoot.

June 9 - Bill Harris came back today from Manila-said he did absolutely nothing-then they had one conference with Japanese officers, and that was all. This is typical of this actions. As soon as he stepped in the bahay, Col A jumped him to find out if he had any scuttle-he didn't have any-said that Bilibid (where he stayed) depended on in for scuttle.

Then days are hard on the morale-have to stay cooped up-we are more fortunate this year than last though- have a nice place to stay. With the cooler days, comes more frequent trips to the usual. On ----- now doocout of large holes in the ground about 10 ft. squares and 8 ft deep, all filled with rain water. We used to have ditches while were flushed out daily, but the Japanese ordered us to abandoned them and used the holes-a couple of men in

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Group III fell in one the other day - doomed messy. It is quite a walk to get to there-they only allow us to have 2 for group.
 June 10-The month one-third gone. I dreamed about Betty last night. Had a tooth filled today. They used silver filled from a 50 centavo piece-lucky to get that. It continuous to be windy and showing-must be a typhoon in the vicinity. We constructed a night arrival in rear of bahay today-should save a lot of stops I just figured out that at present rate, this book will only last 6 months-since they cast about ₱2.00 now, I don't think I will get another -also I don't think we will be out in 6 months, so will have to be less woody in future.

And last of onions today in noon-day sun-don't expect to get more-Japanese take them all. Are still getting guards in mess. Should get comotes about this season, but believe Japanese are using them for making fuel. Food situation continue, to get scarce in island-pence continually rising-corned beef when available in ₱2.45 a can. On thinking of having sergeant here in officers track me a little Spanish-he is from New Mexico and is part Spanish.

June 11 A rainy Frundy-been rainy now pretty steadily for 5 or 6 days. Poor old Joe has a bad time stalling in the bahay all day - the trimetes are not the kind of friends one would choose to have around anytime, let alone on a gloomy day-one reason we are more restless this year than how is that we feel better-last year we were content today around and sleep most of the time-had no energy to do otherwise-this year it is different-we have more energy and it looks like it will be a longer rainy season-pretty bad.

Joe on guard last night-had to stay up till 1:30 am - pretty easy shift and tiresome-so utterly foolish too. With rain comes a ditch of rumors and as rumors days off, is do on spirits. Wore a hole through my jeans stern today-hope it makes out. Did some digging yesterday and my back is sore today same old place-must have it x-rayed when I get home-can't do much work involving bending ones or back strains.

April 12-Sgt Lopez and I wrote down a few Spanish words today-now all I have to do is learn them-going to try and keep Joe from finding out until I learn a little. The movie we were supposed to have tonight is being shown across the fence in Japanese Areas-they invited 4 members of the staff from each group-nobody attended from our group-it was an all Japanese program. We had our orchestra concert of our own-played a group of good pieces such "Sophisticated Lay", "Faithful Forever", etc. Good for the morale and we took on thoughts out of here at least mine Koral Bawr came up last night and we talked about old times and times to come.

April 13 - The Japanese called for 3200 men this morning-2600 of them on the farm. We had to furnish over 1600 out of our strength of 1926. Joe had to go out as did nearly everyone else-I was pretty lucky. Will find out what they did when they came in at noon. The Japanese have a 5 year goodening plan mopped out for us, part of this is a project plant 2000 acres of rice. They have some small planes- 6 - 8 inch and probably part of the details this morning are to do the plowing-probably use man-power for it.

They used carabec to pull the plows (wonder of wonders). But Joe was hit today with a club. Fortunately the blow hit on his back-out about an inch gosh on his back. There was no reason for it at all. This SCS called "Air Raid" just went up and down the detail 80 men that Joe was in, beating everyone. He hit one officer on the heat, cutting a large gosh-he had to be brought in on a stretcher and have several stitches taken in his head. There is absolutely

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no cause for most of the beating. Sgt Haberman were just telling me that this afternoon, one of the mark stood at a posts junction where the details had to pass and just indiscriminately beating men. Dam savages! Surely there is a special hell reserved for these people.

The detach for tomorrow see as large as they were for today. June 14-Everyday brings new storth of atrocities on this farm-Joe or some other detail. Joe said this morning-group of men were trying to move- a disc in order that the tractor could hitch out it-the men were unable to move it because of the mind and all-the guard beat them meaninglessly-reminds me of scenes from the movie "Chain Gang". Poor old Joe carried rocks all morning and is out on the some detail this afternoon. They provide nothing to carry the rocks with and then beat people and stew around because the job is not done quickly. What fools they are!

Japanese camp commander had a meeting of Field officers this afternoon he tried to explain away the grievances that had been expressed by the officer in their letters they wrote the other day-said that officers were being sent on work details on orders from Manila for purposes of health. Said that men were being beat because of language difficulty and because men don't work properly. He said it would not be done in future-however, this doesn't mean anything. He said also that it was his-sincere desire to deliver us all to our families safe and sound with no ard feelings. I am sure he knows what the outcome of the war will be.

Had a special Roll call tonight, Japanese miscounted the details camp in. Same old stuff.

June 15-Details were out way down today-only about 1200. Sun is shining today for first time in 10 all days - feels good Sun is shining today for first time in 10 or 11 days. Rain has caused latrines to cove in-some including people have fallen in - one officer in group II went in up to his armpits. They won't give in lumber to shove the slate.

We got some sugar yesterday-Joe and I got 8 cups sure welcome-Japanese got it for us - Joe got package from Gloria.-that is he got part of it. Received pipe, playing cards, 5 nero razor blades and a pair of scx - all things we need. Of course, we had to sit (right down and play a game of cribbage with new cards sure was a sensation. The pipe is an "Everyman" pretty good pipe-Joe proud of it.

June 16 - Had a new experience Joe and I each shared with a new blade this morning-first time in a year. Cut whiskers like hot butter-didn't realize shaving could be so easy. Our faces are tough now and the new blade just shaved them off smooth as could be. We sure a l feeling a little stuffy-bad weather for it - everything damp.

June 17- Middle of afternoon and rainy-comes everyday about same time. As I look back over some of these pages, I am amazed to see how much of the stuff is talk about getting but of here. There is really refresh, although it does not present altogether the true pictures. It is true that one of the main topics of thought and conversation has to do with when we will be free again, but I believe in most of us, this is secondary to our hopes that the war will be successfully presented. On these rainy nights, as I lay under a roof and off of the floor, there are many Americans in all parts of the world who are doing much great hardships and death itself for their coutry-how I wish I could be with them! We here are certainly better off than many. All of us that have any sense-realize what a small drop we are in the bucket of the war. Our ----- means nothing, and this is rightly so. It burns me up to hear men

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who profess to be soldier complaining about their eat. A soldier should expect anything in time of war-that is what he is paid for and what he has been trained for. Damn some of these people for their petty criticism and self-pity.

Spade ----- has a game of football made up on a set of corde and played on a board something like a cabbage board. Lot of fun.

June 18-Frundy again-sleaz day for weighing this group-I gained 2 kilos-now weighs 67 - Joe stayed some at 75. Joe's cold not much better-seems to be sort of flu-he feels pretty tough. Not much better-seen to be sort of flu-he feels pretty tough. Not much news except pure scuttle such as Tojo resigning-wild rumors. One year ago today I came to Cabasatuan-seen like a long time ago. After 3 weeks of coffee drinking, I don't get the shakes anymore-glad to find out the ailment was not permanent-hope this is true of all the stuff I have wrong with me.

June 19 - Rain at usual time-Joe feeling better today is my unlucky day- I have been beaten at chess, ally ducy and cribbage. Rice those times and that's about all.

June 20-Japanese have now ordered that all books in library and in possession of individuals be turned in to be sent to Manila for censor-if this isn't the daudent thing yet-we've only been reading things for a year now-it will mean that we have no books-for 3 or 4 months and they will undoubtedly pull a lot of them out.

Another new peling on work details-cannot use some men on new farm in the afternoon that we used-in the morning. This means that special duty, field officers don't want to pay the men. What a place-we get kicked around like a football-do this, do that, you can't do this, you can't do that.

June 21 - Even Biller have to be turned in under this new order on books. Work details putting in long havoc now-6:30 to 11:30 and 12:30 to 6:00 pm. Newspaper of 17th carries headline that Philippine Independence is assured in '43. Hope this-caused by pressure of the war-they have then stripped of nearly everything now anyway-might as well let them go. Continued beatings on details-one officer yesterday refused to beat one of the men-got smacked across the leg to for it with a hoe handle.

June 22 - A major in charge of a detail on farm attempted to interfere when Japanese were needlessly beating a man-result was the Major was severely beaten by 3 guards. Japanese are calling for breakdown of personnel by occupation again-I think these mean another detail to Japan. Sun shining this morning for a change. A meeting of all field officers were called for this afternoon-most of us thought we were going to get our necks heard back for the major's conduct this morning. The Japanese camp commander, 2 of his officers and 2 interpreters came over and presented Col Beecher, Major Pyzich Major Reynolds and 2 enlisted men with a carton of cigarettes, a piece as token of commendation for their good work-you could have knocked most of us one with a feather-you never can tell what these people will do next. At the same time they announced that the movie would be shown at the barage because of inclement weather, but that the Field officers were invited.

June 23 - Went to the show last night-consisted of 2 American shorts "Hal Kemp and his Orchestra" and "Ride Cowboy Ride" and a feature on "The Fall of Singapore" with English dialogue. The 2 shorts were very interesting and brought back

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many memories-showed a pretty girl in each of them-I thought they were Angels and the pictures of heaven. I sat between two Japanese soldier, smoked their cigarettes, and at the end of the show one of them was asleep on my shoulder-co-prosperity sphere peracified!

On the heeling the commendation came the details for today of 2843 for the camp - this took a large number of "quarters Men" and special Duty-got Joe - hope he gets along al l right-can't tell who will be beat up these days. No rumors for several days of any repute.

June 24 Sun been out al l day today - very hot. Poor old Joe working all day. From 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm is a long afternoon. Sure hope the details drops off after today. A general inspected camp today-made a very cursory inspection-he is the general in charge of all prison camps and is from Japan on our inspection trip. Same scrt of stuff-clearer up - form guard of honor along fence.

June 25- Frunday agsin - no details which is a blessing for all.

June 26 - Detail of 67 men came in late last night from Bataan-been enjoyed in salvage operation-Joe had trouble with bed bugs last night-found 5 or 6 in his bed this morning-task it out for the sun and hot water treatment this morning. Details lights today-about normal - 850 from our group. Get more and more restless everyday, but must be patient. Patience one of the many virtues I am without.

July 1 - Have been confined to the behay with a cold the last days-Joe has kept me in bed-wouldn't let me take a bath or get out from under the covers-Said I couldn't have any more hotcakes if I did. Details continue to be heavy every day-they only work people a half day now on the farm - on the mess, but it is hard to find enough men to go out. Joe was to go out now a half day every day. They continue to expand the work, especially when the sun is so hot. We got some baking soda (\$2.75 for a half-pound) and are having some nice hot-cakes-really good if we had some milk, they would compare with hotcakes at home, except for the rice flour. We are also getting mungo beans in the commissary now which are taking the place of onions and tomatoes in our gun program-bought a kilo of coffee for \$5.70-should last us about 10 weeks which is not bad.

Japanese have a new headache for mess officer now - amount of food to be fed depends on how much work a man does. Divided into 4 types-A, B, C, & D. If a man works and gets a pay chit, he is type A and gets 750 grams of rice-work and no pay chit, type B - 550 grams plus ----- starch. Sure a mess for men officers. Many changes going on today-they are sending all people to hospital who can't work so that all people in this side of fence will be available for details-no dead beach we hope to get rid of Atkinson and Hill, but don't know-fingers crossed.

Pay day on 5th - ----- coming chess set-football games becoming the rage.

I sure landed in the day hence this noon-Joe made some swell hotcakes and I didn't get home to eat them told they were nearby cold-he was a little disgusted. July 1 - First day of new fiscal year-have high hope for the new year-Today is Frunday, but no holiday-from now on we observe the holiday on Sunday as we used to do-"changey-."

Our hopes of cleaning the behay out are shortened as usual nobody is going to the hospital - instead Joe has been relieved a barracks leader, Atkinson made Hqs. leader and we get another man in the barracks, making it necessary

Ext:
 Atkinson

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for Joe and I to move some of our stuff-crowding us up-also puts Joe on a straight duty status which means he will have to work, every day at least a half day. So we are both pretty well FC. Hope we'll be able to move out of these bahay, but unless some body goes to the hospital, there's not much chance.

July 2 - Joe went to hospital last night with Glee Club to put on a concert. Plenty of rumors these days-all good. Having a lot of trouble getting on rice ground-always something to make life more of a problem. Should be thankful for what we have, I guess-I am. Cold still hanging on, but much better.

July 3 - Hotcakes for lunch - Joe Gary in Glee Club concert on this side last night-I was playing chess with Johnny and didn't pay attention to the concert-Joe gave me hell-I tried to plead that I had listened intently, but he crossed me up by cross examinations. Having trouble with the budget this month-can't buy all we want to - may have to cut the peanuts a little.

July 4 - Independence day but not for us-maybe next year. A lot of people had this as this date, so will have to revise it. Also Sunday and a holiday as far as work details are concerned. Only 4 deaths last month-this is more than the 2 previous months, but still pretty good.

July 5 - Joe was scheduled to go out this morning, but the rain interfered all details were called off, after they had get thoroughly soaked-the rain is of the persistent type-looks like it might last for several days-good news for the men-but awfully wet, sloppy and muddy getting around here.

July 6 - Supposed to be paid today, but rain has as far interfered-no details again. Detail of 500 men going out-going to be examined by Japanese-looks like a Japan detail-only a few officers. Newspapers having been coming in quite regularly-news of Rendore battle-sure wish carforces would get a little farther north - still messing around in the Solomons. Oh well-here today and here tomorrow. These rainy days are good for chess and other games-we were probably have a ----- of them from now on. Sure wish we could hear from home.

July 7 - Cleared off this morning and we were paid. We also had to get the 500 men detail lined up for our inspection by the Japanese doctor and camp commander-All he did was to go down the line and look at the men-any he did not like, he told to fall out and that was that-no apparent reason for the men he picked out-if a man had white skin (not tamed) he pulled him out-Marshall said it reminded him of a clare market-they had all the men remove their shirts-one thing they were particular about-they wanted no amoebic dysentery-even if a man had been cured, they didn't want him-

Joe out on detail this afternoon-it has showered a couple of times already-he is probably soaked-hope he doesn't catch cold again. Finally found a plan to get my rice ground-we had hotcake for lunch again today-try to have them every other day and mungo beans or the odd days when we can get them.

July 8 - Japanese having regular 8th of each month holiday in memory of day was declared-work details are very small-nobody on farms. Orchestra put our show last night. I was on Barracks guard last night - had shift from 9-1:30-mosquitoes chewed me up. Ants got in our banana box yesterday-can't tell where you will find them-this would be a paradise for someone who was studying the habits of ants. Not raining yet today, but will be before day is over.

July 9 - We had rumors yesterday that they were going to abandon therefore today the details were larger than -----it rained off and on all morning-everybody got soaked-called them off this afternoon made Joe and rest of boys in bahay very happy-news is good if we can believe it no dope in detail. On

Ext;
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latrine could in yesterday-fortunately nobody on it. Hotcakes this noon.
 July 10 - About 150 "State-Side" letters arrived in camp yesterday all dated April, May, or June of 1942. None received in our bahay-Some lucky prisoner received 3 or 4 letters. Mail for everyone would sure keep the morale around here. No rain today work details heavy again-I'm afraid they will get me out and one of this days-Joe Rodeverich said last night he had his ----- doing their rain dance to try and get it to rain so the details could not have to go out. One detail as the farm carries a split. 50 gallon drum on poles and uses this contrivance to carry droppings from the Japanese latrines out to the farm-fine works for American. Joe was carrying fertilizers yesterday-such work really brown the mess up. Damn this place. Mosquitoes are so bad, at night a person has to go to bed with the birds and then can't sleep-the open hole urinals which the Japanese make us use breed more mosquitoes than we ordinarily have. Prices of commissions going up all the time.
 July 11-Busy with physical exam for the outgoing detail-regular even if Japanese doctors and corps was here-took diphtheria specimen last night, malaria smears - today, and Dysentery tests tomorrow. No dope as to where it is going - lot of rumors - it looks a lot like Japan because of the guards are going with it-they too are being examined newspapers admit our landing on New Georgia-wish I knew all that was going on down there. Heavy details continue-today is Sunday, but because of fact that we couldn't work a couple of days on account of rain they worked on Sunday. Joe was working on a road-building project-barefooted walking around in stubble and on rocks-pretty tough-had some good hatcher for lunch, and got some mango bean in, so we can eat for next few days anyway.

July 12 Another escape!-This man escaped from the farm-they were short one man in counting them in last night-had immediate roll call-found to be short one man in our group. He was found by Japanese soldiers in barrico near camp and killed while resisting capture (ha!) he was badly beaten - skull crushed, bayoneted stomach - throat, jaw broken, etc. and shot in head. Camp commander Nipponese had meeting of Camp Staff and group CO & Adju.-warned again about escapes and ordered them to miew the body which was in our morgue - said that future escapes would result in punishment of camp.

Heavy details continue-Joe getting pretty tired and disgusted-have to work barefooted. Love papers ----- reports of offensive in SW-minimize importance-sure hope it is the long awaited one.

July 13-Called for cards of escape squad of man who escaped-have not done anything to the men yet. Punished camp as whole by not letting us all the movie to be held tonight-it will rain anyway, so most of us would not be able to see it, anyway and if it is a Ripe film, it would be punishment to have to see it. Details continue heavy and beatings more frequent since the escape. The men are working 11 1/2 hours a day counting time they leave their barracks till they return - all of old farm is barefoot now including field officers in charge of details-pretty rough. Sun is very hot and men have to go out at 1:30 - don't get in till after 12:00 sometimes-men cannot stand this work on the food they are getting. The number of sick men is increasing-they won't let us send but a limited number to the hospital-they have pigged the hospital patients allowed at 1400- can't have more and every so often they say to send

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so many to duty-they must come whether they are well or not, and they are not, and the compute the details. On a basis of total strength of this not considering any of our sick. We have about 900 who are not well on this side; a lot of whom are absolutely unable to work. Joe and I suffered a major catastrophe today - our quan pot ----- we had to empty the one we store on cooking oil in and use it. quan gets on an absolute essential to life around here.

We all pray for a day of rain in hopes that the detach will not go out, but it always rain at night-and clears up in the daytime/. They continue to expand the farm-it will soon be over 200 acres-if they keep that up, the details will be continual heavy; as Joe says, something better happen to change the situation before the dry season comes or it will be hell. Hope European situation will soon come to a head.

July 14. Again heavy details-Joe came in barefooted with marks of mud on his legs nearly to his knees where he had been digging in a ditch with a spading fork.

It is now about middle of afternoon and has been raining a tropical downpour for about an hour-the details are just coming in - all thoroughly soaked.

Continued ----- of beatings-officers or enlisted men-makes no difference- Lt Col E. L. Barr-Major Robert G. Pettit, 2-Lt, Sidney De Briens, Major Waynard Snell , mostly all caused by mis-understandings reference the count of men and keeping track of them with 200 men out, there, it is difficult to keep track of men when they have to go after waters and to the sick shack.

July 15 Half of July gone! They sentenced the remainder of the escaped men's 'death squal' to 5 days heavy confinement in our guardhouse which means they don't work for 5 days and get only rice 2 out of every 3 days-certainly foolish-how anyone could ----- that these men had anything to do with his escape is beyond comprehension-he escaped from the forms. They also lose their, bedding-MCO's and Officers do not lose the ration nor the bedding while confined, but love pay. Details continue hearing don't know when they been going to let up - looks like never no news for several days.

July 16 - This is a red letter day for Joe and many other people in camp- the details were even heavier this morning and Joe is coming down with another cold-when he was up fumbling wound in the dark this morning, he was cursing the fact that it carried at night and not in the daytime-the details were turned back at the gate the morning however, because it was brisling just a little as he has a break this morning anyway-it hasn't ruined and the sun is shiny- they will probably have to go out the afternoon, but a $\frac{1}{2}$ day is something now a days-today, would have been the 7th straight day of heavy detach.

A few days ago we had some very good news-the Japanese notified us that they had been notified by the US that all Americans prisoners of war who had fought in the Philippines and who did not have gov't insurance were insured for \$5000 at no cost, the cost to be taken out of the insurance when & if it were claimed. This is good news to the men who had no insurance and good news to all of us because it shows we are not forgotten-something that we sometimes wonder about.

Landing in Sicily confirmed - also Kicks-Japanese papers also say that we are on the offensive in SW a year ahead of schedule due to internal economic crisis in the US.

Recently we have been blessed in camp with several little puppies and some kitten-I guess the one the result of the dogs that are around camp, some of them coming from Corregidor. These animals hary around the messes where

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they get meat scrape and bones-they add a touch of home life to the place and remind us of better days.

Details had to go out this afternoon-hated to see Joe go-he has missed it. Got a little sugar and cooking oil in this morning-2 1/2 cups of sugar for those who ordered over 5 cups, 20 we got 5 cup-halves out. Hope it rain soon.

15 minutes later they turned back the details - wonder of wanderers!

July 17-Joe got to stay in the morning because of his cold-had to go out this afternoon-his cold is better-may have it broken before it really sets in.

We had hoteakes for lunch without eggs-they were pretty good, but not as good as if they had had an egg in them-we put plenty of "beat" in them.

The news is all good-Sure hope the next few months bring good news to us.

July 18 - Sunday and for a wonder they gave the boys a day off except for a small cargo - picking detail. It has been rainy off and on and the boys probably couldn't have had to work all day anyway. I've been feeling awfully nervous the last few days-this thing gets to be a feeling awfully nervous

the last few days- this thing gets to be a strain after a while. Sure hope this drive in the SO gets by here about the 1st of the year or sooner.

July 19 Today is a Red letter day for Joe-heard from Gloria and turned back at this gate twice and didn't have to go out-so he's pretty happy-says that love and marriage are the only things. He is letting his hair grow so he will be presentable when he enter Manila-he is very unhappy with me and says that I can't be but man unless I let my hair grow too, but I am holding fast and am going to continue to cut it off-it is so much more comfortable.

Detail of 40 came in today from Bilidid-they were formerly at Corregidor-never is all very good-Tunor, Celebes are entering into picture now. None of us here can do anything but guess at the situation, but it looks good.

If nothing out of the ordinary happen, it looks like we might be out by the early part of next year and if Europe folds up before the end of the year, we might be out soon-it looks like the present drives in the South might be headed for the Philippines-of course we have no way of knowing. With Italy and Germany out, Japan might try for a settlement-it is hard to say.

July 20-Another break for Joe-they turned back the form the morning and so Joe had another rest. Flash-we just received the 16, 17, & 18 papers in which our new arrivals were supposed to have read about Tunor and the Celebes-there is nothing to it -another rumor blasted this is typical of so many rumors around here-no wonder we have turned skeptic. The 500 man detail is finally about to leave think they will leave on 22nd-clothing inspection tomorrow. Today marks the 3 year mark in these islands-not cause for any celebration and we had none-and I thought I would be home a year ago-such is life-am thankful to be alive anyway.

July 21-Detach very heavy today-they first had them stand because it looked like rain-then cleared up and they sent them out-it has been drizzling most of the morning. I'm sure the boys are soaking wet-sure feel sorry for them out there. Detach get as far as gate this afternoon and were turned back.

We had a clothing inspection for the outgoing detail scheduled for 1 pm-Japanese finally arrived at 2:30 pm and we started just as it was rainy very hard-

Ext.
 M.H.

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they had them strip off all their clothes and gave them an undershirt, a pair of GI drawers, a pr blue jacket and pants (that didn't fit), a PA helmet and a pair of shoes (about 1/2 were GI and about 1/2 were Japanese shoes). Still don't know where they are going or when but it looks like Japan. Tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. we have another formation-this time they are to take with them including notebooks etc.

July 22 Details get out the gate anothoroughly socked and then turned them back in-Joe just came back and stuck his head in the office door-I told him to go home and change clothes.

The formation at 9:00 started about 9:00-they made everybody display their stuff-told them to turn in flashlights, knives, and mope-took away blues of they had more than one set. There formations are exaspectory-the men wander off and cannot be found when they are supposed to be-it is an awful problem dealing with these men here-you have no way of punishing them for disobedience of orders-it is really pitiful-you just have to be careful and not give any of orders-it is really pitiful-you just have to be careful and not give any orders that you are pretty sure won't be worried out. Down unpleasant situation no details this afternoon, so you get another fresh-sure glad to see it-he is having trouble with some sort of scver-other people have had them too: the uncomfortable and irritating, but nothing serious.

July 23-Detail finally left last night-started to lean at 1:30 am and finally all got away about 4:00 am-it rained steadily from the time we get up and till they left and is still raining as a matter of fact. They hauled them in in 3 contingurte they were all socked like drowned rats and cold-so were we. Sure glad to get them off-still don't know where they are going.

July 24-Japanese ordered the 3 barracks nearest the main gate evacuated and to be kept vacant-gave no reason -there are the barracks we used last year as casual barracks to house men of outgoing details in on the night of their departure-I don't like the looks of it-looks too much like they are getting ready to send out more details-and I'm afraid they are going to Japan-Isure don't want to go there-I think I have a pretty good chance of staying here unless they take everybody out, but Joe is very much available and I'm afraid he will make one-and if he goes, I'll try to go with him. We've been through so much together now, I don't want to be separated if possible. Sure hope we can both stay. I may be crossing bridge ahead of time, but it looks bad to me.

The rain continues-they did not send out the details this morning-It is rainy this afternoon, but they sent the details out anyway-just long enough to get soaking wet and then they turned them back. Joe just came in, soaking wet, barefoot and I sent him home to change clothes.

July 25-Weather is clearing up-details went out today. Charlie failed us-Charlie is a cande little imge that the orderly next door carred and we rub on him to keep the rain coming down-he has done pretty well-the boys have had quite a rest. A few days of sunshine now would help a lot to get things dried out.

Col Roemer was beaten up on the fern this morning. Detail were increased this afternoon-very heavy. Yanks and Tanks better get here soon. It has been trying to rain all afternoon, but no luck-just a few showers. July 26-Joe got a sliver in his foot yesterday-went in so far that he can't find it-hard for him to walk on it, so he is not working today & supposed to

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 J.M.S.

(Continued)

soak his foot. We get 89 men from the hospital today-pretty coming looking lot. The Japanese say send the men to duty-it make no difference that they are sick.

July 27-Joe's foot better-he is still on "quarters"-Details got out this afternoon and were turned back after getting thorely soaked. Cigarette issue today. News is good-Nanking gov't moved to Shanghai-German line between Orel & Ryelgorol collapsed-Japanese apparently have pulled most of their Air Force out of SW.-Japanese announce that we can have no more newspapers in here-this is good news because it either mean that the local political situation is going to change soon or that the war front is going to change.

July 28-We have so many cats and dogs in camp that it has become necessary to have them inspected by the veterinanean and tagged-dogs and cats in the islands all not healthy and there is a lot of rabies. Joe's foot better today-he went out this morning-it looks like it might rain and bring the details-in-can't tell News is good today. Mussolini supposed to have resigned-"Chinese doing well in Qanton area.

A few letters came in today-same ventage as before-written about May or June of 1942. Many of same people who received them by got their again-also about 130 radiogram came in-Joe and I missed the boat on all of them. July 29-Weather continue good in daytime and rain at night-this is no good for the details which continue very heavy. Joe was on a detail yesterday carrying in corn from the farm-use a six man litte and carry loads of around 600 lbs. down a gravel road barefooted with a damned guard yelling "Speedo" all the way-sure tough to take.

The details didn't have to go out till 2:30 this afternoon and it rained in time to keep them from go'g out. Joe had it pretty easy this morning-ran into a guard who is friendly with him-he wouldn't let Joe work-instead Joe spent the morning backing him the words to "mocalight on the River Colorado".

One of the letters that came in hesterday told the boy that a new Ford was waiting for him when he get back-we have had rumors from time to time, that Henry was going to give us all a car, but went----still take them with a pinch of salt.

July 30-We are supposed to have sunk 17 enemy vessels just off Manila Bay by heavy bombers-this is good news to us-hope the detail we sent out of here was not on board.

Details were turned back this afternoon to go out again at 3:00 but it is rainy, so they won't have to go out. Payday is supposed to be the 2nd-Japanese plan a big celebration on 1st since it is the anniversary of the prison camps in the islands-before that we even just capture in concentration camps. Our orchestra has been practising some Japanese music for the show. July 31-The year is nearly 7/12 gone. Thank God-this has so far been a bad year too, although much better than last. Details came in at 4:00 pm today-got in just ahead of a rain, but not due to any fore sight on the part of the Japanese-they were going to quit anyway to give their men a rest in preparation for the holiday tomorrow, I guess.

Aug 1 - Two deaths last month-this is first day of another month and anniversary of our being prisoners of war instead of captives-August of last yes was a bad month-full of rumors about being exchanged, release, etc. What fools we all were and still are many of us-Today was a holiday-rained most of the day as it would on a holiday-we tried to weigh the group, but rain interfered-I weigh 66 kilos which is just this weight I would like to stay.

*W.T.
 August.*

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Aug 2-Today was supposed to be pay day, but it is rainy so they didn't pay - had the work details lined up in the rain this morning and they turned them back - been rainy all day. News of Burma's independence.

Aug 3 - I got in the dog house last night by running over to 424 and playing chess. Rain again this morning so no details and no pay. Details went out this afternoon, however.

Aug 4 - Rains in the morning-no details-no rains in the afternoon so they called out the details. Rice 3 times - change.

Aug 5 - Pay Day-Set for 8.00 am. started paying at 9:30-I had to help one in Japanese Hq-worked till 6:30 - they gave 3 of us a beer a piece-first beer since June of 42-sure tasted good, although it was warm and very poor beer.

Joe heard from Gloria a few days ago and he has been spending all of his time telling me how fine an idea this marriage business is - I'll admit it has its good points but am not sold as it completely yet.

Aug 6-A holiday and it hasn't rained-everybody all over camp has his bedding and clothes out washing and ----- everything-Joe has been busy a little trouble with bed bugs and today he got to investigate and found that ----- bunk right next to Joe's is full of bed bugs-Joe had to take it apart for him-ha has no interest and doesn't seem to give a damn whether it is buggy or not-what a guy-we certainly have a bahay full of fine folks-the dummy grand for the groups-Joe and Gealous own mosquito bars etc.-should be better for a while, but as long as Argisse is there, we'll always have bugs.

Japanese have started to pay the inside details again. You sure can't figure these people out-chaungey-things-Japanese removed another decision-let us have all of this newspapers from date they stopped until Aug 3 - each one of them.

Aug 7 - Joe and I had a treat last night-it was on bahay's tissue for fresh carabao through the commissary-we got a kile rib roast and had it for supper last night-all the meat are wanted-sure was a treat-we thought of what it would have meant a year ago when the only meat we got was a little broth arms a week providing the Japanese were not angry with us on our escape or something-we have certainly come a long way since then as far as food is concerned and a long way towards being realcaused. I hope the fresh meat through the commissary is a new idea-because of limited purchase supply and cooking facilities, bahays get time at being able to purchase it-works out pretty well. The price of everything is going up so that we figure our money is worth about 1/3 of what it was when we were first paid last December-eggs are now 25¢ a piece as against 10¢ when we were first paid.

Another change! Friday is now Sunday again-back to the old system- Sun has been shining all day today-bad for the work details, but good to get things dried out.

Aug 8 - Yesterday was the 3rd day without any rain since June 5-looks like it will be nice today-poor old Joe out on detail again-everyday that it doesn't rain-sure gets tiresome and discouraging.

We got a new toothbrush for Joe for ¥2.00-bought it from the orderly next door-quite an event around here to get a new toothbrush-they are few and far between.

We had a good musical program last night by the orchestre-those boys surely do a good job considering what they have-the clarinet is welded in 3 places, the sax is a wreck, the player makes his own -----one trumpet looks as, the other has a stuck slide and can only play in a certain range, the piano is real smile and gets worried all over camp in all kinds of weather for church

6/11/58
 J.H.

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and what not-the boy who plays it field strips it occasionally and dues out the pieces in the oven. I believe the orchestra has done more for the morale than any other thing except the Xmas packages.
 Aug 9 I put myself out on a limb yesterday and said that American troops wanted be in the islands by Dec 15-of course anything in the way of a prediction that any of us make is about 99% wishful thinking, but it makes a prison feel better if he gets himself talked into an optimistic mood. I would sure like to get Joe married on Dec - 20 just 2 years after the original date-anyway it is food for conversation.

Joe was in the last half of a detail that i was turned back this morning- I was glad to see it because today is commissary order day and I would have had to make up the order and balance and the accounts. We are all anxiously awaiting the fall of Italy-can't help but feel it will come this month. Also give us till end of November to get Rabaul, Yap, Palau, and Truk-then up here we hope.

Aug 10-Japanese have been promising for at least 3 weeks to come and inspect the books in our library so we can start using them but they haven't come yet-they just don't give a damn.Good weather continues-gate pretty hot-out there in the middle of the day-Joe has been fortunate of late getting on good details with an occasional *In Charge job-but it is awfully discouraging to do such work as pulling weeds, shoveling manure, digging ditches, burning grass, carrying corn stalks etc. when you are an officer trained to handle and lead men. Work in the office is very monotonous-doesn't amount to anything-one good Sgt could do it all including the running - I have been exceptionally fortunate in being allowed to stay off of details on account of it. I am very thankful.

Aug 11-Joe and I had a 1:00 breakfast this morning-4 scrambled eggs-we bought the eggs for cooking in hot cakes but because of the difficulty of getting flour we have given up for the time being a hot cakes. Holiday today-no reason gives as yet by Japanese-makes the boys all happy. Received paper of the 8th today-not much in it they withhold a lot of information from these people. A few days ago we received a set of Nippon times dated from May 21 to June 10. I enjoy reading them even though they are old because they have a much longer courage than local papers-contain quite a bit of news about home-no information on what the holiday was for yesterday. They got us a shipment of shoes yesterday-hope that does not mean another Japanese detail-1'm served most of us would rather go barefoot till our troops get here than to get shoes and go to Japan-Joe and I and many others are sure sweating that out. Weather continue good.

Aug 12-123 more days-Details went out today-no rain but sky is overcast making it good for the details-Japanese inspecting party came over this morning un-announced and spent quite a bit of time on our group-they wanted to know what the quan kitchens was for and were told it was used to make tea and cook beans for the sick-they ruled that it was individual cooking which they had prohibited and that we sure were only allowed 2 kitchens in the group and we had 3 - so we could not have the quan kitchens anymore-we are going to try and make arrangements to include the quan stoves in the regular messes now and see if that will work-they pay us and allow in to buy food, but will not provide any way for us to cook. We have more than enough large mosquito bars that they have issued to us for use on the barracks-the messes have been using extra one to cover food with to keep off flies the Japanese said it was a good idea to use off this flies, but directed that the mosquito bars be turned in because that was not this

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use that it was intended for-damn these ignorant people!
 Aug 13-Frundy again and a holiday and a good day as far as weather-this is quite a combinations. Rumor, has it that the farm is going to sleeken up after the 15--don't put much stock in it, but sure hope so, condition in Germany seem to be getting pretty bad-sure hope the fold up before long.

Aug 14 - 121 more days. Joe got the Corral Detail again today & this is a good detail comparatively speaking and he has been fortunate in getting the same one for some time now.

Aug 15-Joe in Cabanatuan as detail today-all day. First time in 7 months that he has been there-I have not been out of the camp in 14 months.

Japanese ordered that there would be no more individual cooking-this is a blow to us all and takes away a thing that has probably helped the health and morale more than any one thing-are going to try and get around it by communal cooking, but it will not be as satisfactory as heretofore.

Japanese moved reveille up a half hour-set the details at a static figure and said that working hours would be from 7:30-11:30 and 2:00 to 5:30. This will last about 3 days and then they will change it. If they leave the details at the figure they have set, they will get be too hard to fill-it is about 2200 for the camp.

On guard again last night-nice moonlight night-played chess till 11:30-my chess is lousy these days.

Aug 16 Joe got back from Cabanatuan last night feeling lousy-had temperation of 103 1/2 - been in bed all day today-feeling some better, but awfully weak, these colds really hit him.

----- less had an attack of cerebral malaria-he didn't recognize me this morning when I went up to see him-took him to hospital today where he can get intra-vennaquinine-should be able to msp him out of it-this time a year ago, he would probably have died, but they will probably be able to pull him through-took him up a can of milk this morning that Joe and I have been saving for emergencies.

Aug 17-They gave Joe a sleeping pill last night that really knocked him out-he slept all last night and this morning; ate a little lunch and went back to sleep this afternoon-her cold is better I think.

Still has reached no decision on the wuan cooking. Japanese inspected yesterday and this morning-we have not been able to quan today. So far we can not determine just what their real objection is to it. They suggest that the commissary cook the food and sell it cooked. This will not be any where as good as it used to be where each man cooked what he wanted. It is hard to understand what those people want. Sure missed our coffee for breakfast-this as a funny statement when one thinks back to how we getting along a year ago-we have certainly progressed.

Aug 18-Joe feeling much better today-should be ok in a couple of days. Zero gave us \$10.00 today - damn nice of him- sure want to do something for him when I get where I can. Joe has been causing a lot of trouble since yesterday because no word from Gloria-think he will get his wish today, however should keep him quiet for a while.

Aug 19-Boy oh Boy-had a bath yesterday in Lifebuoy and brushed my teeth with Pepsodent this was really a treat. We are saving this Lifebuoy to use only about once a week to wash our hair with.

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All the talk around camp now is about quanning. The Japanese have issued an order that all quanning will be done by commissary and sold cooked. Temporarily, until this place can be put into operation, we are quanning for bahay in 5 gallon corn-cup bahay being a small ----- is grouped with 2 other small cover-the amount of arguments over amounts is tremendous. The commissary system will not be very satisfactory, I don't believe, and it will completely nullify Joe's and my efforts to provide for "rainy" days by storing up beans etc. I believe also it will make quans more expensive. The supply is so limited that when it is sold in small quantities and more people buy it, the amount will not be sufficient-that the last few months of this business would probably be tough, and I guess we can take them again-we are in better shape now than when we surrendered.

Joe is much better today. Sandy is but of danger, so they say, must try and get over to see him today.

Aug 20-Japanese are providing serum to circulate us all against cholera, dysentery, Bubonic plague, typhical typhoid, and maybe a few others. We get a total of shots-got the first one today.

Today is Frunday-Joe is much better and will go to work tomorrow. Sent us a small detail to work another farm this morning. Nicoday. We are back on the bean ration again-Sure do taste good-wonderful what a change in a man's outlook a few beans can make a full stomach.

The fact that we care all being inoculated of covers, bring up the Japan business again-feel that they are getting us ready to send us up- hope Uncle Sam interferes with the planes. They are not inoculating the patients at the hospital, so this makes it even morecinous.

Aug 21 - Joe went to work today-the sun has been awfully hot and he had a headache but he got along alright.

Today has been red letter day on show-this noon we had carabao patches and tonight we had a roast. We still have another rout for tomorrow noon and tomorrow night we are getting still another point. Ordinarily we are not so fortunate but I manage to get a quarter from another group and tomorrow to our turn in our own group-Sure is a treat.

Raymond and Atkinson had an altercation this morning over the bean pot-Atkinson accused Ray of not distributing them evenly-ended up by Atkinson threatening to try Raymond and then tretening to punch his nose - people in bahay next door got quite a kick out by these squabbles-great bahay we live in.

Sent a small detail of 75 men out this morning-Another one of 100 men leaving about the end of the month received papers for 1718 (a 19 today-this makes nearly a month that they have given us papers for everyday.

Aug 23 One of the Japanese guards in the farm has been dubbed "Donald Duck" because of the way he scream and carries on-he has asked what Donald Duck means and the boys have told him it was the name of a movie actor. Last night there was a movie shown at the camp garage, because of rain, and a part of the movie was a Donald Duck Cartoon speculation is suming high this morning as to how he is going to take it-most person thought that it would be wise to wear steel helmets to the farm today if they had them. Col Burnett were struck yesterday by a guard for no reason other than that he did not understand what the guard wanted-struck him with his rifle.

Sunday getting along ok-he is nearly retioned now-has a long road ahead of him, but is out of douge if he doesn't suffer a relapse.

We received Manila cigarettes matches, lard & soap through commissary yesterday-no sugar. Fortunately the Japanese sell these commodities to us at

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their price - otherwise we could not afford them-matches cost us 3¢ a box and they are 50¢ in Gabenstuan-the other prices a corresponding. They give us a supply of these items once a month.

Aug 24 Received papers for 20 & 21 yesterday-not much news-just more propaganda showing how badly we are doing. Continued hot weather with our occasional "Rec-Nip" rains about 5:30 pm.

No repercussion on the Donald Duck episode as yet. Papers indicate that people are Manila are being inoculated also, maybe we are not going to Japan after all - nobody knows.

Aug 25 Joe has been not so lucky lately on details-has been having to work on the farm in his bare foot which is pretty hard to take. One camp commander group CO's Adjutant spent about 2 hours yesterday on the Japanese side in a "round table" discussion with the Japanese officer.

Talked over problems with Japanese, but get nowhere in fact they lost ground in that all beds in small barracks are now "taboo".

Aug 26 Joe was very tired and discouraged last night after a long, hot day on the farm in his bare feet. I am sure sorry he has to work like that, but can't find a job in here for him lots of rumors, but all wild-still have hopes of being out in December.

Aug 27 - Friday and "Yasumi" - Sure glad to see Joe get a rest- got our second Cholera shot today-also weighed about the same (66 kilo) Joe lost 2. but he doesn't look it. Japanese cut 100 man detail to 50 men-had clothing inspection today-some "sugu" formation-transferred them to Group II, so have no more worries with them. Turned in our beans into commissary today-they are going to handle cooking of them in future. Joe got to study Spanish a little today for first time in a long time. Johnny is so limited and prices are so high-I believe that the commissary will not be much good to us after next month i. e. we won't be able to get much through it.

Aug 28 - The beans cooked by the commissary are not nearly a good as when cooked individually, but they are much better than no beans at all. Poor old Joe worked on the farm all day-came in very tired-sure hearts me to see him working so hard.

Aug 29 Details were turned back this morning because of rain-first pro American ruin we've had in a long time-sure glad to see it. Received papers yesterday for 2425&26. Interesting to note that Germans completed successful rumors operations by evacuating Kharkov. Also Japanese evacuated Kisha.

I put found out that Joe didn't yet to come in today-they kept a detail out to carry in greens and he is on it-this is a tough detail and sure a tough break for Joe. He got to come in at 10:00 am-Details did not go out over the group as the rumor went around with the dope that they were called off.

Aug 30 - Was raining this morning when Joe and I woke up-Joe figured no details and didn't get his breakfast-first they send word down for details to stand by-about 5 minutes later they got word to turn, them out-Sure were a lot of disappointed people inducting Joe without any breakfast.

We sat around last night and talked about all the old "deals" - we do this about once a month-a person runs out of things to talk about and do, especially after dark when there is nothing to do out talk.

Joe came in at noon very unhappy-he was struck twice in the face this morning by a sentry-he still doesn't know the reasons unless it was that he

*Ev:
Adjutant*

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was singing.

Raining hard this afternoon-they sent about 600 men to the farm anyway-don't know what they can do in this rain-Joe didn't go out. Small detail in from Bilibid today-they are using the Fort Area detail to make a movie.

Wild rumor- MacArthur killed in plane crash-Philippines have declared independence and declared war on US - no real dope.

We had a small piece of fried liver for lunch today and a lot of very good roast for supper-we both ate too much-felt just like after Sunday drive at home. We still have some left for lunch tomorrow.

Aug 31 Pay day today-we have had rumor for several dope of an increase in payday be effective this pay day, but the pay was just the same. Good day for Joe because they didn't send out the officers on work details. Joe stepped on something yesterday on now he has a couple of inspected spots on his feet.

----- recommended him for a few days of "shoe details". Been raining off and on all day. Received papers for 27 & 28 today. Sept 1. (Joe's foot worse-unable to go on detail-2/3 of details were turned back anyway-other 1/3 picked green till about 10:00 & then came in. Raining today, 2 deaths last month.

Anticipate more rain-in September and October than in August.

Raymond was moved out suddenly this afternoon-don't know why but believe it was at request-the "Old man" at any rate it means another round for him. Raymond was PO naturally.

Sept 2 Joe taking sulfanilamide-makes him little sick to the stomach. Foot getting better today. On guard last night-made coffee with hot other in a 5 job can from the mess. Raining this afternoon-details still went out-all we are getting to eat now in the way of vegetable except green from the farm-canteen type and bean leaves-all very poor. Occasionally we get some tellinum which is a notice green that is pretty good fried. Fortunately Joe and I still have beans. Received paper for 29-March talk about Quebec conference-they keep trying to picture discussion in ranks of anti-axis powers.

Received notification to get ready 2 details totaling 883 men to be physically examined by Japanese on 10th - both permanent details. Looks like Japan was taking mostly enlisted men-only enough officers to supervise-set up some as 500 men detail that left in July.

Received cards to send out again-they want them in a hurry so they can censor them and get these to Manila by middle of month in order to catch the exchange ship pretty good chance that these cards will get home reasonably soon. We are restricted so much in what we say, that they don't mean much-some of restriction are: no reference to dates on birthday etc; no mention of living condition in camp, no forwarding addresses on cards; no mention of people in other camps; no slang or abbreviation.

Keeping in busy for a change in the office typing monthly pay rolls, cards, and working on rosters-good to be busy.

Sept 3 Frundy-drizzling a little, Joe's foot better but still having reaction from sulfanilamide. More indications of the food shortage-they have cut our meat ration by 50%-are issuing a little rotten fish that has maggots in it in place of the meat-we have been lucky, though. We are getting 500 grams of rice per day compared with 300 grams which is the ration for the public on the outside. From here on out the chow will get worse and worse. No details went out today-

Sept 4 - Joe still on "quarters" - foot nearly well, but still feeling dopey. The feet that he has stay around the bahay is about to drive him crazy-there is

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nothing attractive about life there. Two more example of the old man's selfishness; yesterday we got some roasted un-salted peanuts from the commissary in place of salted peanuts ordered-they were very good and in these times we are thankful to get anything at all, regardless of quality. He didn't like his but rather than offer them to anyone else in the bahay, he took them back to the commissary-we sent down right after his and bought them. Joe has been able to get an uncensored book to study out of while he is sick-the old man asked him if it were censored and when told it was not, he tried to tell Joe he couldn't have it in the bahay-as long as it is something he has like clothes or something, it is alright but when it is somebody else it is different.

Sept 5 100 more days - sure hope this is right and still believe it won't miss it.

Sept 6 Joe went back to work today-get an easy detail, so he got along ok still getting nothing but green issued to the messes-they saved a little corn which we get occasionally as having-getting fish every other day instead of carabeo-haven't eaten any of it yet-don't plan to until I get hungrier than I am now.

We got a small commissary issue today which included 1/60 of the mungo beans order-quite a problem to divide up. Joe participated in a very good Glee Club concert last night.

Formed the outgoing detail for first time this morning-prelining check by local Japanese officer-they through out a number of men-because they were sunken chested or not sun-burned enough-necessitated complete new rosters made up in 10 copies. Rosters made up in 10 copies.

Sept 7 - Joe was on "extra" this morning and didn't have to go out. Was an "in charge" this afternoon.

We were ----- about the post here in camp and got quite a laugh out of recalling how in the early days, we could not clap at a show-had to indicate approval by raising our hands, by order of the Japanese.

Had a physical by Japanese for part of outgoing detail-gave them a dysentery test, a venereal inspection (after 17 months in prison camp) and took a malaria smear. We had no warning of the inspection-they just came over and said they wanted the men right away-how these people do things!

Sept. 8 - Rescript Day-details went out on hour later to allow Japanese to have a formation at the flagpole. No examination for the detail today.

Sept 9 - Joe on a detail which did not go out either morning or afternoon. Japanese in our area this morning seeing how many more people they can move in with us-looks like they plan to consolidate the camp after the detail leaves-now satisfied to let us have a little comfort.

Examined rest of detail this afternoon-don't think it will leave till around 20th-

Sept 10-Frundy again and a holiday for all-received our second dysentery shot today. The days have been very hot lately with a shower in the evening-remain of lazy summer days at home. Only 95 days left in my progeratication proves correct. Many people feel the same way I do, so there will be a lot of us disappointed if it doesn't work out.

September is 1/3 gone.

Sept 11 - Italy has surrendered! This is the best news we have had for many a day-we have been expecting it for a same time. How I would like to be with the army in Italy-a victorious army as compared with the miserable lot that was over here. For a soldier to spend the greater part of the war in a prison camp is a bitter dose to take-but that is our cross to bear.

Sept 12 - September

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Sept 12-Japanese ordered that all the dogs in camp will be collected-they are going to take them to Cabanatuan. This is pretty hard on some of the boys who have raised them pups around here. Also there are a couple of older dogs here that went through the war on Corregidor and have since been brought in by details. One of them was bayoneted by a Japanese soldier-the other "Scoochow" is the 4th Marines mascot-came from China-has been with the regiment for 8 years - I don't know what the reason for the order is-they run in pecks at night and make a lot of noise-Also, they won't have any touch with the Japanese soldiers-bark at them when they come in camp.

Sept 13-Had an American movie last night-Judy Canova in "Puddin' head". We all enjoyed it very much-Joe and I sat behind the screen-The show served to take us completely away from this camp while it was showing. Another part of the show was a Japanese short showing a sport rally in some big stadium in Japan, the funning thing was the music they played-"Anchore's Aveigh" was the introductory piece and owing it they played Notre Dames' song. Sure was funny to hear these songs, in a Japanese film.

Joe and I set up and smoked a couple of cigarettes after the show and talked about what we were going to do after the war-the news is so good these days that we get a little too optimistic-landings in Albania and near Trieste-Russian in Poland.

We have another large detail-800 men leaving this time on a tegratory detail which means somewhere in the Philippines-it beats me where they would be sending a detail this late in the game-it must be a new one because they are sending medics and a chaplain along-this is the first time they have allowed a chaplain to go with any details except the large drafts to Mindanao and Japan. Joe and I talked about going on this detail but decided against it-more than enough officers are volunteering because they feel they have a better chance of not going to Japan if they have a better chance of not going to Japan if they are out on detail. However, the food is better here and we still have some beans left, so we will sweat it out here.

Looks like there will be some sort of a consolidated on this side after these 2 details leave-a strong indication that the hospital will be moved over to this side, probably in our area. If this came it means we will have to move out which means losing my job and ending up on the farm. I went mind it so much, though, because I feel it won't last more than 2 or 3 more months. Of course if

I move to another group, it may mean that I will have to go to Japan if they call for a detail, and I won't have my job to keep me here which is what I was depending on-will have to wait and see what fate has in store for me and Joe-hope she is kind to us.

Sept 14 Rumors are running high and with them is the morale of the camp-way up there. Most of us are probably due for a let down, but everything sure look good. I have put myself out on a limb and said that Germany would fall in from 30 to 60 days and that the Yank will be in here December-just hope we can be here when they come.

Looks pretty definitely like the hospital will move over here this latter part of this month and very probably moved into our area-probably mean that Joe and I will be split up and will put me out on the farm-I hope it will be for a short time only.

Sept 15-Rained this afternoon and they brought the details in. Rumors are running high-I'm afraid we are being carried away by the good news-the rumors have Tojo resigning, Germans certainly in rout in the southern front. Everybody feels very

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optimistic despite the ever hanging threat of going to Japan.

Be glad when one of these details leaves-we now have two separated rosters to work with - keeps us jumping with inspection and what not.

We have not received any papers from the Japanese since Sept 5 - I guess they forgive the news is not good for prisoners to read.

Sept 16 - Looks like the permanent detail will leave on the 18th and the other shortly thereafter.

Sept 17 Today has been a day of all gays. First of all the news is all so good that we are all on the crest of a wave-it looks like Germany has been a day of all days. First of all the news is all so good that we are all on the crest of wave-it looks like Germany has either surrendered or is negotiating-for one-I haven't been so happy since I got my regular commission-with Tojo out and Germany washed up, it surely can't be long here. We had formations for both details this morning-Marshall took one and I took the other. The permanent detail went over to be issued shoes and clothing and the temporary detail got an inspection by the Japanese doctors-they scratched about 5 men out of the detail and noised hell with our rosters-what a madhouse working with two details.

Sept 18 - Worked till late last night getting the rosters lined up-finally got the permanent detail through the gate this morning at about 7:30-had a clothing inspection for the temporary detail at 9:00 am-they are not giving them any shoes or fatigue clothing-many of them will go out of here barefooted.

Many of us feel there is a good chance the permanent detail will not leave island due to changing world situation-even pessimistic people are saying we will be free by Xmas.

They can't take any more large details out of here unless they take mostly officers because they have most of the well men out now.

No dope yet on when the hospital is moving over-just a lot of rumors. Coffee has gone up to \$12.50-commissary is selling coffee by the cup-Joe and I still have a kilo of coffee in reserve-would like to get hold of another 1/2 kilo hope that will last in till we get out of here.

Sept 19 Got the temporary detail out the gate without any trouble-about 10 or 15 men had no shoes on at all and about 40% had wooden shoes-they have to make a 6 mile hike to Gabanetum-rained early this morning and then quit, but continued with interest but showers and cloudy. Joe working on farm-don't think details will go out this afternoon on account of rain. Lots of rumors around here about the projected move, but nothing official-apparently Japanese are undecided as usual.

Apparently our rumor about Germany surrendering was not true-we are kind of let down, but feel that it will come soon.

Camp strength is now about 3900 as follows-Gp I - 906, Gp C 261, Gp III 550 and hospital 1700.

The boys tired to take "Soochow" out with them, but the Japanese wouldn't allow it-I understand they got him on one of the baggage trucks-they wanted to get him out of here in case they decide to destroy all the dogs in camp.

Sept 20 - Am lowering my estimate to 60 days - news is good looks like Germany has virtually collapsed-some people are saying home by Xmas, but I think that is a little soon-would sure be a nice Xmas present. Got some shorts and shirts for Joe and I and a good pair of shoes for Joe is very timely and we sure do appreciate it.

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Rain again today-details went out, but were rained in one man on farm this morning beaten so badly he had to be brought in. Joe heard that his girl has been to spend several days and night in prison-this news made in both very angry and of square very impatient to get out and find out how she is-that's about all these bastards can do is picked on helpless women and children.

It has finally happened-orders were issued this afternoon dissolving group 1 - remove all our amoebias to group 3 and everybody else goes to group 2 - group 3 will be as "all-amoebic group-the fence is being moved South to make more room in group 2. The hospital moves into group 1 area. I think I have arranged to be an assistant barracks leader in a swali bshay of company officers; - that way I can be with Joe. It will certainly be a let down after living where we have for 10 months. I only hope it is for a short time and can't help but feel that it is so-it looks like Germany has surrendered and these people can't last long even if they try to fight.

Sept 22-All mixed up in getting group moved-should get it cleaned up in a couple more days.

Sept 23 - Movie last night - Charlie Chaplin in "City Lights" - still busy moving peoples-everything SNAFU - should finish tomorrow-wild rumors that war is over-I don't believe that, but believe Germany has fallen and situation looks good.

Sept 24 Joe and I moved today-what a helluna as job-don't know where we got so much junk - really tired tonight-not fixed up anywhere near as nicely as before but can exist I guess. Joe has a Special Duty job on barracks which makes the move worthwhile anyway-he's Bks Clerk and as such doesn't have to go out except when details are heavy - so we accomplished something by the move and I'm happy for Joe.

Sept 25 - Officially closed out group 1 last night-had 00000for roll call-kind of a sad deal-busy getting commissary accounts straightened out-sure a mess. Bed bugs in my hair and bed but they don't seem to bite me, so what the hell. Think I can hold out till Christmas where I hope to be free. Seen that our dope about Germany was not so good, so we are a little deflated, but still hopeful for this year. Philippine independence expected soon- make no difference to us.

Sept 26 - This place is a madhouse-trying to get barracks commissary account straightened out-Joe trying to get rosters fixed up-details heavy-Joe goes out all time so far-bad deal-more trouble to keep books for this place than for Meier & Frank in Portland & time power rapidly when so busy-haven't had time to get down around HQ to see any of my old friends-my former job was surely a gravy train compared to this one.

Sept 27 - Rain this morning but details went out anyway. No rain this afternoon, but no details-sure can't figure these people. ----- fighting commissary accounts and rosters-queue its an all time job.

Sept 28 - 27 years old today. Joe nor I either one thought about it till, about noon-we have talked about it before today. Surehope I don't have to spend another as a prisoner. Really keeps in busy around this place-as soon as the bugle blows, we pop out of bed, rush around in the dark getting and eating

*Sept 28
 1945*

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lugac and then Joe has to get details out. He has had to go out nearly all of the time except today-hope they eat up, so he can stay in same.

General Morimoto inspected camp today-I had forgotten what a job inspection are in one of these barracks - everything has to come down in the way of awning and all can have to be hidden-nearly everything gain up on the catwalk-really a tough job - damn all ----- . Our army is about as bad as the Japanese, Army, though on inspection. After all the troubles of getting the place ready, all he did was walk by- we had the sick men back out of sight-Charley walk was on detail-just Joe and I at the barracks.

Sept 29 - My first regular work detail today-went in to Cabanatuan to unload supplies from train-my first time out of camp since June 18, 1942. Work was light and I enjoyed getting out-will probably have stiff neck tomorrow from looking around at the "delagas" and other things. They allowed us to buy ice cream- sure tasted good. We were supposed to leave in morning, but didn't actually leave till around 11:00 pm, so it was a good detail. I expect to have to go on the farm any day, but this job will keep me in most of the time I hadn't worse my canteen belt since last year some time and I had to let it out I rather before I could wear it.

Sept 30 - Joe stayed in yesterday, but had to go out this morning-we got a full order of bananas yesterday after and Joe put them out for me- 3 1/3 lbs piece as against 1 lb when we first started buying these. They came up by train from Batangas. Glad to get them. Joe and I are running out of money, so I borrowed \$20.00 from Gable, a friend who had some extra-plenty of money in camp in handi of some people.

Don't pay much attention to rumors anymore-we kind of had the mind taken out of our side on this Germany stuff-looks like we were the victim the victim of some kind of a hoax-a lot of people believe it though. As near as we can find out now, the war is progressing, but slowly with not much really amazing since the fall of Italy.

They got a shipment of 1000 complete blue uniforms and shoes in camp the other day, so we are "sweating out" another Japan detail-sure hope Joe and I don't make it, but there's not much to stop in now. As well, whether God desires, so shall it be.

Oct 1 - Frurdy. Clothing inspection by American Supply people we hope this is a prelude to Japanese issuing some of the 1000 new uniform they have, so maybe they won't save them for a Japan detail. That for Bubonic plague today-one more shot to complete the ----- . Rained all day today. -decidedly a "Pro-Nip" rain wasn't rain all day on "Yasamai" day. Trots worse today and have a very bad stomach- have to go to sick call tomorrow if I don't feel better.

Oct 2 - Pay day today-got a raise in pay-Field officer received \$40.00; all company officers \$30.00 - this is an increase \$20.06 for 2nd Lieutenant and Chief Warrants-made them very happy-gives Joe and I 25:00 more per month. Rained again today so no details this afternoon-glad to see the boys get a rest. Feel much better today. Detail of 140 came in from Bilbid-this is the 2nd detail from there in 3 days. Sure are crowding this place up. Don't know what the ----- is. Thalocal

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800 man detail that left last month is down at Las Finas building another air field.

Rumor came around that Japanese were going to inspect for notes and money-put everybody in a swiret including me-would hate to lose this diary-what evidently started the rumor was a new order usual by the Japanese that person would only be allowed to have one deposit and in cash the following amounts - Field Officers 50.00, Company officers 40.00, NCO's - 20 and privates and civilians 10.00- all other money must be turned into the American finance-officer. This is a blow to those who have lots of extra money. They did the same thing in Bilibid and weren't satisfied with the results so they had a big shake-down and eventually cut the commissary allowance down to 2.20 per man per month-this would be rugged- I hope we can avoid the shakedown and the cutting down of the commissary. Will have to wait to see what comes of this thing-deadline for money to be turned in is Monday at 6:00 pm-day after tomorrow.

Oct 3 Details light today-used officers only 1/2 day. Joe and I got commissary books straightened out-sure a lot of trouble without an adding machine. Sent around and asked for number of officers with complete uniforms-think they are going to use them for filming show "Down with the Stars and Stripes"-full business- Oct - 4 Took 1300 men out about 10 kilometers from camp and made shots of them for this movie-Joe had to go-reveille was at 5:00 this morning-get up and eat breakfast in the dark and get the boys out.

Oct 5 - Movie detail didn't get in until 8:00 last night-had to eat supper in the dark of course-a long day but they didn't have to work hard made some shots of them surrendering and marching-sure is rubbing it in. Took a smaller detail out again today-had them all dress in khaki-Joe didn't have to go.

Oct 6 - Movie detail got in earlier last evening-then who had long trousers had to go out again today-they issued them rifle belts and steel helmets and give them rifles out "on location" - it is an easy detail and the boys don't mind it. Nothing much new around here-about \$1000 was turned in on the money deals no further dope or instructions. Inspection by Col Burke this morning-had to take mosquito barr down and I took the opportunity to take the days out of mine-killed 40 or 50. I guess damned nasty things-smell very bad. - no news-still hope for something good by the first of the year.

Oct 7 - Today is brother Bob's birthday - 21 years old-sure wish I knew where he is -am confident he is in the service somewhere-hope it is in Italy instead of out here-much better fighting conditions there as far as climate and health are concerned Nothing new here-Japanese issued a package of toothpowder, cake of soap, for each officer and a few toothbrushes which were no good-the coat of them is to be taken out of our postal savings account-wish they would buy lots of stuff out of that amount - wish they would buy lots of stuff and of that amount for us. Joe and I are getting shaved these days by the barber here at the barracks-saves our blades and is pretty convenient-something we couldn't afford on the outside we get here full or nearly so-a small charge monthly.

Oct 8 - Frundy Japan-holiday except for the movie detail which went out as usual They say they are going to take part of them to Etsaan-the shots they have taken of Americans fighting have not been designed to show the Americans in a bad light, but you can't tell how they will be when it is finally produced.

Oct 9 - Nothing new movie detail out again-Joe and worked on commissary books this afternoon-balanced them out within one peso which is pretty good considering the number of entries that are made in a week-Don't worry too much about one peso when I have 15.00 on the books.

Oct 10-Had a musical show last night-semi-classical. Played rhapsody in Blue,

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"Desert Song", "One Alone" and others-very good-the orchestra has certainly improved over what it was a year ago-they have an arrange now who does very well-Japanese made an informal inspection this morning-they were really on the ----- ordered all shelters torn down unless attached to the building-some of the boys have put up little above over which they put shelter halves and eat and sit under them-Japanese ordered them all torn down-also rained hell in the messes-cut us down on our quoniam again-nearly everything has to be cooked by the commissary now-seem like the Japanese main aim is to make us uncomfortable as possible-this afternoon, they increased the details-Joe and Charlie had to go out-I would have gone but had to get in my weekly commissary order-many quarters men went out to work.

Since morning up here have had sores on my feet on top-I thought it was because I walk more now-I spoke to Joe about it and he said I probably had bed bugs and eggs in the strap in my shoes-they are what have been biting my feet-damn this place.

Detail of 200 men going out soon to replace 200 amebic they sent out on this last 800 men local detail-it is thought that the local headquarters caught hell for sending them out-anyway they are bringing them back and sending but 200 a replace item-that detail is at Las Pinas building on airfield-looks like its a little late to start, but maybe I've wrong. Dope seems to be that Philippines will get independence on 14th-then are rumor of a large detail to Japan soon-wouldn't be surprised at all-have felt all along they would take us out-sure am going to hate to go-will mean 6 or 8 months more a prisoner.

Oct 11 - Commissary is a full time job in a barracks this size-counting bananas-figuring percentages and all-without sufficient paper and pencils and equipment and with people complaining about the size of pencils or bananas and always figuring they are being cheated. But it keeps me occupied and the time passes faster that way and it also keeps me off of the farm which is important too.

The mess has been getting musty rice of late-really had tasting-of course nothing they can do about it-bad when your main dish which is lousy at best has to be musty-cattle in the U.S. get better feed than we do.

Oct 12-Some sugar came in last night and it was issued free to every man-3/4 of a canteen cup-the Japanese had kept it till it had nearly served before they let us have it-I was telling Joe a year ago we had plenty of sugar and were making marmalade-now we have plenty of pomelo peels but no sugar-sure do miss the sugar, too-details heavy today Joe went out this morning, but didn't have to go this afternoon. Nothing much in way of news-newspapers keep coming into camp, but I don't get to read them much since I am not in headquarters anymore-Philippines get their independence on the 14th - have a big 3 day holiday and fiesta-hope we get a couple days holiday too-that will be all the difference it will make to us-what an empty thing Philippine independence is-the poor Filipinos have nothing-their country has been robbed, exploited to the utmost, no monetary system-nothing-it is really pitiful a many of the people are starving-inflation is rampant-
 Oct 13- Movie last night a Popeye cartoon and "Pinochio". They wouldn't let a good movie come in here-details moving houses inside the fence to house the 200 ----- that are coming in today from Las Pinas they are going to fence this amebic off and put guards on them to keep them from mingling with others I guess-it is really silly because the bug is not transmitted, by association, but by

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association, by contaminated food, water, etc. Weather has been nice for part few day-hope it is clearing up for good so that our troops down South and in Hawaii can get under way.
 Oct 14 - Independence day today!-I sat around last night in the moon-light and got myself worked into an awful state painting a picture in my own mind of the ceremony in Manila and hoping that right at the point where the big shot Japanese general was reading the message from the emperor, have a flight of 500 B-24's come over and drop leaflets pointed on the back of Japanese ¥10.00 bills-then bomb Nichol's and Neilsen and go home-I can't say in words how I had it worked out but it would have been wonderful and I would have given a lot to have seen the expression on the big shots faces and listened to them stutter-after having been under the hell of them cocky people for so long, I guess we wish for something to deflete them much more than other people do-at any rate, I think the effect on the Philippines would be worth a few planes and new to the US-I know I would gladly be a prisoner 3 months longer if it would happen-and that means I wcn't want it pretty badly.

No holiday today-details were a little lighter than usual, but it was no holiday definitely-

Oct 15 - New Philippines flag is hanging under the Japanese Red ball on the local flag poles so I guess they are independent-they could have their flag under ours before the war so they really haven't gained anything. Holiday today except for wood detail. Joe and I had ----- for lunch today-the mess bill makes it out of shelled corn we buy in the commissary-the corn only costs 13¢ a cup and a cup of corn makes 2 cups of hamaing which is more then 2 people can eat, so it is pretty cheap food and much better then rice-also some beans are coming in now-not many but a few-we have about enough quan to run us for the noon meal until the first of the year now and almost enough coffee-it is a good feeling to hear it on hand because you can't tell when the commissary privilege will be, taken away-the place to have a reserve is in merchandise- the money is fast becoming valueless-

Oct 16 - Had a holiday today-sent out a small detail to pick vegetable but outside of that none-certainly come as a surprise-they gave us figures for details and then came around and called them off-The Flying Marine was scheduled to inspect today-meant taking down mosquito bars, covering ever, thing up, etc. but when he found it was a holiday, he called it off-so this has been a year and a half since even seeing a white women - man was not supposed to live like this.

Oct 17 - Another holiday!- this is beyond comprehension makes 3 days in a row- I guess it is so that this soldiers can enjoy the fun of Philippine independence- sure is a break for the boys in here-weather is getting hotter-no rain for quite a while-mind comes up in the afternoon-Joe and I have worked like dogs all this day on commissary books making up the statements, considering new orders, issuing some stuff that came in from Manila-pint jars of jam and jelly sell for ¥5.80 each-wish I had some of mothers stock here-I could make a fortune. Joe and I can't afford any of their luxuries but we have been getting along very well since morning up here-even better than before-we buy and eat a lot of fruit and keep in pretty good shape-we are very fortunate-Charley must have about at least 25 pints of jam and 30 or 40 bottles of Mafren sauce plus a lot of canned stuff-I don't think he can possibly eat

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it by the time he leaves, but that is his business of course his friend buys it all-

Oct 18 - Today is no holiday, but Joe and I are taking it much easier than yesterday-details took all "Duty" men, but Joe didn't have to go-we had fried potatoes and having for lunch-very good.

Oct 19 AM having an awful time getting to write this morning-Joe keeps flapping a piece of panelo back across the table at me-we have an awful time dividing things-each of us wants to be sure the other gets more-it is a constant source of bickering (friendly), especially at meal time. Part of form details have been going out at 6:05 if still dark) in order to pick vegetable that they are sending to Manila-send about a thousand kilos a day - also furnish camp 3 with about 300 kilos per day-this camotes are being harvested now, but most of them are going to Manila-wish we would get something besides greens - we have been living off of the farm now for many weeks. Rice is still musty, but Joe and I have beans and camotes (bought through commissary or corn every noon. So we are getting a long fine-these early details mean that Joe has to get up at 5:30 to get the men out. Japanese took a detail of 100 officers out today to work on the movie-said they would be out 5 days-officers clambered to get on the detail-I don't think much of anyone who would volunteers to work on a picture entitled "Down with the Stars and Stripes" seems like drive in Burma is finally under way with plenty of stuff-also reported raids on islands out this way-an hopeful the push has finally started-still on a "December" men myself-hope can braid going to Japan, because I think that would mean 8012 month more a prisoner-looks to me like they will clean up Burma, move in here and on to the China coast simultaneously with Burma drive and then wait a couple of months to allow a concentration of bombs and supplies in China preparatory to carrying on an air offensive over Japan similar to the one now being conducted over Germany.

Charlie went out on detail today and was able to buy a couple of gantas of beans-let us have one-hops to get out again tomorrow and get a couple of more gantas a piece-each ganta means 12 more days of beans-if we can get a couple of more, we figure we have enough to last in till Jan 15-I don't think we'll need any after that-will either be have full or prisoners in Japan.

Oct 20-Joe and I had a pretty daylong yesterday-not much commissary and everything pretty well caught up-I still have the tests a little-probably have amoebic dysentery, but don't plan on a stool test until it gets worse-would just mean moving to another group-Japanese real ly getting particular about isolating the amoebics-they have relieve "Carabao" San Freeny and his staff in group II (Amoebic group) because they were non-amoebic and made them more out-it is all very silly, but the Japanese are very afraid of dysentery-have now allowed any known corn to go to Japan-fell sure they will not send the amoebic even at the end. Sandy come up to see in a couple of days ago-he is still pretty rocky, but is getting along nicely-had a close call-Joe and I have never been to the hospital to see him neither of us are much good at something like that-.

Oct 21-Details continue pretty heavy-Joe went out yesterday afternoon put himself on the hardest detail out there-carrying heavy loads of camote never on litters-got blisters on both his feet-came in pretty tired out-one man was hit in the morning on the same detail because he spilled part of his

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load-he was hit on the arm with a pick handle-with the sun so hot, it is really hard on the boys out there with bare feet-that and the long ----- in the heat of the day are the worst things to contend with-of course there are always the issane Japanese.

Detail of 147 came in from Bilibid this afternoon-Claire Kamel finally got up here and he brought a trombone-we have been waiting a long time for him to come-he will be a great addition to the band-he's living in our barracks and is eating with us-he has been gone just about a year-left on the Javac detail and was taken off at Bilibid for an appendectomy-has been there ever since-says Tom Bell is getting along ok-Tom got a telegram from home saying his mother have died-why people and that kind of information at a time like this beats me-it has been the deciding factor in the death of some people around here-people who are about gone and when they get news like that they just quit-such never can do any good-
 Oct 22-Actually trying to rain this morning-it is cool and cloudy-a very pleasant break from the list spell we have been undergoing-Claire is having a lot since he left-late of little garden, papaya trees, and the food is much better here than at Bilibid-all the boys who come up are glad to be here than within the confining water of Bilibid.

News of the day is that Hull, Eden, and others are at Moscow-this is good news and should end with something big-I expect Germany to fall next month-sure hope so. Rumor around here of bombing of Mindanao-supposed to have been seen in paper-not confirmed yet, a little soon for it, I'm afraid.

Today is Friday and was supposed to be the usual holiday, but Japanese announced that from now on Sunday would be the holiday of the week-this is the 3rd time they have changed it from our to the other-
 Oct 23 - Today is a holiday for the Japanese and so is one for us-fine things these Japanese holidays-had another escape today-first in a long time-some big from the pepopathic word of the hospital climbed over the fence and took off about 6:15 this morning-he had tired to commit suicide several times before, but had been unsuccessful-he was not caught while escaping-we had to special roll calls and made several searching of the camp area for him-the Japanese sentry who was on duty near where he got away has been placed in the guardhouse.
 Oct 24-Regular Sunday-no work details-go repercussions from the escape. Moved a number of the doctors and corps men up from the hospital yesterday to work on the farm. They had a whole lot of doctors and corps men in the hospital they didn't need for medical work and in order to ease the work on the sick men up here, they have sent their extra doctors up here to work-sure did make them unhappy-no repercussions on the escape-no news.
 Oct 25-Today is an important day in the life of this prisoner. They issued springs (bed) to all field officer living in swall behays-Gharlie and I rushed right down to get cubs as soon as we heard about it-got 2 good ones-sure are comfortable-better springs than I had down in old 25- Joe and Claire are going to sing a duet in show Saturday night-they are having trouble finding a number to sing and are driving me crazy in their attempts-Made several change in command yesterday-put field officers in charge of all officers behays and put field officers in command of enlisted companies. Wind flipped this page over and I unknowingly waste on the next page shipping there two-will use them for something else later packages-.

It rained this afternoon enough so that they turned the details back at the gate-calls of "Sund her down J.C." were heard all around the area about

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1:30 - the boys were appealing to the good Lord to send down enough rain to get the details called off and they were successful. First rain of any conference we have had for a long time.

Oct 26 - Wind came up late yesterday afternoon and continual last night and is still blowing today-sent out only a small detail to pick vegetables. Everything around here is a sea of mud - this area is not drowned as well as old group I was-this weather reminds us of the 3 day blow we had last year-hope we are not in for another one of these-I'm afraid these old shacks wont stand another blow like that one. No news or rumors-will soon be November-the month we had hoped to be very eventful-maybe it will be-
 Oct 27 - These new bed springs are really all right-I didn't sleep so well the first night, but did better last night-it takes a little while to get accustomed to them, I guess. Had an inspection today by Col Beecher-no troubles except to get ready for it-hids everything-fold blankets a certain way-like a bunch of recruits. I guess it is the only way he can become that everyone keeps his barracks neat and clean and as sanitary as possible-these are those who don't give a damn about those things and they must be checked on. Really nothing new-

Oct 28 Claire was supposed to play with the band last night, but the show was rained out. He and Joe are still practicing around here for their chest Saturday night-Japanese have said that if any more escape the group staff will be held responsible and punished for it-said it will be because they have not instructed the prisoners carefully enough in the futility of escape-they have also put new repetitions on the prisoners in the guardhouse-only let them out to go to the latrine and when they go they have a rope around. Their belly one end of which is held by an American guard armed with a club-he in turn is followed by our armed Japanese guard-this is the first time we have had Japanese guards in the area-we have been exceedingly fortunate in this respect-in Bilbid they have Japanese guards inside all the time-their roll call formation are supervised by the Japanese-no good.

The movie detail returned last night about 7:00 pm except for some "Stan" they kept out to make some close-ups of-they took the detail to Satuan and took a few pictures of them-they stayed in the schoolhouse at Abucay.

Oct 29 Claire played last night with the band-he was beaten in several numbers and he certainly got a lot of an applause-he is very good and it was a pleasant change to hear the trombone again-the orchestra is pretty good now with 3 stringed instruments, set of drummer, piano, 2 trumpets, a saxophone set of clarinet (played by some man) and a trombone-they can really turn and some music-really a great moral factor.

There has been no news for a long time-hope that a lot is happening that we don't know about. Spede Gran and I are working on a forecast from Nov 1 till the end the war-we are going to stick on necks out and predict many startling things which we think they will do-I will keep a copy of it-.

Oct 30-The man who escaped the other morning was found on the farm yesterday afternoon in a senior conscious state-he was carried in the Japanese Hq on a litter-later this Japanese had a detail of Americans go out to the cemetery and dig a grave and then later 4 Japanese soldiers carried the man out in that direction on a litter-I supposed they killed him although no shots were heard-possibly they beheaded him or buried him alive-The only report was that he had been punished according to Japanese law-.

Oct 31 Last day of another month-this month has gone by pretty rapidly-there have been many changes and my job here has actually kept me more busy

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than my old one-we managed to add some more mungo beans to our supply this month at a rate of 3 portions per day-one for each of us-certainly feel that within 3 months we will either be gone to Japan or in American hands-maybe of course I'm still a Dec 15 man myself until that time comes-then I will have to select a new date-we all hope that this coming month will bring late of changes for the better-but then we have been saying that for sometimes-
 Nov 1 Pay Day today! Received the same rates of pay as last month which is good news-have been very busy today with the commissary-taking in money etc. Has been raining quite a bit today and yesterday-no details today-.

Nov 2 - Continued rain-only details are to pick vegetable-boys are getting quite a rest. Have been a lot of rumors the last few days about in all going to Japan-they have even had the buildings in camp being sold to the Filipinos-we get these scores every so often-one of these times it will be the real thing and off we will go-the Japanese are making a money of the permanently disabled it looks possible that they may have some plans for them in sight even send them home-nobody knows.

Chuck Samon moved into the bahay the other day and is eating with us-he is a good boy and we are glad to have him-.

Nov 3-Busy with commissaries today-bananas, cigarettes, matches, cooking oil, coconuts, canotes, and peanuts-the first 2 weeks of the month are always busy ones with the commissary and they it dwindles down to almost nothing-no news. Meat is getting hard to get apparently-we get meat only occasionally now and in small quantities-probably average once every 3 days-rice is still musty although they manage to sort out some that is not so bad for lugao in the mornings.
 Nov. 4 - Japanese called for regular details last night and then cancelled most of them about 9:00 pm-came as a surprise-expected heavy details after a 2 day rest-this morning they turned back some of the detail that did go out-can't figure these people out-these strange action give rice to late of scuttle butt rumors such as - farm has been sold to foodstuff control association; hospital has been sold (buildings); rumor of a medical officer going to the Japanese asking for medicine-he was told we wouldn't need any because we would all be in Australia in 3 weeks-nobody believes these rumors, but they are passed around-a year ago we would have believed them. Our canotes are spoiling so we are eating them up pretty fast-going to have a big batch today. More commissaries today-bananas, peanuts, small cigars, coconuts-another busy day-weather is fine-rained last night, but sun is out hot today-another reason we can't figure why these are not big work details-everybody seem to have an attitude of expectancy, but 2 or 3 heavy days of work will take that away-we have had these kinds of days before-never been any real reason for them and probably isn't this true. Joe sold his cords the other day for ₱30.00 to a fellow in the barracks who run a poker game (against regulation of course). We figured the money would be better for us than the cords-

Nov 5 - 8 I am having a lot of trouble keeping up with my editing-seems like I don't have time to write when I think of things I want to put down and when I get the books out I can't remember what I want to record-then I have trouble keeping up every day-I keep putting it off-this is caused mainly by the fact that there is nothing really out of the ordinary happenings-just dirty routine. Last week was a record as far as working days was concerned for the boys in the barracks-between holidays and rain, they didn't have to work much-when they did call for

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details, the number was light. This morning after a walk of "rest," they called for very light details and then cancelled all but the wood detail-what is the reason?-it is not that there is no work to be done-woods are growing, ditches and paths to be fixed-they have never had trouble finding work to be done in the past-is there a change in attitude on the part of the Japanese?-everybody is asking this question-nobody knows. Today is rescript day, but they have never cancelled the details before on that day-only took them out late so they could have a ceremony. I am inclined to believe that the Japanese know that a change is coming up in the near future and they don't care so much about the farm-I believe definitely that we will be out of this camp in 3 months. Either on our way to Japan or in the hands of American troops-if the former, I think it will come before the end of the year. Rumors:- one of the American interpreters asked one of the Japanese if he knew anything about our leaving here-he said know-that he thought they were going to bring back one of the details that went to Taiwan-that's a new angle-bringing people back here instead of taking them to Japan. Roosevelt made a speech in which he told Quezon that he would be back in the Philippines before the end of this year. Knox made a speech (he makes so many, Zero said last night he must carry a "walkie-talkie" around with him) in which he said the largest naval force in history was in the SW Pacific-he has been reported to say that so many times, we don't pay any attention to it anymore. Zero had a birthday yesterday-be orchestra played at his bahay for some time-we all went around and wished him a happier birthday next year.

Nov 9 - Been standing by all day today waiting for General Morimoto inspect-the weather has been bad-rained and blew last night very hard and continued raining today-called off what few details they had called out-ordinarily when this general is in camp, they call out maximum details, but for today they, called out only light details-The local Japanese made a preliminary inspection yesterday-Resulted in Charlie and I having to move to the upper bay-we had known for a long time that the Barracks leader should be upstairs, but it is much more convenient below, so we lived there-so we had to move today on top of hiding everything for inspection. Looks like he won't inspect today-if the SOB stays till tomorrow, we will have to do the same thing again-only good things about it is he brought some more magazines with him.

I have been bothered with headaches for the last week believe it comes from my eyes-can't read much-been wearing dark glasses all the time.

Nov 10 General finally inspected last night about 5:30-all he did as usual was walk through camp-understand he spent quite a bit of time looking at the point in the fence where the man got away the other day. Anyway we were glad to get the inspection over with-if he hadn't done it yesterday, we would have had to go through the same thing again today-this morning he inspected the farm, and then left camp. These Nips over the same way we are about generals-while he is in camp, they enforce regulation strictly, take canvas down around the bahays. Close off the dysentery group, etc.-after he leaves, they let us put the canvas up and settle down again-soldiers are the same the world over-

The details continue to be light-this is nearly the best news we have had in a long time-we figure it is either due to the fact that they don't have enough guards or that Gomoto hasn't anything to do with the details, since the guard company have been combined and he has no company-anyway it is sure good news-the officers here in the barracks work about 1/2 a day every day.

Nov 11 Seem to be pretty well established that the exchange ship that took the nationals out a few weeks ago is back in Manila with Red Cross supplies for

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prisoners - food, clothing, & medicine-the Japanese have instructed Col Beecher to make storage space for supplies-this is good news, of course, and we all hope fervently that same mail will come too. The talk of Red Cross boxes takes me back to last year when the boxes came in-they and the extra food were the vital factors in putting the men in here back on their feet. If we get as good a deal this year, the personnel should be in pretty good shape. Looking back on it, this year has passed pretty rapidly-hope we don't have another to do.

Nov 12-they are using a new system of guarding on the farm now-instead of having guards around the perimeter of the farm, they have a will of guards with fixed bayonets around the plot that the prisoners are working in and they are not allowed to go out of that circle. Also, they are going to raise the perimeter fence to 10 or 12 feet-sure are taking good care of us-.

Had a pipeful of Velvet yesterday out of last year's Xmas supply-some non-smoker gave a can to Sandy after he got sick and Sandy gave me a pipeful yesterday when I went down to see him-he is getting along ok-losing much better-Claire is eating like a horse and pretty on weight-when the band plays at mess halls, he eats firsts and seconds there, then comes back here and eats his supper-really fixing him up-.

Nov 13-American movie last night-Bergen, McCarthy, Magee & Mally and Lucille Ball in "Look Who's Laughing" - this was a new show for nearly everyone in camp - I believe it was produced in latter part of 1941-we all enjoyed it a great deal and adjudged it unanimously the best show of the year. We especially enjoyed Lucille Ball-even Molly looked pretty. We especially enjoyed Lucille Ball - even Molly looked pretty good-we have been here a long time away from such things.

No news lately. Nothing much new-rice continue misty part of the time.

Nov 14 Seems to pretty well established that there is mail and individual packages from homes in Manila in addition to the Red Cross stuff-the Japanese have called for rosters from our statistical individual office showing where the prisoners who have left camp are located. This gives us new hope for word from home and also gives rise to discussion about what would be in a package from home. I think I would rather have a 2 lb. package of Briggs pipe tobacco than anything else I can think of-we make joking remarks about neckties and sox etc.-at my rate, anything will certainly be appreciated-we might have a pretty happy Xmas with Red Cross food and word from home-hope they don't throw a Japan detail in to take the joy out of everything.

"Spade" Grass gave me a roll of toilet paper last night-he managed to get a supply on hand at one time or another-this was certainly nice of him and I told him I would repay him with a case of scot tissue when I got home and I mean to do it - the Japanese issue us one sheet of paper a day which is not enough-I was fortunate in laying in a supply of newspapers while I was working in the office-we have been using these and considering ourselves fortunate to have it.

Nov 15-A young typhoon has hit us-came up last night-similar to the one last year but not as bad yet. It is funny, but last night after going to bed, Charlie and I were talking about last year's typhoon-how unpleasant it was-we agreed that we didn't think the bbbays would stand another one like it-I was surprised to miss up for my first trip to the urinal (make about 3 a night now-nearly as bad as last year) to find the wind blowing a gale-canvas shelters whipping around, mess gear and corn blowing about, etc.

9:00 am-Wind has made nearly a 180 degree change in ---- and is increasing in intensity-already some small shacks have blown down-some roofs have been torn off-looks like we are in for a blow-well Charlie and I ever learn to keep our mouths

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shut- Nothing to do today but stay in bed between necessary trip to the rear which came all too often.

Late of rumors but not much confirmed stuff-of local interest is the rumor that after the first of the month, there are to be no details that after the first of the month, there are to be no details outside the fence-Filipinos will work farm and bring wood to us-if this is true it is good news.

3:00-pm-Wind has died down pretty well-rainy steadily now. -Japan called out on a detail this afternoon to pick vegetables-have spent this whole day in my bed except for frequent trips to the ditch-played some cribbage with Charlie this afternoon-was beaten badly as usual-have no luck at cards-that's why I don't play poker or gamble.

It is cold today-dug out my old wool shirt-got cold in night and put on jacket and long pants get warm-Japanese report in their newspaper that we took a beating second only to Pearl Harbor at Bougainville-and said we lost 4 battle-ships---we believe this story was put in to cover up the large losses that they really took themselves down there-I am anxiously awaiting news from down there to find out whether or not the drive is actually on. I believe that they must start now and be in here by the end of February if they are going to finish the war in 1944-if they don't get in here till next rainy season, I think the war will last till 1945. I've got to get a copy of Spoile's and my plan for the book so I will have something to laugh at where it doesn't work.

Nov 16-Another stormy day-wind has died down considerably, but it is still blowing some and the rain is still coming down-has been another day cooped up in the building like a bunch of rats-had to get some commissaries this afternoon-bananas, some onions at 4:30 a kilo and a few eggs at 37¢ a piece-We are going through a period now of rumors about the Red Cross stuff-astronomical figures of the amount we are going to get-all the way up to 2000 tons. It is also rumored that the Swiss delegate are going to double the distribut. whether this is true or not, I feel that we will get a fairer distribution this year than we did last. Many little things that the Japanese have done of late indicate to me that they are paying more attention to giving us fair treatment-I believe this is due to the ----- of American troops in here-I maybe all wet. I am very anxious to find out whether or not we have landed on New Britain-we must do that soon if we are planning to make the drive now, and I feel it must cause now or wait till next year to finish the war-and I don't feel that they are going to do that. My old date of getting out of here by Dec 15 is a little so on, I believe, but I still think it will come in January or February, I refuse to accept-possimistic attitude about this thing anyway. Japanese continue to play up our losses in battles of Bougainville-I can't help but believe this is a screen to cover up their losses-the size of the losses indicate at least that we have a large force down there which is good news to me, and which I believe to be true. It looks like the much heralded Burma offensive is not going as well as they expected-typically British-I hope this is the last war we fight for those people.

Nov 17 Third day of rain-wind died down driving the night, but has come up again during the day. Another day on my bunk-there is no other plan to go-everything is very damp-paper is so wet I have trouble making commissary records-all in all highly unsatisfactory-this is the part of the tropics they don't mention in the travel folders.

Nov 18 - Orchestra put on their regular Wednesday evening show last night-not as good as usual-they haven't been able to rehearse much the last few days in 3 days-looks and feels mighty good-everybody has their staff out trying to get

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it dried out-Jackson washed our clothes for us.

I have been sleeping the last few nights without a mosquito bar to see if I could prevent being bitten by bed bugs-they get on the bar and bite my shoulder and elbows where they touch the bar-last night I reached up to smooch what I thought was on out running across my forehead-I got him out as my hand passed back down in front of my nose, I knew it was no ant but a bed bug. The boy up there seems to be full of them-

Most of the talk these days is of Red Cross supplies and mail-it would seem that nobody cares how the war progresses-all they want to know is how much stuff they are going to get-kind of makes me disgusted.

Nov 19 - More talk of a Japan detail-these rumors get started every so after-this particular one comes from Gmioto who told Col Haglehart that he thought a draft would be leaving for Japan soon-it would be a catastrophe to have to leave now with good food and mail in the offing, but such might be the case-oh well, such is the life of a soldier.

Joe got disgusted with his hair flopping around and had it cut off short again-now he gives me hell for hearing mine long-this is a complete right about from the situation about 6 month ago when he was giving me hell for having it short-just can't win I guess.

We are having an exceptionally good period of quan-beans are coming in through the commissary now, we have corn for ----- and camotes occasionally. I don't have to eat any rice anymore except for breakfast and then we doctor it up with shredded coconut, peanuts, bananas, and sugar-the coconut makes it especially good and is a recent innovation with us. So we laid in a supply of coconuts-now have about 35 on hand-if I get anymore quan in this boy, I'll have to move out. We are going to have fried black beans for supper tonight-were going to have them baked, but the ovens are being used for ducks.

Nov 20 - Heavy details today-they are planting nearly the entire farm to camotes. I can't understand their optimism-it takes about a month for them to produce-maybe they want to be sure they have something to eat when we change places. At any rate, camotes don't require much looking after-maybe they want to get them planted, before the healthy ones leave for Japan, so that the farm will not require much attention from those people who are sick-I hope this is not true.

We now have available to us (About 2 per barracks) some new 1941 Saturday evening roster that the general brought last time he was here. There are new magazine as far as we are concerned-I can't imagine where they came from for the magazine have not been read. I can't read the stories because of headaches, but I enjoy looking at the ads, especially the 1942 car addi. Sure be glad when I get back to where I can get a car-of course Henry is going to give us a Lincoln (ha! ha!). I am going to splurge when I get home and buy a new Buick or De Soto. Of course, they will be hard to get and expensive for a while after the war.

Nice day today-first real nice one since the storm-got my bedclothes out to air-couldn't find any huge, but found blood spots on blankets where I have killed them in my sleep. What a blessing it will be to crawl between clean sheets in a bug full bed!

Nov 21 - Sunday and Yasemi day-as usual Joe and I have been busy with commissary accounts all day. Except that Joe had to go down to the dysentery area and sing with the Glee Club this afternoon. He didn't want to go-said nobody listened-it was too hot for people to get out and stand in the sun to listen to a Glee Club singing-I kid Joe a lot about his glee club singing. He doesn't really enjoy it because of some of the personnel and the scap they sing.

We are certainly going through a period of good eating-all 3 of us are going

BY: [Signature]

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weight-baked beans, fried beans, etc.-a meal is not a success anymore unless we have the tables stuffed like oaks.

Nov 22 Cloudy and windy today with occasional showers-Col Beecher had a meeting of field officers and barracks leaders yesterday at direction of Japanese and gave us a talk on escape. They really take this escape business seriously and apparently the commander have got a lot of hell for the last escape.-they are increasing the height of the fence, and putting a reverse apron on the inside to make it more escape-proof. Also they have taken the wood gates out, even though they were padlocked - they moved the truckdrivers inside, built a special fence around their barracks and cut a special gate in the fence for them. Had a tasty salad today for lunch-grated coconut, sliced bananas and pomelo. We have been reading magazine a lot lately-Ladies Home Journals, Saturday Evening Posts, and Life-Joe is all hopped up about the new Buick and is going around here talking about nothing else-they are nice and I hope to have one some day.

Nov 23 - Yasumi today-some Japanese holiday, these are fine things and they have quite a number of them. We ground about 1/2 of our last kilo of coffee today-it sure is good. This kilo only cost us 86.75 and was purchased last July or August. Coffee now about ¥20.00 a kilo and they got say in for a month or more. All the talk around here is about Kmas packages-a truck driver just returned from Bilibid where they have already received their package and he brought back tales of a 47 lb package including nearly everything a man could desire except a canned blonde-It's a funny thing-last year no one was thinking much about women, but this year we are of a different mind-a sure sign that our health is improving. The magazine we have may have something to do with it-advertisement of all sorts of things and stories-all tend to remind us more forcibly of the life we once knew and hope to know again.

Nov 24 - Another beautiful day-but hot! When it rains we complain and when the sun shines we complain of the heat. Joe and Claire and I still eating like kings-go rice- grated coconut and bananas for breakfast, mongo beans and baked camotes for lunch, fried, black beans for supper. All of this food was purchased through the commissary and not issued by the Japanese. Yesterday after a hearty lunch, we measured waistlines-Claire 30, Joe 33, and me 31-this is a knew high for Joe and worries him a little-he is 15 lb heavier than before the war. He'll have a hard time explaining to people that he nearly starved to death here.

Nov 25 - Thanksgiving Day! Work details went out as usual. However the Japanese did kill some of their previous Brahm cattle they have been saving for so long-carabao are becoming hard to get and occasionally they kill a Brahm from their special herd for us-I guess they killed 3 or 4 today. The mess is putting on a special meal for us tonight-menu as follows-steamed rice (always) chop suey (sprouted mongo beans)----- of mongo bean, ---- steak, french fried camotes, cake with wine and tea- quite a meal-they have been saving food for the last few days in order to be able to serve this meal and the mongo beans are from the welfare, not the Japanese.

As I look back and read entries in my diary for last year it is plain that we have many things to be thankful for on this day and I think most of the men in this camp realize this-at least they know it whether they will admit it or not. I personally am thankful to a gracious God who has certainly taken care

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of me during my period of imprisonment.

Claire went out on detail for the first time this morning-the boys razed him quite a bit crying "We have a virgin on the detail went out-Joe put him on an easy detail and he got along ok - of course he is soft and it tired him out-when he came back in he had to go and play a mess job at one of the busy day. The orchestra put on a nice program last night-played mostly "sweet" stuff instead of give-I enjoyed it immensely.

The storm we had been here about a week ago was more severe in Manila than here-the Pasig backed up and flooded. Many of the streets causing the worst-flood since 1924. The water and light service were out for a day or two. It destroyed ten million pesos worth of prime commodities belonging to the Frisco. This is really unfortunate since the poor Filipinos are having such a tough time anymore-rice is a peso a plate in Manila, duck eggs 70¢ hen eggs 50¢, camote \$1.10 a kilo-we pay 37¢ a kilo here and have more rice issued to us then we can eat-again I say we have many things to be thankful for.

The storm washed out a railroad bridge between here and Manila and that is the reason we have not received our Red Cross boxes-the bridge is fixed now, and we are supposed to start getting in packages tomorrow-these are the big subject of conversation around here now. The Japanese admit that we have occupied ----- and one other island in the Gilberts-they keep sinking all of our Navy in the sea around Bougainville-it is funny-they were doing the same thing last year at this time.

Nov 26 - 27 - 28 Joe and Claire and I continue to over eat these days-all of us are getting fatter-swear up and down we won't do it again. After each meal and then turn right around and do it again next meal-we are fortunate to be able to do it. Last night they had lots of camotes in the mess-we all get "seconds" as these and ate till we were nearly sick-I wonder if I will ever be able to adjust myself to the thought that I don't need to eat all the food in sight-that there will be plenty more next meal-if I don't adjust myself when I get out, I will surely be sick.

All the talk around here now is about Red Cross packages-most of these people act like a bunch of kids about them-kind of makes me tired. Yesterday, the Japanese called for a Cebanatan detail-everybody assumed that it was to go in and unload packages-the detail stood by all day and did not go out-as a result, last night the rumor was around camp that the train had been wrecked, the Red Cross supplies burned including 2 cartons of mail-these people are so gullible, you could sell them anything. A note from Manila is supposed to say that the papers have an advertisement in them saying "Excess Red Cross Supplies for Sale"-said that American cigarettes were bringing \$200 a carton- & don't know whether any of this is true or not-I doubt it very strongly. Some friend of Claire's gave him a package of Piedmonts last few nights and we smoked our first American cigarettes since last January-the cigarettes were very old-probably out of last year's supply-some that the Japanese still have on hand.

Details have been pretty heavy the last few days-large number of men are working on the new fence-have it completely up one and now-boys are doing a good job of it-straightening out the old fence that was crooked as a snake. Nov 29 - 30 - Dec 1 - Pay Day today-got the same amount as usual-very glad to get it, too. All the talk past few days has been of Red Cross supplies-everybody around here is like a bunch of vultures-criticizing everything that is done and thinking all the time that somebody is cheating them-darndest-

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bunch of people I ever saw-instead of being thankful for anything they get; they are worried that somebody will get more than somebody else.

I am going to try to get an accurate list of all the Red Cross supplies that came in, but as near as I can find out, the following is the course of events. Our Sunday, the 29th individual packages were brought into camp and stored inside the American area-a total of 4200 (estimate) came which is enough for one per man and a few left over. The box weighed 47 lbs and contained 4 small boxes inside-each of which is different. The American authorities were directed by the Japanese to leave the boxes untouched until the Japanese MP's could inspect them and they would then be released.

The following day, a detail went in and brought out more bulk Red Cross supplies consisting of about some shoes, cigarettes, tobacco, pipes, musical instruments, shoe repair kits including 4 soles, heels and nails; playing cards; ping-pong sets; baseball equipment; and some other miscellaneous equipment-(hope to get list later).

The next day (30th) Japanese MP's from Cabanatuan came to inspect the package-they opened about 30 of this individual boxes and took out the Old Gold cigarettes which they objected to because of a verse on the package saying something about "freedom is our heritage" - they left camp about 12:30 after they had gone, the Japanese commander came over and took 3 cases of cigarettes, 1000 out of 1500 pairs of shoe soles, some athletic equipment, 3 boxes of shoe repair equipment, some playing cards. They said "Surely you won't mind if we take these-we worked hard to bring them things out here"-what could you say? Of course when ----- of this get out, everybody complained bitterly, all of which did no good. These people around here can't seem to realize the situation they are in and don't stop to think what they would do if the situation were reversed-I venture to say that of all the Americans here, 90% of them would take more than the Japanese have taken so far. This is a strong statement, but I've tired with these people now for 19 months and I think I know most of them.

The shoes, of which these are 2600 pairs, are to be held and issued to outgoing details-this of course, made everybody mad too, but a little reflection will show the position of the Japanese-they can't get shoes to outfit the outgoing details-and while we are sure we will be out of here soon, the Japanese think the war will last many years and they think we will be here indefinitely-hence their attitude. Can't blame them too much for that.

Today the Japanese came over and announced that the Old Gold cigarettes would be taken out of all the packages and held pending something or other-so the American authorities had to open all the packages and take out the Old Golds-while they were doing these, they took out all the cigarettes and are going to issue the same number to each man-this is the only fair thing to do since some of the package had more cigarettes than others and since the man whose package had Old Golds in it would be short. As soon as the people here heard the American were going through the packages and taking out the cigarettes, great care of complaint against the staff were heard-they didn't stop to find out why the cigarettes were being taken out-didn't stop to find out the Japanese had ordered some of the cigarettes taken out-it was disgusting the talk around here. A lot of people worry more about the cigarettes than the food.

This afternoon we received one small package per man-This is 1/4 of the big package. The Japanese directed that we would get one small package now; one just before Christmas; one sometime late maybe in April and the other lots on. They did this to cut down on the amount of stuff that will be sold, traded, and gambled for. The issue was accompanied by orders from the Japanese that no Red Cross supplies would be traded sold, or gambled with-that no work detail

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going out of camp would take any Red Cross stuff with it; that work details on the farm and inside camp could take a day's supply of American cigarettes with them, loose, but not the package; that no Red Cross supplies would be given or sold or traded to any Japanese or Filipinos-all of this under threat of severe punishment.

Also accompanying the issue were orders that all packing boxes, cardboard contain, nails, strapping etc. would be turned in to the Japanese-also all corn would be cerealed and turned over to the Japanese. What a cheap, penniless bunch they are-operating their Army are a shoestring as evidence by the patched and torn clothes and equipment their soldiers are. Last year we did not have any of this trouble-they went ahead and issued all the stuff-only thing they called for was the empty corn. I guess they are in worse shape this year than last-I certainly hope this is true.

The fact that we are only getting part of our package at a time maybe a good thing in some ways-it has the disadvantage that as long as the Japanese hold control of some of them, there is always the chance that they may become disgruntled over something or some dope may attempt to escape and they wouldn't issue any. Oh! well-anything we get is quit that much better off than.

Following is a list of what was in the box we received today-Joe, Claire and I each received one-tonight we opened a can of the butter, ate a chocolate bar-everybody in camp had coffee and a lot of people will spend restless nights tonight because of drinking coffee-

- 2-3/4 oz cans chopped ham & eggs (US Army "K" ration)
- 3-3 3/4 oz. cans corned Fork loaf (US Army "K" ration)
- 3-3 3/4 oz cans preserved butter (Kraft Product-tastes like cheese)
- 1 - 6 oz can-some heal the food called "Rose Mill pets"
- 1-7 3/4 oz can Salmon
- 1-12 oz can corned beef
- 1-1/2 lb pkg Kraft American cheese
- 2- 4 oz cans Soluble Coffee
- 2- 4 D-Ration-Chocolate bars
- 1-1lb. can Powdered Milk
- 1-12 oz can meat Loaf
- 1-1/4 lb. pkg sugar cubes
- 1-lb dried prunes
- 2-cakes toilet soap
- 1-pkg 12 tablets vitamin "C"
- 1 - pkg of 8 envelopes Bouvillon (10 gms ca. serving)

When originally packed, the creamies in the box were filled with cigarettes which have been removed. This package was called the "invalids" box-most of them contained what is listed above-a few were different and contained cocoa acid B&M in place of some of the above articles.

Dec 2 -3 - 4 Issued more bulk supplies on 2nd - lack man in camp received one of the following : comb, toothbrush (or west or prophylactic), toothbrush, 2 cakes laundry soap, 1 razor, 10 razor blade, tube of brushless shave cream can of shoe polish, serving kit. These articles really meant a lot to us and the fact that each man got one made it fine. Today we got 7 pipes for the barracks, 2 desks, of cards, and 3/4 of a package of Half and Half.

Details are heavy these days & I have a cold and feel like the devil - been working all day with accurate. Duncan got his bean account all screwed up and I have been trying to get it straightened out-helluva got. I note that I failed to list the cigarettes in that list of things we received on the

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2nd - each of us received 8 packages of American cigarettes-6 chesterfield and 2 camel. It took a little while to get used to them-they are harder on the throat than the Dhubie cigarettes.

Dec 5 & 6 - Commissary got in a number of cigars and we went "havy-wild" and bought 100-they are really good-I enjoy them more than anything else we have-we have such an assortment of smokes that it is hard to choose-I fervently thank God for this for I can remember when it was not so.

A storm came up last night and it has been cold and windy all day with occasional showers-has meant spending all day in bed and is not the kind of weather that is conducive to many a cold.

Dec 6 - 7 - 8 - Today is annual rescript day-we expected a holiday but, there was none-details went out a little late. Storm began letting up last night a little-not much wind today-would be much better. Details continue heavy-perimeter fence is completed-now they are building a high single fence along the fence that separates us from the Japanese. Due to fact that some of the "perishables" item in the packages were spoiling, they talked the Japanese into letting in them issue these items from the packages-today we received 2 chocolates bars (D ration), 1 pkg. of cheese, 1 lb of sugar cubes, 2 can of soluble coffee, 1 pkg of prunes, per person. The barracks was issued 5 razor blades sharpeners.

Dec 9 - 10-11-12 - Have let several days slip by without making entails in this thing, but there has been nothing much out of the ordinary to write about-details continue heavy-bad weather continues-wind blows most of the time-it is rainy right now to further spoil this Sunday-gets real cold in the mornings just before daylight-Joe has sore throat today from the cold wind blowing on him last night-my cold is much better. Only outstanding thing of past few days was another issue of Red Crosses perishables yesterday-2 chocolate bars, 2 coffee 1 cheese, and one prunes or raisins per man-we now have all the perishable except those in one of the 4 packages-this package we are to get around Xmas complete except for cigarettes which will mean we have 2 complete packages and the perishables out of the other 2 by Xmas-the Japanese are a little vague as to when we will get the other 2. The Japanese are releasing some of the new shoes we got-a detail of 100 men left camp yesterday-they gave them some shoes-now they are issuing to certain peoples in camp whose job supposedly merits shoes-wood detail, mess crews, etc. Needless to say, the putting out of shoes to some and not to others results in much discontent and saw grapes among the people who don't get any. With the new shoe repair supplies, they expect to be able to repair old shoes so that everyone in camp has a pair of shoes in fair condition-certainly hope they will be able to accomplish it.

Have been reading a little lately and have found that I don't have headaches like I used to-for this I am exceedingly grateful because it helps to pour the long hours-can't explain the change unless the Red Cross chow has provided a needed vitamin. We are enjoying our Red Cross food very much, especially the butter, cheese, pair of chocolate bars, and bouillon powder. Notwithstanding the extra food, we are not eating as much as we were for a time-we have no corn left and only get canotes intrinsitently the commissary is not getting much in-Johnny says the typhoon has spoiled a lot of bananas and beans-it looks like our prediction of a couple a months ago that the commissary would soon not be able to get much in has come true-a heck up of our bean supply shown that we have beans to last us till about the 20th of March-~~1946~~ we are very fortunate to have them and they constitute the backbone of our diet. We have quit having them fried for the evening meal and now have them only at noon in order to conserve our supply.

Joe is going to sing a solo in the Christian program and he is practising

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the thing around here.

Dec 13-14-15-16-17-Seen like it gets easier and easier to dope this little task of writing in here-I keep telling myself it is due to fact I am running low on paper-don't know whether I am going to have enough or not. Have passed Dec 15 which was my "date" for a long time-have also passed a few dates on the chart that Spade and I made and what we predicted has not come to pass-if we allowed ourselves, we could get pretty discouraged about the litaration, but we keep our being optimistic-it is easier to bite off a period of 3 or 4 months, and when that has gone by to take another bites-time continues to pass pretty rapidly, but I find myself getting more and more discontented, especially in the evenings. Japanese issued an order a couple of days ago that there would be no smoking inside the enclosure after 9:00 pm-this is just another harassing order. I just read-a book entitled "Withier Four Walls" written by a couple of British officers about their experiences as prisoners of the Germans in the last war-it was interesting to contrast their experience with ours-about the only thing that was the same was that they were bothered with bed bugs, too. They spent all their time attempting to escape, each attempt being followed by capture and another attempt until they finally were successful-here you only attempt once-you are either successful or you are caught and beaten to death.

Japanese continue to release shoes and the condition of shoes is becoming better and better-shoes that are repairable are being fixed and itlocks like most people who have no shoes will get a pair of new ones or repaired shoes except patients in the hospital. Of course there is much discontent over who should get new shoes, but this comes mostly from the chronic "bitchers" who are never satisfied-the general shoe situation will be much improved when the issue is completed-just how many they are going to release is not known-in order to get as many released as possible, it has been ----- to issue some to people who do not really need them such as the band, people who work in the library, mess crew etc., but the more shoes we get released, the better off we are. A lot of these dumb checks drawn here can't see it that way though.

Ghew is pretty rugged these days-no longer can all go without eating rice. All the men is serving is Rice and gravy with a few greens each meal except breakfast of lugeo plus bread once a day. The issue is really no better than it was a year ago last October when we were starving-Johnny gets about 2 liters of grease a day-no meat. Claire and Joe and I are lucky to have a supply of beans on hand which gives us one pretty good meal a day. Of course, we have the Red Cross boxes, but the few cans in them don't provide the necessary bulk to fill us up and we have them don't provide the necessary bulk to feel us up and we have 5 men to rice for this which I still hate as much as ever.

The 3 of us figure we can get along pretty well till the end of March, but then our beansand probably our Red Cross chow will be gone and it will really get rough. God, I hope the Yanks are here by then. The commissary is not able to get much stuff anymore-a few bananas, oranges at 39¢ each and tangerines at 17¢ each is all that has come in this week-Johnny says he just can't get the stuff. Conditions are really light on the outside-prices are soaring continually.

Last Christmas we had plenty of food issued by the Japanese, plenty of good cheap food in the commissary, and bulk Red Cross food in the mess-we will not fare so well this remember, January and February.

I was bothered quite a bit by bed bugs last night and on inspection today showed that the springs of my bed were full of them-I took it out in the sun and there must have been 200 or more bugs come out-Charlie took his bed out and we got some hot coals from the kitchen and heated up all the springs and end of the

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beds in order to kill the eggs-hope I can sleep better tonight-my idea of heaven is hope I can sleep better tonight-a beautyrest mattress with nice clean sheets on it and no mosquito bar! (An improvement might be to have a wife in the bed).

There has been no news for several days-a detail of 66 came in from Bilibid yesterday, but brought no current news. A note from Tom Bill says things are pretty tough in Bilibid-last month officers were only allowed to spend ₱3.30 in the commissary and the store was only open once and many did not get to spend that much-if that keeps up, they will run out of tobacco, and that is really tough. Fortunately, they were given all their Red Cross boxes at once- each man got 4 1/2 boxes and a pair of shoes and each man is getting 2 vitamin capsules a day from the medical supplies-so far no medical supplies have came up here.

One of the men who came into camp said he helped unload 1700 bags of mail off a ship-everyone is hoping to get word from home-that would really make this a merry Christmas!

Dec 18-19-20 & 21 - We finally landed on New Britain! This has proved a timely stimulant to our lagging spirits-I even feel that this is good enough excuse to keep from clipping my head on Jan 1 which I agreed to do if we had no news by that time that would indicate that they would be here before it had time to grow out if I cut it then-Joe and I entered into the agreement several months ago, and Johnny Johnson has been waiting for the 1st so he could clip my head, that I am not going to let him-Joe is not convinced-he doesn't think they will be here till after next rainy season making it just about a year from now-he might be right but I can't see it that way-he doesn't think they will try to come in here during the rainy season and thinks they can't get here before the rainy season-I am inclined to agree with the latter, but I don't think the rainy season and thinks they can't get here before the rainy season-I am inclined to agree with the latter, but I don't think the rainy season will stop them. I have said I wouldn't predict anymore, but I will try ones more and say I expect them to be on Luzon by the end of May.

Joe's cold is getting better slowly-weather has been bad lately-much wind and pretty cold at night-bad weather for colds and hard on our already short tempers.

We got some coffee in today/26.50 a kilo - it is green and so is leaves-a kilo is about 2 2/3 canteen cups-not much coffee-we had a kilo ordered, so we took it-probably the last we'll buy-we have nearly 3 kilos of soluble coffee on hand so should be (fixed for coffee for about 3 months-after that, we will drink tea or water. However, can't spend money for anything much anyway, so we don't feel so bad about it-pepper is in at about ₱2.25 an ounce, cinnamon at about ₱1.00-pampelos are 60¢ - were 15¢ 2 months ago-American pesos are bringing 20 of these Japanese pesos - this Japanese currency is very plentiful, but will buy nothing-in other words, the islands are suffering from inflation, the money being valueless.

Christmas will soon be here-when the Japanese were asked if we could have a holiday, they said maybe, but don't expect it every year-if we are here another year we shall surely starve. A detail went in to Cabanatuan yesterday and immediately rumors of mail started-the detail loaded wood.

Tom's charitable organization in Manila (nobody knows who as Americans were not allowed to approach the touch) brought in a truckload of stuff for in-each man get a lemon, 7 cigars, 2 pieces of candy, 4 bananas and there was some soap, beans, and clothing-we are not altogether forgotten.

Many rumors of local nature, none of which are generally believed such as bombings of Davao, unidentified planes over Manila. Okamoto, the officer in

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charge of the farm kept today-yesterday he lined up the farm details and made a farewell speech saying he hoped the war would be over soon so that we could all go home, but that he appreciated our cooperation on the farm, that he hoped we all kept our health. His going is a great joy to the camp for, though he has improved a great deal of late, he was responsible for a great many beatings of Americans on the farm-may his ship be torpedoed! Dec 22-30-Haven't edited for a good many days due to various events centring around Christmas and inspections and also due to the fact that I got hold of "Orphans of the Pacific" and had to read it in such a hurry that I got an awful headache that lasted for about 3 days-feel better now, however-Joe's and Claire! Colds are about cured, so we are facing a new year in pretty good health-this has been an eventful period and - I will try and remember and record the events as they occurred-I am rapidly approaching the end of this volume which I said would surely last me the duration of our stay here-I don't know what to think I am about to quit predicting the time of our release from this hell-hell-maybe it will be a matter of another year as some people think-little did any of us realize last Christmas that we would spend another here-very, very few think this year that we will be here yet another Christmas but who can tell-this I can say-if we are here next Christmas we will be a starved lot and husky to be alive. However, being of an optimistic nature and having great faith in Uncle Sam, I expect to be out long before then-maybe to Japan-rumors are again sending large drafts of us to Japan within a couple of months-who knows? I would like to be released here and go on with our troops to China-I feel that I have been so useless to my country in this war and I would like some chance to in a small way redeem my self-respect-the first war in my course as a professional soldier and I have to spend it as a prisoner of these people-damn the luck! The Japanese released all of the new shoes finally and wedid very well in this barracks and I believe the whole camp and very well I believe that nearly everyone now has a pair of new or repairable shoes-after most of the personnel in the barracks had been outfitted, Joe and Charlie and I got new shoes-I was lucky to get my size-it is the first time I have had a pair that fit me since the Japanese soldier looted for mine in Bataan and gave me his which were too large-Claire got a pair when the orchestra was issued shoes, so we are pretty well fixed for shoes-it is a pleasure to have something to wear on your feet-I guess I haven't worn shoes more than 10 times in the last year-we are supposed to wear our new shoes only when necessary, but I am going to wear mine most of the time. Joe had a good pair of shoes, but they were too large for him, so he was able to turn them in and get a pair that fit him.

On Dec 23, the Japanese issued all the Old Gold they took out of the Red Cross packages-they took the outside wrapper off so we couldn't see the little victory verse-we never expected to see them, so they were gravy-amounted to 5 packages and 5 cigarettes per man.

On Dec. 24, the Japanese release another Red Cross box for issues-this box was another Invalid Package and had not been opened-the Japanese inspection had opened a number of the Invalid Packages which we received last time and they didn't find any Old Golds in them so they didn't bother to inspect these-there were two different kinds of boxes just like last time, but then seemed to be more of the different box-Joe and I look got a different box than last time, Claire, box seemed to be the better of the two because of the corned beef, chocolate bars, and canned fish, but we are glad to get either kind-Joe's and my box contained more soup and was called in camp along this "liquid box" - it

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contained the following items that the other box did not have-

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|------------------------------|---|
| 1 - can Bakers Cocoa | Every package had 9 or 10 package of cigarettes |
| 4 - pkg Pea Soup concentrate | on it-we got all Chesterfield-----have done |
| 1 - Can Orange concentrate | very well on cigarette this year- Over 20 |
| 2 - box crackers | packages each man so far and more to come. |

These items were in ----- of 1 - can corned beef - 1-can salmon, 2-bars chocolates-D*rations, 9-box vitamin C, 1-can Fern, 1-can coffee.

These boxes came at the right time for us-we had eaten most of our previously issued boxes.

Another pleasant surprise of the week came from the commissary-Johnny got in a load of citrus fruit from Batangas, mostly tangerines and we started up on them at 17¢ a piece-get about 85 of them and have been enjoying them very much. When we totalled up the books at the end of last week, we found that we had spent about ₱80.00 in one week-coffee was the largest item, of course, but we spent about ₱20.00 on pepper at ₱2.39 an ounce, some cinnamon and a few odds and ends. Prices continues to rise and it is just a matter of time till we won't be able to get anything, so we spend the money wherever we can and glad of the opportunity-anything that come in now at a price will surely cost more the next time it comes in, so we say buy now as long as we have the money.

This about bring us up to the events of Christmas-the Cabanatuan Art Players had a show scheduled for Christmas eve, but the Japanese chose that night to favor us with a movie, so the show was postponed like the following night-the movie was American, but it had been cut to pieces so badly, that it was not very good-even the title and cast had been cut out, so we don't even know what the picture was-George Murphy was the star and Gertrecher Nessen sang some songs, but it was rather a poor show, although we appreciated it-anything American is a Godsend.

After the show, we went back to our barracks; the Glee Club went caroling and sang for their supper. At 11:00 pm, the mess served hot tea and cookies-real "store" cookies that came in on the Red Cross truck the other day. At Midnight, we went down to mess for a little while, but it was cold, so we came home early.

Next morning, had coffee & steamed prunes in the mess and went to Protestant Church services in the boiling hot sun. The mess tried to have its by meal for supper, but they didn't have much to give us due to the scarcity of food-had a few mango beans that also come in on the Red Cross truck and some cake with jam on it.

Christmas night we assembled at the stage for the show-Zero's players put on the Christmas Story featuring Ben Mosul as "Scrooge" - they had practiced a great deal and the show was very well presented-I know I had a lump in my throat at the closing scene. The Glee Club ----- and Joe sang a solo which he did very well as usual.

The Day after Christmas was Sunday, so no details-Claire left early in the morning saying he was going to release - I thought it was pretty strange, but said nothing. At noon, he hadn't come back and I told Joe that I could bet when he did come back, he would be "gee-d"-sure enough he was-on "square face" gin straight. He was supposed to go back at 1:00 p.m. for a big feed but he

W. J. H. H. H.

)Continued)

went to bed and slept instead. Made both Joe and I jealous-of course, all kidded him a lot about it.

The Christmas spirit this year has been good-more decoration on barracks etc. have appeared this year than last. But, we are not in happy as we were last year, I don't believe. We received packages this year, it is true, but the ones last year, I don't believe. We received packages this year, it is true, but the ones last year meant more to us because they made such a difference to us, then-they were such a contrast to what we had been receiving-then we had just been paid for the first time-the food in the mess was good-we had many things to make us gloriously happy. This year, we didn't expect to be here and we have lived pretty well during the last year, so this year's boxes do not find us starved as we were last year. May next year's Christmas be happier than this! Of course, we were told that we would have mail, by Christmas, but none has been forthcoming.

We were agreeably surprised to be paid on Dec 27. I guess they wanted to get it out of the way before the first of the year which is their time for celebration-expect holidays Jan 1, 2 and 3.

We haven't had any meat in the mess for some time-in lieu of it they are giving us Japanese fish about once a day-the stuff smells to high heaven and is not very tasty-I don't eat mine, but if 2 or 3 months unless things get better, I will have to start eating it.

On Dec. 28th we were notified that the following day, there would be a shake-down inspection by the Japanese-everything must be displayed. The night of the 28th found us doing a lot of gardening getting rid of extra clothes, diaries, etc. for we didn't know what they would take. The boys in the barracks in the back were digging where guards could see them-it is said that at midnight, the guard hollered and said "Take a break-Yasame".

At any rate, dawn broke on the 29th to disclose a windy day with occasional showers-we just got our stuff all out on the ground at 9:00, the appointed time, when it started to rain, so we took it in again. The Japanese started in 2 places in camp with different posties-we sent out scouts and learned that they were different picking up messkit knives and notebooks, so we hastily put these items out of sight. After waiting around all day in a state of confusion, we were finally inspected at about 3:00 pm. Just as they got to us, it started to rain a little harder, and they went through in like a flash and took Richmond-I could have had a Tommy gun and half-sack of ammunition. As soon as they finished, they said take it in, and the ground was really cleared in rapid time.

Today (30th) the Japanese are having an inspection and they are doing the digging-whereas a lot of our stuff went on the fence to the Japanese area on the night of the 28th, last night the Japanese stuff was coming back over to our side-soldiers are the same this world over.

If the inspection had not caused so much trouble, it would have been funny-even so a lot of funny stories have popped up-they say that in the hospital, someone had not buried his stuff deep enough and the Japanese found it, uncovered it and inspected it, took a mess kit knives, through the stuff back in the hole and kicked some dirt on it. In the civilian behay, one man had a lot of personal papers laying on his bed-one of the soldier came in and started to gather up the papers-one of the civilians handed him a pack of chesterfields and he dropped the papers and left. I was worried about our barracks records-rosters, commissary records etc.,

by T. [unclear]

(Continued)

so I left them on our table in front of the barracks-none of them even looked at them. The inspection was apparently a routine thing ordered by Manila and they were just as glad to get it over with as we were. We were fortunate to be nearly the last barracks to be inspected - they took 15 or 20 minute with each man.

Raining off and on today-glad it held off told the inspection was over although it tried yesterday - a pair like we had last night wouldn't have been so good on some of the gardens.

Dec 31 - Jan 4 For a period of about a month, there has been very little coming in or going out in the way of notes-some one was caught bringing notes in and now they search anyone who goes out or comes into camp-truck drivers and all.

On New Year's eve, we had a program which was a review of some of the acts that have been put on in the last 18 months Zero acted as MC and it went over very well-after the program the band played around camp until midnight-served little cakes-I stayed up till about 11:30 and there went to bed-I was awakened by the shouts at midnight, however. Everyone seemed to be in good spirits making a lot of noise; some were aided by gin at a 100 pesos a grandy-much too much for us to pay. I was rather inspired that the Japanese let us make so much noise- they have been very lenient thruout this holiday season-have been no work details since Dec 29 until today when they called for the wood detail and a small farm detail. One of the reasons is that they have been celebrating, too-the New Year.

On the first, Joe and I clipped on heads-we made an agreement about 6 months ago that we would clip our heads on Jan 1 of the war news did not indicate that we would be out of here soon. The war news certainly does indicate any relief for us in the near future, so we had it cut off. I hated to because I had a good head of hair that had taken me about 8 months to grow and I was proud of it-however, I'll have time to grow another one. This was Joe's first time to see his naked head and he was anxious to do it to see what it looked like-I had mine shaved once before and so it was no thrill for me. However, we made the agreement and went through with it. Right after breakfast, I went down to have Johnny cut it off because he has been kidding me for some time about cutting it off and said he was going to take first cut-so I went down to give him the chance, but he said he wouldn't be responsible for it-especially not as cold as it was-so I had to let the barber do it-and it has been cold nights-I woke up in the morning with the blanket pulled on my head.

We made ourselves some new cups out of Fern cans in the Red Cross packages. They are smaller and we figure we can make our coffee last longer by using smaller cups.

Not much news this days-this New Year was different from last with that people are admitting to themselves that it is possible that we might be here even another year-last year none us thought it possible that we would be here now. Joe seem to think it will be another year, but I can't see it that way.

I have a whole sack of potatoes by my bed-last week we got 20 kilos and this week are 30 more-that is 110 lbs. of potatoes-we figure will be anything we can eat as long as it comes in - when we have other things to eat, we can save our beans. Which we backlog. Some day nothing will be coming in-and then its going to get tough. We have also been getting some ----- on the cob at 8¢ on ea-anything to eat we will buy. We are not using much of our Red Cross chow either on larger we have other things to eat-we try to spend all our

W/T
 Madon

(Continued)

money each month-to convert it into some kind of food or tobacco because it is fast losing its value in this awful place.
 Jan 5 - 11 - It's happened-Joe and I have steadfastly kept away from leaving to play bridge all these years because of the arguments it always seems to get people in, but we finally encumbered for want of anything to do and prodded a little by Claire who undertook to teach us. We played like friends for a couple of days-every minute we could spare-but then we came to the end of the week and had to figure commissary books and it broke up our bridge. About that time I got "American Doctor's Odyssey from the library and now we all leave to read it, so we have temporarily suspended bridge, but we have at least broken the ice-it's been so long since I've played a card game other than cribbage or solitaire that I find the playing difficult and get it conferred with pineckle which I used to play a lot during the war. Bridge is the game around here, though-you can't pass an officer's barracks without seeing 2 or 3 games in progress.

Joe now has access to a Spanish book in the mornings and says he will teach Claire and I Spanish-I don't know how long this will last-probably not long.

Everything has settled down now ----- the holidays and we are back in routine - details have been pretty light-about 10 or 12 a day out of our bahay-this means the "duty" people work about 1/2 day out of every 2 days. The "honey" detail is now taking "honey" from our latrines to put on the form.

The weather has been very disgusting for the last week-the wind blows most all day keeping everything dusty and the nights get very cold. Joe caught another cold and has been feeling pretty bad the last couple of days. We sleep with our clothes on-can't take baths without freezing-really uncomfortable all the way around. Damn the tropics anyway.

Quite a stink has been carried in this group by the failure of the commissary to keep an accurate inventory of their beans on hand and ending up about 8 sacks short. This caused a great deal of righteous indignation on the part of individuals who were depending on those beans for quon. The commissary was totally responsible and agreed to make them up-the sergeant who kept the accounts was relieved and the commissary officer was made assistant a new one. It was nothing but goose negligence. Fortunately, I had noticed that the supply didn't appear to be equal to the amount it should be and I drew out 30 cups of our beans the day before they disclosed ----- this is 2 months quon for us and is our backlog that we don't eat when we have anything else. We have been eating camotes and corn of late and haven't been eating any beans. Today we received about 3/5 of the loss from the commissary - of course, if there had been no orders and we would have more beans. At any rate, it was inexcusable negligence and I believe the coming officer should have been relieved. The commissary is not going to keep beans in the future-they will issue and accept only beans to be cooked each day which means a lot of fooling around with 1/6 cup and 1/4 cup measures.

Jan 12-17-The other day, Lt Harada passed by the dysentery area while the band was playing at the dysentery mess. Harada sent for the camp Adjutant and wanted to know what the band was doing in the dysentery area-the camp adjutant showed Harada where it was authorized on the weekly schedule which is submitted to the Japanese for approval. At this Harada and it was a Japanese oversight and said that this place was a prison camp and in the future the following regulation concerning music would apply: (1) no music during working hour

P. N. T.
 1/17/48

(Continued)

(2) Band could practice only from 5:00 to 7:00 pm (3) no playing at messes
 (4) Glee Club could practice only from 7:00-8:00 pm (5) Individual singing
 from 8:00-9:00 pm as long as it can't be heard in the Japanese area (6)
 No clapping that can be heard in Japanese area. In addition, they called
 off a movie that was scheduled for last Friday - said we were having too
 much entertainment. You can't figure these deeper-of course, these regulation
 will relax in a couple of weeks just like all of their screwy regulation do-
 it just hurts my pride to think that I am a prisoner of these child-brainer
 people!

The details are getting a little heavier now and the attitude of the
 guards in changing again-these are more beatings and they are much harder
 to get along with-can't figure them out at all-they are treacherous as snakes.

Joe answered a call for volunteers to give a blood transfusion and was
 accepted. He gave about a pint of blood. Didn't seem to affect him any
 except make him a little tired the rest of the day. They gave him 2 large
 cans of sardines to help build himself up, and in spite of Claire's and my
 insistence, Joe made us shove it with him-we had a nice loaf last night and
 still have one can left.

We nearly had a rift in the family-Joe has ----- to a Spanish Cook
 in the mornings and he wanted Claire and I to study with him-we did for a
 couple of days, then Claire and I decided to play bridge one morning for
 change-we asked Joe and he said definitely no, that we should choose between
 bridge and Spanish-we chose bridge, so now we play nearly every morning and
 he studies Spanish. He plays with us in the afternoon sometimes. I don't
 know whether I'll ever be a good player or not-I make many errors and surely
 vex Claire.

The Russian are apparently doing pretty well in Poland-hope they will
 get Germany out of this thing now. Don't do much forecasting anymore. Julio
 the first of the year, I have developed an attitude of writing and realizing
 that it can last a long time and believing that, as in the last war, the war
 is being run by politics and when the politician get ready, the soldiers
 can go ahead and win it and not till then.

Weather has been nasty the last few days-cold, windy and dusty.
 Jan 17-23-The new slogan around here now is "The Reds & Sleds" instead of
 "The Yanks & Tanks" and more and more we fell like putting are trust in
 the Russian instead of the Yanks-of course, nobody really means this, but
 it does appear that something is holding up the progress of our troops in
 this theatre. The attitude around here is one of resignation. People are
 planting gardens and most of us expect to be here most of this year unless
 we go to Japan-predictions are few and far between as we are beginning to
 realize we don't have sufficient information here to make any surmises -
 all we can do is guess and we have done that so many times and been wrong that
 most of us have first.

We received another of our Red Cross boxes Friday, Jan 21-consisted of
 vitamin listed on top of next page. In addition the got in enough beans
 to make up all of the shortage and nearly fill the new orders. We have about
 100 days supply of beans as bored-are trying to sore them until the green
 stuff quite causing in.-They are getting -----in them and we are treating
 them by getting them baked in the oven over at the kitchen-kills all the
 weeds-don't know how long they will stay out. Eating around here is a
 source of constant long-range placing-an attempt to lay in a supply against
 the day when prices will be so high we can't buy anything more through the

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 1/21

(Continued)

commissary. The bugs make it difficult to keep stuff very long. Our plan now is to eat stuff we can buy-right now it is camotes and a little corn-to save our beans till the fresh stuff run out, and last of all the canned food which we know will keep. We have bought as many camotes and stuff this month (7 kilos) that we had to borrow some money-I managed to put the bite on Col Shreve for \$10.00-we have spent all our money already this month and are penniless. We used to save a cash reserve, but now we convert our money into food because the rising prices make money practically valueless.

We sold 5 of our can of Red Cross coffee for \$10.00 each and bought 2 kilos of bulk coffee which is better-so we are filed for coffee for a while-I will be sorry when we rises out of it.

Jan 23-31-Pay Day today! Sure glad to get it-can pay Col Shreve both and we can start buying again. Col Wilson came over the other day and took a look at Joe's head and called him "egg-head" - his head is shaped a little like an egg-don't notice it when his hair is long.

All the talk around camp now is of mail-5 or 6 boys came in a few days ago and they are putting them out at the rate of about 50 a day. They skip around the alphabet, so nobody knows when these turn will come. Some people received 7 or 8 letters most of them are written in the early months of last year. Certainly hope I rate one-apparently they are only allowed to write one page and as pretty well restricted in what they say. Any word will be mighty worthwhile!

Am trying to consume paper-don't know when I'll get another notebook-some food is still bad-had carabao once in last 2 months-get a little fish daily (about a teaspoonfull)*otherwise rice and greens. We are eating beans and camotes-get weevils in our beans, so we put them all through the oven-killed weevils alright, but they will be back, so we figured we better start eating them. Have enough coffee on hand for 3 months if we drink it twice a day and six months if we drink it only for breakfast-so we quit having it for supper - looks like another year to do in this place, so we have to stretch everything as far as we can - sugar is \$500 to \$700 a sack on the outside now-prices are out of reason.

Feb 1 - 4 - Hope all the months of '44 are not as long in passing as has been January-Mail continues to occupy center of attention-still putting out from 50 to 100 per day-there are supposed to be about 24,000 letters so it is clear how long it will take to put them out at the present rate-the Japanese interpreter is getting quite a kick out of reading them-they have already been censored once by US authorities and arise by Japanese authorities in Manila-sure is discouraging to wait so long for a letter that we are reasonably sure is over across the road at Japanese Headquarters.

Japanese cut the rice ration from 550 to 400 gram per man with exception of 650 grams (same as before) for working men-this with a proviso that camotes or corn maybe issued in lieu of rice. In making the cut, they were careful to explosives that the cut was being made all over their own army and in Japan. If the US resorts to starving these people out, it is going to be hard on us! The ration cut doesn't affect our little group any, but is hard on the enlisted men who have had to learn to eat a lot of rice to live and who work hard everyday.

Japanese commander and staff inspected camp yesterday and as a result, we have to fold clothing, bedding and prepare equipment for inspection daily.

Sp. K. T.
 Admitt.

(Continued)

Several persons had dry holes under their barracks where they could put their tables and eat and sit out of the wind and sun. These must be fixed at once. Seen this one aim in life is to keep in from having any comforts at all or living with any degree of convenience. Everytime they inspect, it results in some more inconvenience or reduction of privileges. We have to be inside and quiet now at 9:00 pm daily-just another thing to make us more uncomfortable.

High Command in The Philippines

Before Mar. 11, 1942 US Army Forces in Far East	After Mar. 11, 1942 US Forces in the Philippines
C.O. General Douglas MacArthur	Lt Gen Jonathan M. Wainwright
Asst-de-Camp Lt Col LeGrand A. Diller	Lt Col John Pugh and Major Tom Dooley
C of S Major Gen Richard K. Sutherland	Brig. Gen Lewis C. Beebe
Dep. C of S Brig Gen Richard J. Marshall	---
G-1 Col Charles F. Stevens	Col Nunez C. Pilet
G-2 Col Charles A. Willoughby	Col Stuart Wood
G-3 Col Constant L. Irwin	Col Jesse T. Traywick
G-4 Col Lewis C. Beebe	Col Galbraith, Nicoll F.
AG Brig Gen Carl H. Seals	-Same-
I.G. Col Milton J. Hill	-Same-
FA Maj Gen Edward F. King	-Same as Luzon Forces-
CA Brig Gen William F. Marquatt	-Same-
JAG Col Emil T. Rawitson	Colonel Theodore T. Teague
Signal Brig Gen Spencer B. Akin	-Same-
Surgeon	-Same-
QM Brig. Gen Charles C. Drake	Colonel Charles M. Savage
Air Brig Gen Harold H. George	Same
Ordnance Colonel George H. Hirsch	Same
Chaplain Lt Col Alfred C. Oliver	Colonel Wesley H. Stickney
Engineer Brig. Gen Hugh J. Casey	Same
Hq CC Capt Earl R. Short	-Same-
Prov. M. Colonel James A. N. Weaver	-Same-
Finance Colonel Royal G. Jenks	-Same-
Tanks Brig. Gen. James A. N. Weaver	-Same-

General MacArthur departed for the South on March 11, 1942. The Party went in two Navy patrol boats to the Southern Islands, then by plane to Australia. Party consisted of General & Mrs. MacArthur, the same, the asst Diller, Stevens, Willoughby, Sutherland, Marshall, Casey, Marquatt, Akin, Scher, and our Navy Officer.

On April 26, 1942, 2 Navy PB's left Corregidor and carried eleven nurses, Gen Seals, Wood, etc. 24 in each plane. One of these landed on lake in Mindanao and damaged a ponton so it could not take off again. Gen Seals was on this one-the party was captured.

On May 2, one submarine left Corregidor and took Irwin, Jenks, eight nurses.

Luzon Force Headquarters - April 8, 1942

CG Brig Gen Edward F. King, Jr.
Aides Major Wade Cothron and Capt. AC Tisdale

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CGS Brig. Gen Arnold J. Funk
 G-1 Colonel Floyd Marshall
 G-2 Lt Col Frank Holland
 G-3 Colonel John V. Collier
 Asst G-3 Lt Col Edward C. Mack
 Asst G-3 Major Marshall H. Hart, Jr
 G-4 Colonel Roy Hilton
 Ass't G-4 Lt Col Arthur L. Shreve
 AG Lt Col Earl T. Halstead
 IG Colonel Gilmer Bell
 SA Colonel Gilmer Bell
 FA Colonel Edward C. Williams
 C.A. Lt. Col Guy H. Stubbs
 S&G None-Service Command
 Signal Colonel Scheus Stencel
 Surgeon Lt Col Giles F. Gillespie
 QM Colonel Charles S. Lawrence
 Ordnance Colonel George H. Hirsch
 Chaplain Lt Col Alfred C. Oliver, Jr.
 Engineer Major William A. Gay
 HQ CO Capt Milton S. Sheldon
 FM Colonel James R. Maness
 Tanks Brig Gen James H. N. Weaver

Cards Headquarters - April 8, 1942

I Corps

II Corps

CO Maj Gen Albert M. Jones
 Aides Capt Paul A. Kreuss-1-Lt Peter Perkins
 C of S Colonel William Baker
 G-1 Major Houston F. Housen
 G-2 Lt Col Hampton E. Montgomery
 G-3 Colonel Frank Nelson, Major Soe
 L. Chabot
 G-4 Colonel Giles Merrill
 AG Lt Col A. E. Uddenberg
 QM Colonel Alfred Balson
 Surgeon Lt Col Robert Gaskill
 Crd. Lt Col Ulysses J. L. Peoples
 Signal Major James N. Vaughn
 Eng. Colonel Harry Skerry

Maj Gen George M. Parker
 Major John Heigen
 Colonel Charles L. Steel
 Lt Col Ovid O. Wilson
 Lt Col Dennis M. Moore, Major Houston R.
 Wynkoop, Major Arthur G. Christenson
 Lt Col H. D. Johnston Major Harry B.
 Packard, Major Wm J. Dunsmyer
 Lt Col John A. Bennett, Capt Paul
 Fearson, Capt. Adolphe Geisecke
 Lt Col Thomas M. Turpley, Jr.
 Lt Col William E. Durst
 Lt Col Willis H. Drummond
 Major Maynard Shell
 Lt Cl. Stowell
 Major William A. Chenoweth

Fifty-Seventh Infantry - April 8, 1942

CO Col Edmund J. Lilly
 Exec. C. Lt Col. Broken
 S-1 Capt John H. Olson
 S-2 Capt. Anders

G Capt Tom Chilcote
 H-Capt Louis Dash
 I-1-Lt Schermerhorn
 K-Capt Charles Heas
 L-Capt. Brown

Byt.
 August.

(Continued)

B-3	Major Roy Reynolds	M-1-Lt	Fleetwood
B-4	Major E. Reed Vendall		
1-4n	Major Robert G. Scholes		
2-2n	Lt Col Hal C. Gronberry		
3-2n	Lt Col Harold K. Johnson		
Hq Co	Capt Charles H. Laughon		
Serv. Co.	Capt. Jack T. Newirth		
A	Capt. Fred Yeager		
B	Capt. Anthony		
C	Capt. Mills		
D	Capt. Wermath		
E	Capt. Don C. Childers		
F	Capt. Anderson		

Interesting Figures

Deaths-

At O'Donnell (Approx.) 1560
 At Cabanatuan to Date (8 Sept 43) 2646
 Largest No. per day-47 (7-12-42)
 Total No. of known deaths to Sept 43-over 5000
 Deaths by month-Cabanatuan-June 560; July 786; Aug. 287
 Became P of W) Sept 262; Oct 265; ----- 296 (Began getting meat daily) Dec 149
 (Started eating Red Cross food end of Dec) Jan 73; Feb 10; Mar 9; April 2;
 May 1; June 4; July 2; Aug 2;

Approximate deaths by cause:- Malaria 738; Dysentery 1374; Diphtheria 133;
 Beri-beri 183; Pellegra 89, Amcebic 12.

Estimated No. of Filipino Deaths at O'Donnell-25,000-30,000. as high as 400
 per day at one time, this out of an estimated total of from 35,000 to 40,000
 Filipinos in the camp.

5-19-44

I noticed a group of about 20males around the garbage pit this morning.
 Upon asking Mr. Benthien what they were doing, I learned that they were waiting
 for the garbage to be dumped so they could salvage from them. He said they often
 fight over the ends off of the canotes. I learned also that they organize a
 gang and form a protecting cordca around one of their number while he picks up
 the scraps-they divide it later. That is how hungry the men are.

5-31-44- Frid. naval amount.

6-1-Hunger, hunger, hunger-men bringing in weeds from detail and cooking them.
 6-8-Run out of milk this date. It has lasted well-about 6 months.
 6-9-Rec'd letter from grandmother-Glaire got two letters same night.
 6-14-weight 132 esc. - thinks about nothing but food. Hungry all the time.
 Can't get much from commissary-prices rising fast out of reason.
 6-18-Been here 2 years today-what a life!
 6-24-Have a full stomach for a change and oh how good it feels. Commissary has
 functioned well this week. Got in full order of ripe bananas and we are eating
 on full. We have spent 60th this week. Bananas are 15¢ each, Fambton 8.00 a cup

WCT:
 AUSTROT.

(Continued)

Beans 5.35 a cup. Claire sold ring for 260.00 and we bought 10 cups rice for 120.00--got a good price--general price or 16-18 pesos.

Detail of 460 leaving for Japan soon.

Many people voluntarily want a change of any kind. Not me--I'll stick it out here as long as they'll let me.

6-27--Japanese sentries moved inside--no more Am. guard 1200 of Davao detail in Bilibid. 460 man detail leaving here tonight for Japan.

6-28 - Detail of about 700 arrived from Mindanao. Housed in old hospital area and are being kept strictly incommunicado--Bish and others were on a detail in Cebastuan helping with baggage and they saw Shorty Langdon. Jack Newirth, milk Baldwin, James, and others that we knew. Hope we can talk to them some day, but can't do it now.

- Am convinced that this Japanese are purposely not feeding us--vegetables are going to waste on the farm. And we are all hungry. What a life.

A recent survey of camp shows 52% having edema or pellagra - and the vitamin pills run out early next month. Hope the Yanks get here soon.

7-2--Pay Day today--usual amount. Doesn't buy much anymore. We are very happy that commissary got some coffee in and we had 2 kilos ordered--Price is P/20.00 a kilo which is reasonable compared to other prices--Should be about a 3 months supply for us, because we use it carefully--sure is nice to have.

Today we booked out a pack of long-brown dobbies that I brought in to camp when I came in--they were bought in Manila in May of 1942. Last July (43) Joe and I started to smoke them and we decided to wait a year never thinking we would still be here. But here we are, so we opened them yesterday. They are a novelty in here--it has been over a year since any have been available.

Tobacco is scarce--we have been on a ration (the 3 of us) since June 15--have enough ahead to last us till the end of the year. Many people are out and only a little comes in the commissary. In camp here, cigarettes sell for 40¢ each and a pack of tobacco (250 grams) is worth anywhere from P20.00 to P50.00.

Men continue to "guano" weeds, roots, etc to try and get filled up--some have been sick from eating poisonous roots.

7-10 Many changes around here. We have a new Japanese camp commander who is making lots of changes--most of them have been toward putting his own officers to work--makes them count all work details in and out--makes them count all work details in and out--makes the --- count every man in camp both morning & evening roll call--this means we have to stand in formation for anywhere from 1/2 hour to an hour and a half. We have to get up at 5:15 am so that they have time to do it.

Japanese sentries have been inside now for about a week--the CO and Sgt of the guard spend more time inside nosing around now.

Rec'd a very nice letter last night from Helen & Carl ----- .

Camp has been re-organized--we are now in Division II - 34 didn't move, but the fence was moved down to include us. Mean we have to change commissaries etc. Later of work and none of us like the change. However, nothing we can do about it.

7-23--A great day here in camp - the Davao crowd moved over from the other side--what an uproar and meter with "God" see you's" and "where is so and so's" ringing out on every hand. Glad to see all the boys again.

Most of them who left here on Oct of 42 came back and a number of the boys who went south with the PA before the war including Dick Hill, ----- Baldwin, John Goldrop, Charlie Hayt and others. All came up but 650 who are working on our airfield on Mindanao.

497:
 Ardant

(Continued)

The boys are not in as good shape as we are, due mainly to the boat trip they had coming up. On the way up, they put in at Zamboanga and while there, one officer escaped by jumping overboard. After that they ordered everybody below decks and kept them there in the hall for 20 days on 2 meals a day. It was very hot and crowded -really an ordeal.

The boys report that it was very nice at Davao until several people escaped, and after that they cut the draw and the privilege and it was very tough. They worked them very hard-mostly in the rice fields-they raised and processed all their own rice. There was plenty of fruit, coconuts, coffee, etc. just outside the compound, but they couldn't let them have them. They are all glad to get back up here.

Since they have come on this side, the details have been very heavy-many "quarters" men go out daily-assistant barracks leaders have been relieve, and I am straight "Only" but Charlie and I alternate-are works one day and one the next. The only saving faster is that the work you are required to do is not hard-I spent all day yesterday sitting down straightening nails. The "workers" ration which is supposed to be 250 grams of rice extra is 2 ears corn raw which is not much of an incentive to work. Ordinarily the boy don't mind going out to get that extra cup of lugao out noon and night, but for an ear of corn each meal, it isn't worth it. The Japanese allow a 40% weight allowance for the cob and the shucks, but at isn't nearly enough.

We are supposed to be getting the following ration.

Rice-400 gr.-receive 370
 Rice (workers) 250 - 2 ears corn
 Fish - 16.2
 Panutsa-18.2
 Vegetable-200
 Salt-25
 Oil-15
 Tea-1 -get none
 Meat -100 plus 50 extra for workers-get none
 Fruit-30-twice weekly-get none.

Corn came in the commissary at 70¢ an ear-we bought 2 and cut them up cab and all, boiled them and put them in a loaf. Part of the cob was pretty hard and called for a lot of chewing.

Weather has been bad-rainy & windy all week-fortunately it was nice today for the Davao crowd to move.

We are just sort of happy on now hoping that we can stay here and not go to Japan and maybe get out by the end of the year.

The food to really light and every waking hour is a hungry one.

8-13-Sunday-A number of things of interest and import have been happening since I last wrote. I should enter things in here more often, but look necessary drive to make myself do it. Will try and do better. The trouble is we have because so accustomed to being pushed around, lined up twice a day in the rain to be counted, sleeping in damp beds, putting on wet clothes etc. that things that would seem important to others hearing about it really don't make much difference to be anymore.

One thing I forget to mention about the Davao crowd-they made them ride from their camp to Davao, a distance of 20 some kilometers, in trucks, blind-folded tied together and barefoot-about 50 men to a ~~truck~~ truck.

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 August

(Continued)

Just another instance of their tactics.

The most important thing that has happened here recently occurred on the 11th at about 1:00 pm.

2 Lt Robert Huffcutt was shot and killed by a sentry in one of the towers for allegedly being out of bounds. He was working in his garden which is near the inside fence. The details I know only from hearsay, so will not repeat except that he was in no way attempting to escape and that the guard knocked him down with his first shot and then shot him again—purely a case of cold-blooded murder—another case I should say. Huffcutt was in the diplomatic scenes over here and worked for - Bayre so their should be repercussion for the Japanese from that little fiasco.

To further demonstrate how cheap and small they are—they had already made the cigarette issue of 10 per man to the supply office and after the shooting, they came over and took back the 10 for Huffcutt.

Many changes have taken place in here since my last writing that have affected me. The work details have continued heavy and in an effort to make more men available, the group CO relieved all sec't Sks. Loks. and made them available for duty. So I turned my commissary accounts over to Charlie and went to work. I really enjoyed the change and the extra food—slept better nights. I made a couple of details that took me outside of camp and I enjoyed very much seeing the natives and watching the little kids. I even went to the airport last Sunday. It was very uncomfortable getting wet nearly every day, but it was a rating to, get away from the wrangling ones commissary issues after 11 months of it.

Many of the men wanted me to take the commissary back—they don't want Charlie for which they have reason.

After a week, headquarters put us back on special duty and I took the commissary over again and have been very busy with it since.

Johnny has been spending a lot of money this month. The Japanese apparently are disregarding the limit and he feels that it is a good idea to spend all he can now because prices are rising almost daily. So we have been spending our money too picking out what we want to spend it on. We bought a half kilo of leaf tobacco for 18.00. When it is cut up and dried it amounts to about a pound of tobacco—pretty expensive smoking—we do not intend to buy and more—figure we have enough to last about 6 months which ought to see in through. We have several portion of sirup on hand which we can reboil and keep. Corn is coming in now at 55¢ to 70¢ an ear and we get all of that we can & anything to fill up the stomach these days. We hope to get some coffee—price is about 19.00 to 14.00 a canteen cup. Coffee and tobacco keep our spirits up anyway.

Speaking of corn—corn has been coming in the mess for about 3 weeks now and there has been a great demand for the cobs—people wanting to eat them. Some messes even went so far as to issue them to barracks on a population basis the same as they used on a population basis the same as they used to do with squash peels and potato peels. The corn cob eating however had due results causing hospitalization of some cases which had to be operated on to un-plug them. Other cases resulted in punctured intestines. So other cases headquarters had to issue and order that they would not be eaten. That is what hunger will do for people.

Have had a bad cold for about a week, but am getting over it gradually.

W.F. Adams

(Continued)

Bad weather for it-windy and rainy and no medicine at present in dispensary except aspirin.

Mail has been coming in good-about 2500 a week-they are getting down toward the end of the first betels they got. People who haven't received any are getting some now and others are getting them in large numbers at a time. Johnny got 29 the other night-Claire-got 12 out night. I sit and hope each night but doesn't do much good. I got one on the 10th from Mother, but not much news in it-it was short and one of many she has written-no news of Bob. I wonder, he is still at home.

A few telegrams come in occasionally, but I haven't hit one since Feb of '43. We are being allowed to send cards again - only 25 words this time-I sent cards to grandma this time-might make her happy if it gets through. If we can believe all we here, we will beat them home. We are all hopeful for this year if we can stay here. Ships are evidently having trouble getting out of Manila-are submarines are very active.

Today is Sunday and the Nips are busily enjoyed digging bomb shelters in their area. Also the airport detail reports that they are in a hurry for them to finish the revetments they are working on there. Hope their expectation are not disappointed and that it happens soon. Today has been cold, windy-very miserable with a cold.

8-15 - The Japanese Major who commander the camp returned yesterday afternoon-he has been returned yesterday afternoon-he has been away since a few days after he took over the camp. Received orders yesterday for a 500 man detail to leave on the 17th - all enlisted men except for 7 officers 5 line and 2 medical and some corps mess. Apparently they only want men they can work in Japan-suppose they don't mess they can work in Japan-suppose they don't work the officers in Japan as they do here. Probably more closely observed by International Red Cross. When they alone, will cut us down to about 3100 total in camp.

Today was the first day the Davao detail was available for the Airport or the wood detail. Heretofore they have only been available for details close in to camp. They have been considered dangerous by the Japanese since the escapes which occurred on the boat trip up. The airport detail, however, was cancelled at the last minute this morning and we were told there would be no more airport detail. Of course, our similar strategists would have this of great significance, but it also might mean that they don't want to send the Davao crowd out, and with this detail leaving, there are not enough available other peoples to run all the details-who knows?

Also effective today, all details except the wood detail and the truckdrivers are barefoot details i.e. the men must all go without shoes. This is also construed by some to be significant meaning they say that they are afraid we will escape and do this to discourage it, but the people from Davao say that this here CO who was also in command at Davao, is great for having the prisoner barefoot. Again who knows?

They started photographing all prisoners today in groups of 5. Maybe they want some picture in Japan to instruct their people in crime prevention or something.

Everybody is very optimistic these days-I can't get excited-know it will come some day and I am certainly ready. Till then, just have to be hungry and

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(Continued)

unhappy.

8-20 Sunday-I've been putting off waiting in here till today and figured on bringing it up to Gate this afternoon. Now it is 12:00 noon and I find out that I have to work this afternoon. So, we won't be able to make our loaf for tonight and I will have to make this short-to the point.

Many changes in last week-all since Major Takasaki returned. He had a meeting of the staff and later published a memorandum to the whole camp outlining his policy which in short is - everybody must work except a few absolutely necessary overhead. He said further that if anyone who was able to work was found in camp, he would punish them and the Hqs. Ldr.

So I am working every day barefooted! It has been a tough week but my feet are getting a little tougher. The first couple of nights I couldn't sleep because they asked so. I've been out on the farm-mostly harvesting corn-Have to quit for now and get ready to go to work-finish writing when I get in. We just got some fresh corn meal much off of the stone that we hope to eat before we go out-Claire is working these days too as is nearly everybody else-Joe catches it nearly every day too.

Back again-fortunately, we had surely every detail this afternoon and if we get on "A" ration for it we will be lucky-we moved 3 latrine detail that is working today is working on the new assembly area inside of the command-that is the reason for the Sunday detail.

Speaking of the assembly area-we now stand roll call twice a day down in front of Hq in the new assembly area. All of the camp except the hospital assemble in the area and are counted by the Japanese officer of the day. It takes from 45 minutes to an hour twice a day and is held rain or shine-and the weather these days is bad-we have an evening "Roll call" rain nearly everyday.

The worst thing about all this is that you have no time to do anything you want to do. The daily schedule is as follows: 5:20 am. first all for roll call-we line up and are counted in our division area and we then marched to the assembly area-get back anywhere from 6:00 to 6:30, eat breakfast and turn out for details at 6:50. Work till 11:00 am, come in and eat. Then we have told 2:10 pm to ourselves providing I don't have any commissary to issue. Back to work at 2:10, work till 5:00 (or later). (Usually come in in soaking wet clothes) try and get a bath before supper which you can't do if we are first for show. Put back on the wet clothes, to stand roll call in at 6:30 pm-get back about 7:15 or 7:30. Then, usually go to bed because I'm tired we can be and the mosquitoes are bad anyway. That is a normal day, so there is not much time for one's self.

More regulation came out today. Men sick in quarters can't leave the bahay except for a good reason such as latrine, the company commanders have to work every other day-the mess crews were cut from (50 to 25 men) raring Japanese guards will be in the Area to see that no one is about who should be working.

The tiner of all these things are that they are putting the heat on us-they don't need that many men for cooking-it is just hazing. It wouldn't be so bad of they would feed us, but the ration remains the same. The farm is the same as always-the Japanese "incharge" scream, and huller and beat people. Right now we are harvesting corn and then are strict orders against eating any-much of the men do it anyway and usually one or two are caught each day and get a severe beating from the Japanese. To me it is not worth taking a chance and giving them an excuse for beating me up.

I thought I was in the groove finally and was going to get some mail that

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week-I got two letters for two nights and one on the third, but have not hit the last two. My total now is eleven. One of the letters was from Lair & Weit telling among other things about Margarine marriage and referring to a picture which was not present-guess they took it out as it fell out. One of mother's letters said that she had just received the censorship regulation, and her letters after that are masterpieces of evasion-not mentioning any names must be one of the regulation-

(Just found out we will not receive any "A" ration for this afternoon's work-unlucky again).

In mother's letter of April 6, 1943, Bob wrote a couple of lines, the first I have received from him. I wonder a lot about how he has missed being called in the service-seems to me he is about the ideal age and certainly in good health-better for mother to have him home, I guess. Lair said Ken had some more kids-somebody ought to instruct him in birth-control measures-he can't support what he has.

Weighted today for first time in several weeks-weighs 127 pounds-feel pretty good though. Sure hope we are nearing the end-it gets pretty damned hard to take after this long a time. Hope & pray they don't get us out to Japan before the Yanks get here. All for now-start another week of hurry & scurry tomorrow. Our orderly is quitting tonight-he is an old permanent quarters man, but he can't be out of his baby in the daytime, as he is no good to us-don't know when we will get our clothes washed & just leave them dirty I guess.

3-29-44-Another Sunday and nearly the end of another month, thank God-this one will be long hurt my back Monday morning-some old place-have been receiving (nightly treatment and working on details other than the farm since then - hurt it pulling corn. Doctor can't tell me anything about my back-it doesn't bother me it to carry heavy loads, but I can't bend over-funny thing and has bothered me off and on since I have been a prisoner. Haven't done anything as position to protest it and felt that the few A-ray plates they have had ought to be used for more urgent cases-now, thought I am forced to take cognizance of it.

Harry Packard gave me one day off this week to bring my commissary books up to date. Guess he will take over commissary on the first of the month.

Claire has been on the farm every day this week-gets mighty tiresome. They put on more treat on the farm than on the other details-more "speedo & Keeds" - I am working on a detail building revetments around one of the guardhouses. Not a bad detail as they go.

Sure has been out good the last 2 or 3 days-we have been standing roll call in the day for a change-sure is much more pleasant.

The dawg boys received their personal packages on the 25th-just a year since they were mailed-I was sure glad for them-they have been waiting a long time for them-everybody chewing gum again just like when we got our boxes.

We had a batch of hot-cakes this morning-mango bean & rice flour and our morning ration of corn meal much which we are receiving now daily instead of lugac because they are getting so much cash in the ration. There has been no increase in the ration, however, my weight still 127 pounds.

Claire and I have had a busy morning on our "Yasumi" day-we have no orders so we have been letting our dirty clothes pill up for about 2 weeks and we did them all this morning-soaked them over night-It has been a long time since I have washed my own clothes and I resolved this morning that my wife would never wash clothes. I want her to specialize our cooking.

Zero Wilson came by last night and during our talk about condition, he said that we had really not been prisoners before this-we have been living a very good

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 A/S/mt

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life compared to what we are having now. I know that I have been exceptionally fortunate in not having to work every day like some of these boys here. It is an awful life to lead-have no time for anything. Today's rest day will go by in a flash and we will be in for another week of work. Sure is discouraging we always said the last month or two would be bad, but when they "hurry they won't be here in that time and it sure is bad. Will soon be 29 months a prisoner. When will it end? Situation in Europe looks pretty good anyway. No mail the week.

9-3-44-Sunday you and a new month-birthday month for me-28 years old on the 28th-only time that will happen is my life. Worked on shoe details all this week except yesterday-spent most of the week digging fox holes for the Japanese soldiers. Many work-digging most of them in water. They are certainly doing a lot of preparing around here for something.

After 27 months in this camp, they have finally installed electric lights on Broadway-burned the first on Aug 31.

Also on the morning of Sept 1, we completed our first - 2 1/2 hours without rain in some 27 days-however, it rained a great deal on the night of the 1st & 2nd just at supper time and looks like it will do the same tonight-the rain now are usually accompanied by a high wind which blew down the canvas we have on our table outside and in general raised horse with us. Just another discomfort of which we are used to many-in fact do not know anything else.

A detail of 412 left today for Japan-mostly enlisted men, but included 6 line officer and 20 medical officers and 2 chaplains of which one was my very good friend and chaplain of the 57th Inf, Padre Lemire. They were notified only day before yesterday about noon that this would be a detail and the first half of them left yesterday at noon-sure has a hurry up job-had to send some permanent quarters enlisted men and 54 civilian in order to meet the detail. Out the kitchen crew till they had to recruit officers to work in the kitchens. The next detail will have to be an officers detail and all indication around here are that it will be soon. Major Takasaki has made statements indicating that this camp will be cleared out by the end of this month-so it looks we are Japan bound soon. Claire and I are so convinced of it that we are spending the remaining \$75.00 we have our corn from the commissary which we can parch or make into corn bread and take with us corn is now 4.50 a cup shelled-last year it was 15 to 20 cents a cup.

We got 2 cups of rice yesterday in the commissary at \$11.00 a cup. Hope to use them in the hot-cakes though it is hard to get a date to get them cooked with all the corn that has come in the commissary, everybody is baking cakes & corn bread and making hot-cakes. The messes have lots of corn too, but of course it has to be spread out over so many days that it doesn't seem like much. I don't know when I've been as hungry as I has today-I get more hungry for when I am laying around in here than when I am out working-then too, there was no worker's ration -----today which makes a difference. This week they have been saving corn-meal mush for workers both noon and night-it sure is good with a little sirup on it and helps to fill you up.

Claire have been on quarters this week with an infected foot which caused his foot and try to swell up. Many people are having foot infection resulting from going barefoot.

Had a very pleasant surprise this week-received a letter from Betty Brougher written.

Jan - 43. The first I had heard from her since she left here. Was sweet of her to write to me. Also received written letter from mother written after she

Handwritten initials

(Continued)

had received my first card-it was written on another of those fern envelopes and they had censored the outside again cutting up the letter on the inside.

Hopeful for the fall. Germany this month and some more out in this area. Hope it comes in time to prevent our being moved north. Would sure us 6 or 8 months of a prisoner's life I believe at least.

Work continue same around here with everybody and has sick brother going out every day. Only salvation is that it is near the end. Pray to God it will come soon.

8-10-44-another week gone by and we have not left for Japan nor have any details been announced-many rumors, but no details yet. Major Takasaki returned Wednesday and immediately released the special prisoner who have been down in the sub-guardhouse since May. I believe these were only 4 left, the rest having been released to the hospital because of sickness. The only statement made about their release was that their case was still pending investigation.

One thing I forgot to mention last week was that we started sometimes weak before last getting vitamin pills again-one a day for a long as they last.

Have certainly been eating a lot of corn lately as has everybody else and am pulling on weight as also are late of others-I am up to 132 pounds now. Am really enjoying having a full stomach for a -----. Have used most of the corn in mush-it goes farther that way and is easy to get cooked. We stopped eating our canned food about the time we started working because of the extra work ration and the fact that we don't have time to "quan" up a loaf. Also we are about out of canned food and figure what we have left will make a good traveling ration. We have 3 corned beef, 2 fats, 9 corned pork and 3 ham eggs. We made the stuff last pretty well though and I think got the maximum amount of good out of it. Hope we don't have to use it for a traveling ration.

Nothing much of import this last week. Claire went back to work on Thursday. They started putting out new mail this week-the kind that are limited to 2 words-they send over about 900-1000 a day, but I have only received one so far-dated November 17, 1943 from mother Claire got 6c once and Joe haven't-received any yet. He has been very unlucky on the mail-only 2 so far. None of the 3 of us have been very lucky as far as mail is concerned-not enough people writing us.

Officers are working in the kitchen now-have only a few key enlisted men and the rest officers. Camp strength is now about 630 of which about 750 are in the hospital.

Joe came up this afternoon to keep me fix straps on my musette bag so I can carry it on my back in case of a move-making preparations so if we do go, I won't be caught short.

Prices continue to rise-duck eggs are now 4.50, sirup 9.35 for a 12 oz. can. Been busy today washing, cutting up tobacco etc. Hope been trying to get "The Count of Monte Cristo" read, but can't seem to do it. Am always sleepy at noon and don't get any reading done and am busy all of my day off.
 Sept 22 - Friday-Yesterday was the happiest day of my life so far and I have 2 more still happier ones to look forward to-one when I get out of here and another when I get home-but the reason for yesterday happiness was that American planes were over Luzon! And we didn't have to wait to be told about it-we saw them-even saw one shoot down a Jap plane not over 5 miles from here!

Box:
 44-10-12

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About 9:30 am yesterday, Sept 21, we heard a great number of motors south of here and pretty soon saw a flight of about 50 planes soon saw a flight of about 50 planes heading for Clark Field. At the time we did not know they were American planes, but we had never seen that many Japanese planes before and there comes directly over the mountain from the East, so we suspected they might be American.

This formation was closely followed by another one of about 36 to 40 planes. About 45 minutes later they came back and on the way back a formation of 4 or 6 escort planes flew over the camp and one of the planes dove down and strafed the airport near camp that the work parties from camp worked on so long when he came up from the field he got on the tail of a Nip plane and let loose a couple of bursts in here and she went down in flames-then he circled near camp backed on his wing flying low at about 200 feet and joined his flight.

Of course everyone was very excited although everyone conducted themselves admirably. Late of this Nipa hut the ditches around here-funny to see and a welcome sight. The Nip guard in the tower near where the plane came towards camp fired 3 shots at him as he was leaving.

No one recognized the insignia on the wings of the plane. It appears to have been a white wing with a white star super-imposed on it. Some one said it was the new air-force insignia. At any rate, we knew they were un-friendly to the Japanese as that made them friendly to the Japanese so that made them friendly to us. Another thing that proved it to us was that the Nip trucks on the road had fresh camouflage -----nets on them and an air guard posted for each one. The farm detail was cancelled for the afternoon and the road detail was brought in - the wood. Choppers were left out, however.

The during the course of the day 4 more flights went over here today about 200 & 300 planes. What a day for Americans who haven't seen a friend for 30 months! It was a sure red-letter day for us. I couldn't see as much as I would have liked because I'm a bed patient in the hospital and it is hard for me to get up and around more about that late.

Today, we thought we were in for another big day because at 7:30 am another big flight went over our heads and a little later 2 fighters dived and strafed and bombed the airfield area here again, but there has been no more activity since then. Some think this activity was to cover a landing on Mindanao and others think it is the beginning of operation against Luzon. Whether it is, it has sure boosted the morale around here. I frankly admit I don't know which it is, but I think they will be on the Island surely within the next two months and possibly within next 2 weeks. We are short timers at any rate. Another thing, I don't think they will try to take any more of us out now.

There is only one black colored and that is the possibility that our boys might have sunk a boat in the harbor at Manila on which the last detail to leave here were put and then might not have had time to get out the harbor. A few men left here, some medical officers and 2 chaplains and a few corps men, left here Sunday or Monday to join a large draft being made up in Bilid and etc. possible they were on a boat in the harbor when the Yanks flew over and they probably didn't leave much floating in the harbor, so we hope they were not on the boat. Fortunately all of the details have been pulled in now from the airfields except Palawan.

Last Thursday night I developed a headache about 8:30 pm and had chills and fevers during the night. Went up to sick call next morning and doctor gave me some headache on Saturday. Still no good. Tried me on quinine starting Sunday.

Est. Alabat

(Continued)

By this time I was weak and woozy from so much perspiring and chilling and medicines and had lost all my desire for food. But still had the headache-a splitting headache, the worst I have ever had.

Anyway, after all the dope they gave me I still had the headache, so they sent me to the hospital on the 20th wednesday. Have received nothing since I have been here except a pill to help me sleep the first night. My appetite is gradually going away and my appetite is gradually coming back, so I guess that is all I can ask. Claire and the boy have been awfully good to me. Claire bring me down something every day-corn bread, or fried vegetables is something.

Joe and Gus moved in with us Sunday-Move convenient for Gus who works in the mess right across from us. Then, too, the old group II mess was closed out and Johnson's mess is feeding all of old group II and Joe's barracks is now eating with Fitch's so he wanted to be where he could eat with Johnson's so, they moved up Sunday. We are glad to have them. Gus working in the quan kitchen can get the stuff done that we couldn't ordinarily get down. All works very well.

I'm tired now and gay to rest my head-work details went out today and as usual.

Forgot to say Joe received 2 letters, one from his mother and one from Betsy both written on same day in December. Both were 25-word jobs. Joe was overjoyed, of course. He received them sometime last week.

Monday-Sept 25. No more plane activity since 22nd. Doesn't surprise me. The task force can't sit out there indefinitely. Hope they come back again soon and expect they will within the next 2 weeks. Hope they bring a landing force with them next time.

I am improving, thank goodness. Get my own chow now, my appetite is back in full swing. Headache is nearly gone. Seem to come back a little in the mornings right in the back of my head, but leaves about noon. Time hang heavy on my hands-nothing to do and I don't get to the library to get any books. Claire had been on quarters, for a bad stomach and he has been coming to see me every day-he is feeling ok now and is going to work tomorrow. Joe has been down a couple of times in the evenings. They have been very good to me bringing me corn bread, soup, corn meal and all the things I didn't bring down with me and have found that I need. I should be ready to go back up in about a week. They wanted me to be there on my birthday-have a big deal planned. But I don't think I'll make it by then so we will digger the quan.

The rice ration was cut 100 grams again and the corn ration increased by 50 grams, so the chow's pretty darned slim. Corn and peanuts came in the commissary and cleaned us out financially. The peanuts were 15.00 a cup and the corn \$10.35 a cup. We sold 4 cans of coffee for \$35.00 each and traded one can for 3 cups of corn so we have about 65 cups of corn on hand. Figure that ought to see us through to pretty near the end which we figure will be 2 months at the outside-hope that is not too optimistic. But the chow will probably not get any better and may get out. We get cassava from the farm for a vegetables and are still getting a little fish each day. The work ration up above now is cassava instead of corn.

I was glad to hear that the attitude of the guards has improved since the airplanes flew over. I had always wondered just how they would take it. They were all plenty scared and seem to be treating the work details a little better. God what a day it will be when we get out from under these people.

Ex: 1
 Alldent

(Continued)

Be glad when I get back up on the hill-it is very congenial down here-a nice bunch of officers and Doc Winship is barracks leader and Al Pegton is in the barracks, but there are about 45 enlisted men here which doesn't make it very good and these all the the little conveniences that we have managed to accumulate are all up on the hill and I have to wash my mess kit under the faucet etc. So, I'll be glad to get back even though it will probably mean working on the farm. That's "thirty" for today. Thurs-Sept 26 - Happy Birthday to me-28 years old on the 20th of the month-the only time that will happen to me. The boys have done very well by me. This morning after bango (I have been standing bango outside since Tuesday night) I went up to the gate and Joe brought me down my share of a batch of hot-cakes. Had 19 or 20 cakes. Gave McNeir, who has been sleeping beside me, 4 of them because he has been giving me corn bread and hot-cakes whenever he had a batch. With my lugao for breakfast too, I had a real good breakfast-have not been hungry all day, which is a very pleasant feeling and one that is not experienced very often around here.

Then the boys all 3 came down to see me this noon and wish me a happy birthday and bring me down a can of corn meal, so I have had a good day.

I feel pretty good now-appetite normal and all. Still have a slight headache and am developing a little rash today on my legs. The doctor have seen to think I had dengue fever. I'm sure I don't know.

Another officer moved in the ward today, and I had to move to an upper boy. Not nearly as convenient as being down below and can't smoke up-stairs. Have to think of everything that I want down below before I go down etc. However, I was better able to move than the others so here I am. So I am rather anxious to get back up on the hill where I can have a table to eat at and the few convenience we have managed to set up. Also, it will be much easier on the boys-its hard on them to have to come down every day or so to bring stuff down to me. They send people to duty on Mondays and Thursdays around here-hope I will be able to go back up Monday.

Had rather hoped to see some more planes over today, but no luck. Still feel confident they will land here before election day to give the campaign a boost.

The Japanese have taken over the wood detail starting today. Everybody is working on the farm except for a swell guard company detail. They are harvesting cassava mostly and Joe said today they were going to replant cassava. I can't understand that because it takes a year for cassava to mature and I know we are not going to be here that long. Sure can't figure these people out. Attitude of guards on farm continue good, Joe says, and I am glad to hear that.

None of us are hitting on the mail-I get out my old letters today and read them all through again. One officer in the ward received a letter dated sometime in March of '44-that is the most recent I know of. Sure wish I could hit some of those.

Chow continue, very, very light. We get quite a variety-last night we had rice, fried egg plant talinus, corn, and a stew with the fish in it, but everything is in such small quantities-the whole thing didn't nearly fill a mess kit. I supplement the draw with a half-cup of corn meal each morning & afternoon but still manage to stay hungry most of the time.

Time seems to be passing much more slowly now that we feel our freedom is reasonably imminent. I have felt all along that it would pass more slowly if we knew just when we would be released and it surely is, although we don't know when we will get out, we feel reasonably sure it will be soon-surely by ~~mess~~

Est. 1/1/44

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and possibly much sooner. God, what a day that will be!! Monday, Oct 2 another new week and another month. Although we have seen no more friendly planes since the 22nd many of us have high hopes for this month. Of course, its anybody's guess as to when it will happen here (a landing) - some say by the 15th of this month and others say not till after the rainy season in December. I reasonably feel that it will come before election day-if not on Luzon at least some place in the Philippines. I still feel that the report of some large successful operations in the Philippines will be powerful election propoganda in the states and it looks like they may not have the fall of Germany to point to. Most of us thought Germany would fold in September, but she has certainly put up a bitter fight and seems to be going to do so right to the end-how terribly foolish when the ultimate end is so obvious.

Two truckloads of Nips left camp 3 or 4 days ago and since then the farm detail has been a little lighter because of a lack of guards. So far it has merely meant that no "quarters" men have to go out and only about 1/2 of the field officers nearly all of the "Duty" company, officers go out every day which catches Claire & Joe every day. They don't have much time to do anything but work. They have to find time to grind corn, wash clothes, work the garden that Joe & Gus started, and all the other things that you have to do on Sundays and during the noon hour.

The boys hadn't been down in a couple of days and needed some corn meal, tobacco, and coffee, so I went up waiting yesterday afternoon. They had been awfully busy all day, but they had made up a "quan" of okra & eggplant out of the garden and some camotes they had slipped in from the farm. Last night they brought me down a full canteen cup of the stuff after it had been fried. It was awfully good and got rid of that growing hunger that I have in my stomach all the time these days. Anything extra we get is really enjoyed these days when we get so little from the mess hall. It seems like the food gets a little less each day. I went up and talked to "Squire" Robey, the mess officer, and then he is getting now is as follows: Rice 200 gram, corn 200 gram, cacao 220 gram, vegetable 200 grams (when issued-some days none) fish 20 gram, oil 10 gram, sugar 5.9 gram. #figures very daily somewhat.

We have enough corn on hand to last us till about the 20th of November supplementing our ration with a cup of such a day-it isn't much, but it helps out. We don't have any more big batches of hot-cakes or corn bread because it uses too much meal. We figure that if we spread it out, it will help more than if we eat it all at once. But if we get some good news, we will certainly have a few belly-filling meals.

We were paid yesterday-the same amount as last month-~~745.00~~ 745.00 for field officers and 35.00 for company officers. But it, doesn't do much good any more. The commissary prices for this month's order are out of reason-Salt 3.35, corn 11.00, mango beans, 25.00, coffee 45.00 a cup, Duck eggs 6.50, hen eggs 6.00, camotes 4.50, shelled peanuts 15.50, leaf tobacco 45.00 a kilo. Your money doesn't go far at that rate. We ordered mostly corn and a few camotes. Figure they go as far toward filling up your stomach as anything can get for your money. We bought peanuts last month, but the boys had all of ----- except a couple of spoonfuls stolen so they will not in from of buying any more. I said it didn't make enough difference what we ordered to worry about it. Another example of the utter childishness of the Japanese. They called for written poop sheets from 100 men of all ranks giving their thoughts when the American planes come over the other day. Damn silly people. Last night 63 British and Dutch prisoners were brought in to camp. They were survivors of a ship that was - the American planes dropped 5 bombs at this ship.

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got 3 direct hits and sunk the ship in about 5 minute. These were 1100 British-Dutch prisoners on board-most of these were lost - these men managed to swim ashore and they figure possibly a total of 200 got ashore some of whom escaped into the mountain. In addition the bombers got 3 other ships loaded with Japanese troops.

This is just one more example of cold blooded murder that the Japanese have been guilty of - the same thing has happened to other ship loads of prisoners.

These boys were bothered below hatches when the bombs hit and many were too sick to do anything anyway. They had been on board the ship for 3 months. During that time 93 of them had died. They all look pretty bad when came in here-No of them were admitted to the hospital.

The life of a prisoner of war is fraught with peril-his life has no value to his captor-he is liability. Every day that he gets through alive, he can count himself lucky. And yet the stories of war go to the boy who fight for a few months and go home on leave and get plenty of foods medical attention, clothy, and a goodplace to live most of the time. I guess maybe I am being a bit bitter, but these poor Britisher camp in here just got me started. I hope they don't try to get any more details out of here for Japan. The boys who are already upthere and in Manchuria have a long time ahead of them yet, I fear-May god be with them and any other prison unfortunate enough to be a prisoner of war.

We have 2 British boy here in the ward who were originally on the booty that were taking the British prisoners from Iseiland to Japan. I have had some interesting talks with them about this experiences. They were used to build a railroad through Burma-the work was very hard, but they were fed well. Some of the Texas national guard artillery regiment that was captured at Java were used on that too. The cholera broke out and wiped out about 1/3 of all the prisoners down there. Still not as bad as the loss we have taken separately. We have lost about 50% of the prisoners who were captured on Iseilan.

I am feeling ok again, and expected to go back up to duty today, but didn't make the list so will probably make the next one. I would much rather be up with the boys so far as living condition go but am thankful for a little rest to try and build up my strength a little before going up, although you can't build up much on this chow.

Oct 3 - Just weighed today-have lost 4 pounds in last week-weighed 126 last monday - weigh 122 today.

Wrote 25 word messages today-surely don't expect these to get home, but have said that each time.

Oct 7 * Saturday Bob's birthday-he is 2 years old today-wonder where he is and wonder if he got to finish school. All letters from home have been very vague with reference to Bob's being liable to be in the ----- . He seems to me to be just the right age and in good health-I would expect him to be one of the first to be called; yet he evidently was home in August of last year. Since then, I don't know. I have been with mother-but I will sure give him hell for not writing and giving me some dope about home.

Time ----- these days, especially so here in the hospital. I went visiting up some yesterday afternoon-needed some corn meal and was ed to see the boys. Joe and Claire brought me down some friend egg plant wednesday night-sure nice of him.

Weather has been awfully bad for last couple of weeks-rain nearly every night-and overcast during the day. And these days are so lazy since we are all hoping that something may happen here soon. Lots of rumors but no real news.

See next

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The interpreter Masada said that 2200 prisoners from Bilibid were put on boats in Manila. We had all hope no more details would be leaving because of the danger involved now-can certainly never forgive these people for the things they have done.

Mail has been coming out faster lately - 1700 one day, 1400 another-but Joe nor I can hit. Fellow who, sleeps next to me got 21 this morning. Sure would like to get some.

I am going back up to duty Monday. Asked the doctor to send me. I feel ok except for a little weakness in the legs which I don't think can be over come on this chow. I would much rather be up on the hill with the boys-the details have been light all this week-only taking about 50% of the "duty" men. Joe and Claire have been volunteering to go out in order to get the extra food. However, the details may get heavier now because Major Takasaki returned yesterday after about a week's absence.

Had a good "bull" session with Ted Winship last night in which he told me the advantages of getting married. Hope I can fall in love with a nice girl when I get home and get married will never have a more opportune time financially speaking. And I really believe I will be better off married and settled down. Later of traveling I would like to do as a bachelor but know I can't get it done and get married too-would be much too old.

Soon be time for chow-how I look forward to meal time-this being constantly hungry is really a steen on the preservative. May it end soon.
 Monday Oct 9 Back to duty this morning just in time to miss an outgoing detail. Headquarters was notified last night after 8:00 pm that detail of 30 Field Officers 120 company officers and 50 MM would leave this morning and 200 MM and one officer tomorrow. As I was coming up from the hospital, the detail was leaving on trucks. That is real short notice.

They shook them down pretty carefully and took away excess clothing, food, soap, etc. Some of them had big boys of perched cash which they took away from them. They let them keep a small amount of extra (food, but no sizable quantities. So again we don't know whether to eat up our chow on the chance we may have to leave suddenly or keep on rationing it.

Fortunately none of the boys made the detail. 5 out of this barracks were drawn.

I still don't think they will get them out but they might be killed on board a ship in the harbor or some other place. Surely they will hit these islands soon.

Been good to be back with boys again although "Zero" and other friends tell me I should have stayed in hospital and not asked to come up. He says this is the worst period right now-If they take us out, we maybe killed on the boat and if we get to Japan it means another year to a year and a half longer. Boy, that would be hard to take with salvation slant in your hand. I am pretty fatalistic about it as we are all-if it comes it comes and nothing we can do about it may be with us and with those who have gone.

Am going to start waiting in the big beck again-am running out of paper in this little one. If I have to go, am going to ----- this diary here and hope that Johnny or somebody is still here when the Yanks get here. Am afraid I would, lose it since they are not allowing so much baggage anymore-it would be hard to conceal.

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 Almont

Volume IV

Seen to me I said something at the beginning of Vol 3 to the effect that I was not going to write anymore than that volume-that I thought it would take me to the end of this monkey business-it is obvious I was wrong. In fact I am not sure now that this volume will do it. This notebook which I have had ordered now for about 2 months finally came through fortunately, along with part of the monthly commissary order for February. Some of the prices are worthy of mention: 1 lb can of all spice, US MSG, 64.40- $\frac{1}{2}$ can of baking powder, 10.26- $\frac{1}{2}$ pkg of baking soda, 6.22-the central price of coffee beans is \$33.00 a kilo-don't know what the black market price is. Coconuts are 70¢ a piece-mango beans 1.75 a cup-casotes still 60¢ a kilo but not creaming in so much anymore.

Feb 4-9-I hit this jackpot! Got a letter from mother on the 7th-it was wonderful and I am as proud of the letter-no wasted lines-all good never about people in whom I am interested-I am certainly very fortunate. When I got it, I read it through twice, then let Joe read it-then I read it through twice more. I let the Pedie read it; took it over to Zero's house and read it to them and had Johnnie up here today to read it-I am real proud of that letter.

The letter near written on January 2, 1943, more than a year ago-I was so glad to find that Mabel was living with mother-just the way I wanted it to be. Gathered that Bob expected to be called to the colors anytime and assume that he is in now- hope he goes to the European theatre instead of out here- this tropical island fighting is no good. Also gathered that Wen and Joe were in the ----- as well as Paul who I didn't have any idea was married. We had a bet about the first one to be married giving the other one something, but I can't remember what it was now- hope I can think of it before I get home. But it sure was a good letter-I have reveal it many times already. Joe has not received one yet, but the news about his family in mine was a great help to him.

Word from Bilibid seem to indicate that these letters we have here now come from Tokyo while they have about 100,000 letters in Manila now that came on the last exchange ship and that are of a much latter vintage than the ones we have here now. So we have more mail to cash forward to-even some individual package some say.

A detail of 200 medical men (150 EM, 40 MD, and 10 Dentists) is leaving camp soon. Of course we don't know where they are destined to go-first detail of all medical men to have camp. Also a work detail-300 men is leaving soon- there will cut the well men in camp down to a bare minimum and will mean that the work details will be pretty heavy on those remaining in camp-about the only ones left who will be able to wrk will be officer-looks like we may be all working. Especially since it looks like they are going to work on the Cabanatuan airfield with men from the camp-this, in addition to the bars, will be a big load-don't know how it will work out. I have a very bad cold, but am getting it much control slowly-came on me in about 2 hours night before last. The wind blows every day and has for 2 or 3 months-very, very miserable and hard to keep from getting colds.

We are going through a period of wild rumors started by our moving into the Marshall's - all a bunch of coop.

Feb 10-17-The two outgoing details are apparently going to Japan-they have given them a physical exam by Japanese doctors-something that has new been

Det. Agent

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done for a local detail and has always "Hippon-go" in the past. Of course, this gets us all started to thinking about where and if the rest in are going to Japan-sure hope we don't have to.

Work started on the airfield and, though the details has been heavy everyday, none of us have had to go out yet-can't tell what will happen when the 2 outgoing details leave-they are working 500 men daily on the airport-it is not such a bad detail at present though, because they let the American officers take charge of the work and the Japanese guards do nothing but form a perimeter guard. As long as this lasts, the work itself will not be so disagreeable and there should not be any beatings. They also have a bunch of Filipinos working on the airport-they are kept separate and work on the end of the field away from the Americans.

The big gripe around here now is the reduced ration-it is not enough for the working men-amounts to less thanj mess kit per meal. It is just about right for us who are not working when we have been to go with it, but for the enlisted men who do not have any extra chow, it is very rough-and the working only the beginning-bilibid has been eating corn instead of rice for about 2 months now-rumors has it that there is hardly any rice in Manila-even the Japanese soldiers here are complaining about not getting enough to eat. It may get pretty bad before we get out of here-sure hope Uncle Sam sends a boatload of chow to us if he can't send a few boat-loads of troops.

We received our last box of Red Cross chow last Friday-consisted of 2-S pan, 2 corned beef, 1-milk, 4-butter, 1-salmon, 1-pate, 2-corned pork. We have not eaten any of our chow except the butter and milk every day on our lugao-we are saving the meat to eat when our beans run out-we figure we have about a few months supply at the rate of a can every other day. Our beans should last till end of April making us fairly well fixed for chow until the end of August maybe we can live on the good news from there on out. Of course, we are taking a chance that we won't go to Japan-if we do, it's going to be pretty hard to carry it all, but we'll manage some way. Most people eat their stuff as soon as they get it, but we have for many months followed a policy of careful planning and not "splurging" and so far it has paid dividends. I should be an expert at budgeting when I get home, but I'm afraid I will have a reaction in the other directions.

Just had a welcome interruption-Sharp, the rumor, from HQ, just brought me another either from mother. This one was written August 10, 1942 on the day else received mine written in Batnan. This is the letter else referred to in her late letter which I received a couple of weeks ago and which she says she didn't think I had received. It was a small letter, though old, and made both Joe and I very happy. Joe has not recieved one yet. They continue to put out only a few a day and skip around the alphabet. They have few been in the "S's" a couple of times, but Joe has not moved.

Can't figure out who would have seen me on April 8 and got back to US. I suppose it was Col. Clarke although I didn't see him on April 8- Anyone I had seen on that day would have known I was a Major so he was probably spreading it on as usual, but it was nice of him any way-. I appreciate it very much. Boy!, it was a small letter- name about everybody at home. Makes this day a bright one in an endless row of ---- ones. I

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am thankful to a good God in heaven for looking out for me and my family so well.

Feb 18-20-Several cases of this year's Red Cross medical supplies, finally arrived in camp-included among them were a quantity of vite-cops which are being issued to everyone at the rate of one per day-very glad to get them-hope we will get enough of them to do us some good. I don't know what was included in the medical supplies but am told it was a pretty good supply. Work details have been awfully heavy lately-Joe has had to go out I half-days-the first he has had to go out since the day Claire got here. They are expanding the farm again and this coupled with the airport is using every available man. Hope they let up soon, but don't all any prospect of it, especially with these 2 outgoing details leaving sometime the latter part of this month.

While on the farm yesterday, Joe saw a man knocked down and then jumped on a number of times by a Japanese guards. Fortunately, he had our tennis shoes or the man would have been seriously injured. Such things as this remind us that we are at the mercy of savages who have no conceptions of decency or fair play.

Letters continue to come in small dribblets-so far they have distributed about 1150 out of the 20 or 25 thousands that are over there.

So far, this has been a pleasant hot season, although the daily wind is for from pleasant blowing dust over everything. We had a better rain the other day which helped the farm and the many individual gardens here in camp.

I weighed today and have lost 5 pounds in the last month-am now down to 137. Suppose this will continue until we get out-hope I were get down as low as I was in the latter part of '42-must have been down to 115 or 120 pounds. Unless this lasts longer than this year, I don't think we will reach that low a level again.

Glee Club gave a concert last night, but Joe did not sing with them-he quit after Christmas being fed up with certain people in the thing. Feb 20-27 another Sunday and "Yasume" for all except for a watering detail of a few hundred enlisted men. This is a much appreciated day of rest for all because the details have been exceptionally heavy of late-Claire was made available for 2 half days a week, (Thurs. and Friday) but last week he worked $\frac{1}{2}$ on Thurs & Frid. and all day. Saturday-this was his first time on the farm and he went out amid shouts of "We got another -----". Joe was out several half-days last week also-they haven't got down to Charlie and me yet, but we expect it any day. The 300 men medical detail left Saturday morning at 5:00 a.m. - headed for Japan-the other 200 men detail is scheduled to leave the latter part of this week.

A detail came in from Bilibid (47-men) yesterday. Some of the men were from Lipa whence a couple of men escaped a better while ago - these men that came in were some of those who were being punished for the escape-no one was shot or far as I know although I didn't talk to any of them myself.

Word from some indications that they have recieved their personal packages in Bilibid-about 80% of this men recieved them. Poor old Tom didn't get any. The packages seem to be of 2 types-those made up by the Red Cross and those made up by individuals according to certain specifications-one of these was

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supposed to have contained a ---- of skates and have been recieved by a one-legged man-don't know how true this, but it is a story anyway and certainly not beyond the realm of possibility. Tom says that about 1600 bags of mail and packages were supposedly destroyed at sea-number of bags actually received-1900 anyway we have another package to look forward to when and if they get up here.

Mail here continue to come out slowly-one now got 18 either in one day-another 12. I am sure there is lots of mail for all of us if they would put it out. At the present rates, they won't make it before the end of the war - Maseda is in Manilaow, so we get none at all till he gets back.

Food continue to be a problem and seem to be worse in Bilibid. They have been getting radish soup and rough corn 2 meals a day there-one more said he was in a state where he looked forward to a meal of rice. I can't imagine ever feeling like that- although I can remember being that way on the march up. We are eating beans twice a day, still, but our black beans are just about gone there we will only have been for the man meal-and nothing extra for supper. We are mind more fortunate than most-

News seem to be good-Raid on Truck and resulting cabinet shake-up in Tokyo. Maybe we will be out before we think. I am kind of wary about being optimistic though-I've been disappointed so many times already. Had a movie last night-Bing Crosby in "East Side of Heaven"-first movie since Christmas-film was old and much of it was cut out, but enjoyable for all that-maybe they have relented from their policy of no more entertainment. Feb 28-March 4-Months of Feb is past and well started our March. Feb. was a good month-passed by very rapidly and also brought good news-Marianas, Admiralty, etc. Many people are very optimistic including Johnny who says we have good chance of being out by June 15-sure hope so but will not be terribly disappointed if we are not-have finally learned to accept this business stoically.

Were paid an evening of 2nd-would not pay in daytime because it would mean a half-holiday for officers, so they turned the money over to our finance officer and let him pay in in evening. Same roll of pay.

The 300 men draft has been issued clothing and been getting physical exam this week and will probably leave soon-they have taken more pains with this detail than any other-issued each man a set of blue denim, a set one navy blue wool uniform Japanese underwear (look like pajamas), "tee" shirt. Looks like they are going to a cold climate. Gave them a test for dysentery 3 times.

Work details continues very heavy and one resulting in much cutting of special duty inside in order to meet them. Joe will be out of a job as soon as the detail leaves-they are relieving all company grade officer that are "duty", overhead in this company. He has been going out at least 1/2 day every day for the last several days. It's a tough break for Joe, but nothing can be done-maybe we won't be here too long now. They have also relieved much of the office forcer and mess crews. Same old stuff as before-we have had these heavy detach before with the same results.

All the talk here today is of the personal packages some of which have already arrived in camp. Don't know when we will get them-they are supposed to have been censored in Bilibid, but whether not they will have to censor them again here, we don't know-if it takes as long a time as the mail is taking, we won't get them this war.

Have had no mail in camp for about a week-Maseda is supposed to have

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4 assistants now, but no mail since he has had them. March 5-6 300 man draft left at 3:00 am today. The camp strength is now about 3528 - spade gross says there are now 66 "duty" enlisted men left in group I which mean there are 66 well enlisted men in camp because group II is all absentee.

News continue good and I am afraid I am letting myself get optimistic again-I am not alone, however. Joe remain somewhat pessimistic, but I can't help but feel that the drive is on and that they must be in here soon-by June 15-or sooner there! I've made another prediction - something I won't going to do.

Johnny has been in Manila for the last 4 days-due in here tomorrow-the Japanese Supply Sgt finally took him down with him after a year of promising to do it "next month"- Johnny hopes to establish contact with the tobacco manufacturer in Manila and arrange to get tobacco in here cheaper by avoiding the middleman. Also he make arrange for anything else that happens to turn up-will be a nice trip for him anyway-prices are continually rising-hen eggs-65¢ duck eggs 80¢ - canteen-cup of salted peanuts 2.50, now peanuts 1.80-cup of sirup 3.00. 123 letters came across night before last-mostly "S's" but Joe didn't rote. Joe and I have both been told that we drove a package in those that came in the other day - they came in mail bags and had a list on the outside of each boy of the number of packages in the boy and who they were for. Only about 2500 packages came in - not enough to go around-some of the people on the outgoing detail were given their packages yesterday. Apparently they are packed in the homes by the people who sent them-something to look forward to, anyway.

Mar. 7-15 Haven't got around to waiting anything for several days despite the fact that several things of interest have taken place-

Johnny returned from Manila on 7th had a pleasant trip (speaking advisedly) but didn't accomplish what he set out to do-the Japanese military administration have taken over all the tobacco factories, so he could make no deals to get tobacco in here. He enjoyed seeing and talking to friends in Bilibid where he stayed. When they arrived in Manila, they took a calesa from the station to Bilibid, a distance of about 6 blocks-cost ₱3.00- in a restaurant in Manila he paid 15¢ each for cigarettes.

Joe has devoted us and moved into an enlisted barracks as assistant barracks leader to Gus Cullen - moved day before yesterday - he didn't want to go because of splitting up on "quan" and moving, but he figured that in case of a Japan detail, he might stand a better chance of missing it then if he were just a casual officer. It was a bit hard to split up the quan, but we managed-we didn't divide any of the canned goods-figured we would have Joe up wherever we cracked a can - so far we haven't started on the canned meat-had a can on Clove's birthday- one of last year' corned beef. Joe made a corned beef pie-the caust was like shoe leather and gave us all a bad stomach. Very good tasting, though.

They finally got me out on the farm, though I volunteered to work all day, so I took his place in the afternoon so he could move-I didn't mind it much, although it left me stiff and sore because I am not used to it-the work was not very hard-go guards bothered us where we were-I was glad I did it so I could see the extent of the farm. They are enlarging it some more-by about 40 acres. Say they are going to plant corn in it. If by chance the Yanks don't get here, the corn will serve us in good stead-hope we don't need it.

By: [Signature]

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When I lined up with the details to go out to work, it caused quite a lot of gibes from the boys in the barracks. I am very thankful I don't have to go out every day as a lot of those boys do - it gets mighty, mighty tiresome.

The big object of interest and conversation around camp continue to be the packages with many rumors as when and how they will be issued. Our headquarters was required to furnish Japanese headquarters with a list of the people who had packages. The Japanese informed our supply officer that they would probably issue a few packages each day - today's rumor is that they are issued, there is no excuse for the Japanese to hold them up at all. Bilibid has already received them- it is just another score we have to settle with the little Major in command of the camp here.

Mail continues to come out in dribbles of 40 or 50 letters per day- same thing again- no excuse for all, the delay- just more hazing of the hated Americans.

This has been a pretty good month for commissaries- Johnny got in 2 truckloads of nice bananas and we received twice as many as were ordered- at made enough so that everyone who wanted bananas and we received twice as many as were ordered- at made enough so that everyone who wanted bananas and had any money could get them. Joe was afraid we wouldn't be able to spend our money this month, so we ordered a little of everything. Bought a cup of salted peanuts for ₱3.50- got hold of some extra onions, as we bought 3 kilos at 5.10 a kilo plus an other kilo the week before for ₱4.80- about 3 cups of penaches syrup for ₱3.00 a cup- we're spending our money all right- have about ₱30.00 left and must save that in case any ----, cigarettes. Cooking oil etc. come in. It's been a pretty good month - we can get along allright as long as it continues this way.

A lot of people have run out of tobacco- I see soldier starting to pick up butts again. These people have not learned to have any foresight even after the many months we have been here- because we plan ahead, we drove quite a supply of tobacco on hand. A lot of the enlisted men sell their cigarettes- now they have money, but no tobacco. Tobacco is hard to get on the outside- Japanese must be shipping most of it out. Today Johnny got in a large supply of local tobacco in gummy socke it is just ground up leaf not cured, but it is tobacco and is cheap- 12¢ a cup- leaf not it is plenty rough to smoke but will be better than none.

Soap is another scarce item- we get an issue today- some piece per man- haven't - been able to buy any in commissary for about 6 months- thanks to Red Cross packages, we have enough both soap for some time, but laundry soap will soon be a problem.

Cooking oil and Purico are also scarce- for a long time the Japanese sold cooking oil to Johnny once each month at a very good price- haven't had any now since January. Johnny got in a letter Purico from the outside that cost ₱20.00 a kilo! We still have a couple of pounds of cooking oil left.

Quite a few changes in personnel have been made in the last few- days at the direction of the Japanese. They moved a number of amoebic out of group II to group I- They also have moved a number of people out of the hospital- practically all of them are permanent quarters cases- we got 6 and none of them can work- all of them should be in the hospital- the Japanese cure people by saying "You will cut the hospital down to 400 patients or something like

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that - so they have to silent the people who are the least sick and send them up here. Fine business!

Weather has been very funny for a hot season-cloudy quite a bit of the time and almost daily winds makes it much cooler than normal, and so is easier on the boys working.
March 16-20 The Japanese are finally releasing the packages started on 15th -released 50 bags-70 bags on 16th -name on 17th because of our inspection of the camp by a new general, general KoKo, who took general Marimoto's place as C.O. of prisoners in the Philippines. We had to make the usual preparations for the inspection-hid everything-took down canvas shelter-he made a rapid inspection once he got started. We all hope themewill be some improvements in policy, but have had none yet. They put out 70 more bags on the 18th and a lot yesterday. Joe got his the first day and I got mine yesterday-Claire has not hit yet, but he knows that he has at least one there and maybe more. Some people got 2 and 3 package.

I don't think anyone thing has improved the morale as much as these packages from home. All the conversation around camp is about what this fellow or that one got in his package-nearly every package contained vitamin pills, but from these are, nearly every imaginable thing from heavy woolen underwear to footballs was represented. Although most all the things were useful, it was not so much what was in the box as just the fact of getting something from home with your mother's handwriting on it and knowing that she packed it-nicely a thrill after so long a time. The funniest story that has arisen from the advent of the packages is from a Major who got a package that was packed for a -----continued among other things some Kleenex, Lipstick and Tampake-he really came in for a ribbing. One man got a 5 lb. cheese-another lbs of chewing tobacco.

I believe that the printing of the ration address on the box and on the custom declaration were in my brothers handwriting which would mean that he hadn't left home on August 21 when the package was mailed-Hope this assumption is correct-hope Bob can keep out of this thing for mother sake

Most of the boxes were pretty badly beaten up-they had been handled so many times-toothpowder was generally spelled in most of them-some had a cocoa flares to everything-others had been dipped in sea water. Mine had talcum powder all over, but nothing had been spoiled, fortunately. The pipe cleanser were a luxury that I have loved for many times and I recognized the hand of my mother in the gum drops and jelly beans-the razor blades over and over for a month. Everything was useful and since made me happy to get it. I am sorry the customer tag in order to hide mother a bit for misappelling my first name and putting in the wrong initial-I presume to appeared that way on some roster and she wanted to be sure I got it. That damn first name-I'm going to get rid of it when I get home. I used to think I would just use the first initial, but now. I'm going to get rid of the whole thing if I can-I understand it's quite a process. However, it will be a good time right after I get home because I have to get all new insurance policies, commissions, etc.-I lost them all over here.

Joe finally got a letter from his mother. Now he is happy except that he can't figure out from the letter whether or not Virginia is married. Anyway he has news from home and apparently everything is ok. I'm glad he heard from home-he has been worried about his Dad's health.

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Japanese have called for another 200 man detail - a local replacement detail. We thought after the last detail that we couldn't find any more men, but when the Japanese call for one it has to be filled-nearly all the special duty has to go including most that working in the Japanese kitchens and as orderlies. Leaving about 10 healthy men in each, kitchen of course of amoebic could be used it would be ok, but they can't.

March 21-26 They put out the remainder of the packages last Tuesday (21st) and Claire got his that boy-his package was essentially the same as mine-contained 2 tee shirts and he gave me they are nice to wear around here in the evening. After putting out all the packages, they had some left over that had been addressed to deceased people or those who have left camp-don't know what the disposition of these were & Masada caught 4 Reader's Digests in one of the boxes and confiscated them-3 got in.

All the things in the boxes have made life much more enjoyable around here- "stateside" candy and the gum- things we hadn't had for so long a time- the bonillon we drink in the evenings before going to bed and the coffee-even though it was melted and squashed, it sure tastes good-just cut off a little of it celophane and all and put it in the hot water. Claire and I have enjoyed it immensely. And the vitamin tablets scene a great need-Claire and Charlie and I have been saving our issue vita. pills to give to some one who did not get a box and we are eating the ones we got in our packages.

This has been a big month for the commissary-the week before last I did \$1235 worth of business just in this barracks. Spent all of a lot of people's money. Then Johnny got in more bananas that had to be put out on credit. We have been eating lots of bananas (at 7¢ each). Lucky to have them because the ration in the mess has been pretty tight lately.

We have had no fish in the mess for about 2 weeks and the Japanese say there is no more. While it wasn't very taste, it provided a bit of necessary vitamins to us. There are about 50 carabao in the corral now and the Japanese have announced they will feed us 2 of them each week. This amount of meat is negligible as far as food value is concerned-some as when we first come here-meet once a week. We are still saving our Red Cross chow until our beans run out which will be in about a month.

Have been spending the time lately mostly in reading and playing bridge. Joe came up in the mornings and we play bridge till noon-then spend the afternoon reading. I have just read "The Tragic Eve", by Cloude Co. Bowers- a story of the period in American history following Lincoln's death and to the election of Hugh. It was a revealing book-hard to read, however. I couldn't help but think some republicans like Charlie Wilson might not be so proud of their party if they read that book.

The work details have been somewhat lighter the last few days, strangely enough. Claire hasn't had to go out for about a week now and we have about 8 or 10 officer off all the time. This means that no "quarters" enlisted men have to go out.

The hot season is upon us at last-the sun has been oppressively hot now for the last week and the night not much better. Charlie loaned me a shelter half to use instead of a blanket and it is much cooler- Have been sleeping well in spite of the heat except when I take a nap in the afternoon-when I do that, I pay for it that evening. Right now when we need all the water we can get and the gardens are crying for water, the Japanese cut the fuel allowance for the pumps, so that we can only draw water throughout the rest of the day maybe drawn only for cooking and drinking. If it doesn't get any worse than that,

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it will be alright.

About 135 radiograms from the states came into camp day before yesterday-too small a percentage for me to be lucky. Neither Claire no, Joe hit either. Some of the messages mentioned that they had received 5 cards from us. This is good news and is a surprise to me-I didn't think they would send so many. The radio messages were not dated.

About 7 bags of additional mail arrived in camp a few days ago-this doesn't excite much interest my move, because at the present rate, it would take about 2 years to put it me out. They have been about 2 years to put it me out. They have been releasing about 100 either a day for the past few days, but something is always coming up to interfere with their work and we go a day two without any. It is very discouraging, especially for those who have had no mail at all to know that letters are so close-and yet so far away.

There has been no news for several days-many people are becoming pessimistic again-I hope to hear big news from Nimitz about the midde or next month. Still hopeful for June!
 March 28-April 1-Joe has a cold again-not very bad this time but uncomfortable enough at best. These hot nights are bad-sometimes it cools off early in the morning and this shelter half or maybe nothing that you have over you is not enough. These days are awfully hot-the water in a 5 gallon can gets so hot in about 4 hours out in the sun that you can hardly stand to have it on you. It is really hard on the boys who are working. Starting today, the Japanese changed the working hours-we get up now at 5:40-form and wood details leave here at the farm detail comes in at 11:01. (Usual time) but doesn't go out till 2:40 in the afternoon-one hour later. The airport still has the same honor-7:45 am till 4:30 pm. The object of the change is to keep men from having to work in the heat of the day. Of course, it doesn't help the airport detail any.

All in carry were greatly surprised a couple of days ago to have that the Japanese had at last authorized lights in the messes. Their negligence and refusal to accede to innumerable requests for these lights is as one of the most ----- of the crimes they have committed. The mess crews have to start preparing lugao about 2:00 am. Many accidents-mostly burns have resulted from these men having to haul heavy Kawaii's full of hot lugao in the dark. They used to have imprisced lamps, but the Japanese forbade these many months ago. Now, they put them in so that we can have breakfast on how earlier in the morning. This quite clearly represents the logic of the Japanese mind-breakfast has always had to be prepared in the dark, because it is dark even at 6:30-the time we have been getting up all along-but now because we get up an hour earlier, they put lights in the messes-at any rate, they are greatly appreciated by the mess crews.

We received 4/10 of a cup of sugar per man yesterday-fall issue paid for out of commissary profits. Japanese release very little sugar to the commissary these days.

Were paid yesterday, March 31. Some rate of pay. Paid officers who were not on work detail in the morning and then the officers who worked were paid into camp for a re-check.

April 2-11-Again I have neglected this for several days. I seem to be possessed of a tremendous lethargy these days-undoubtedly due to the heat. Nothing much has occurred except that we passed another milestone-April 9-Easter sunday and 2 years a Prisoner of War although I actually did not see

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any Japanese till April 11, 1942/ Clare and I attended sunrise services Easter morning conducted by Chaplain Gliver.

Two years a Prisoner-2 years wasted-yes, more than wasted because of the detrimental effect that this can not help but have on a man both mentally and physically. 730 days of eating poor food, fighting bed bugs, lice and other ----- and not knowing what the ultimate end will be. How much longer do we have to serve? But-these kind of talk does not good-Some day they will come and wait then we can do nothing but-wait!

Mail situation continues about the same-our Hq wrote an official communication to Japanese Hq to the effect that the American authorities did not think the mail was being censored as fast as it could be after this, Masada because angered and no letters came over at all for several days-then about 200 came over 63 of which were for one man. Some of the people who haven't received any at all are naturally pretty disappointed. Mostly, we don't think about it much anymore.

Johnny had some Bermuda onions brought in with some commissaries last week-the kind of coin that we ate so many of last year for 35¢ a kilo-price now is \$7.50-quite a jump. Tobacco is going up-packages that we paid 85¢ for a year ago is now \$2.00. Johnny got in some pretty fair bulk tobacco last week and everybody stocked up-we spent \$18.50 on tobacco-figure we have enough on hand to last us till September or October-surely we won't be here then!

Ration is pretty light these days-Men who work, although they get extra food, are not getting enough to eat. People are losing weight, beri-beri and edema are showing up again. We get meat once a week-3 carabao for the whole camp. To add to our trouble, the rice of late has been hopelessly full of rocks making eating it more of a problem than ever. You can't pick out all the rocks-they are mixed up with the wench and other dirt, so a person just waits till he bits down on one-it is maddening.

We had a can of canned beef in a loaf Sunday night-first can we had opened since Clove's birthday of March sure tasted good-Joe came up. Our beans will run out about the 25th of this month and then we will start eating the canned food more regularly.

Had a movie last night, a very poor one-Frank Murphy in "The Goliath cuses Beck" or something like that. They didn't start showing it till 9:00 and we didn't get to bed till 11:30-first time to be later than 9 or 10 since New Year. Sure hard to get up 5:45 this morning and have felt dopey all day.

The only nearfield news that we have is that the Japanese carry authorities here are expecting a large number of prisoners in here some time in the next month or two. The exact figures is not known, but has been guessed anywhere between 2 and 4 thousand. It is going to be necessary to re-open and occupy the old hospital area. Major Kircher has been put in charge of getting it ready and been told to be finished by May! Poles are being cut by the wood detail to fence the area again. While it is not know whether or not these people are coming from Davao or from temporary details here on Luzon, the latter is generally believed to be the case. The detail at Lipa is already booked up and is now at Nielson Airport. There are at present about 2650 men out of this camp on temporary details on Luzon and Palawan extensions of Bilibid.

Wherever they come from, it is good news that they feel it necessary to bring them in and also that they bring them here which may indicate that they

by
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to pass fairly rapidly.

April 18-23-Twice in the last week the Japanese have told us to get ready for an inspection by a "high-ranking Japanese officer" and then after we are ready nobody shows up-this is probably just another way of harassing us.

Details have been heavier the last few days since they have started working on the fence around the old hospital area. They are taking out all of our "Duty" officer and Joe says all of his straight quarters men are going out. Still not as bad as it was for a while-Clare hasn't been hit yet, so they haven't reached bottom.

Not much change-no never except rumors of bombing of Mindanao-might very well be true. Hope we have some thing in next couple of weeks. Attitude of Japanese has changed-they have ai - guards now and whenever a person is up, they send an observer up in a tower to look at it with glasses. There is no doubt that they expect something and soon. Hope they are right for a change.

Rained yesterday (Sunday) for about an hour and looks like it will rain in a little while-good for the gardens and relieves the pressure on the water situation. Johnny was up for a cup of coffee this afternoon. Clare and I have spent all our money already this month----- are so high that it doesn't last long.

April 24-29 Today is the Emperor's birthday and a holiday. Rumors had it that we were to get a lot of extra chow today, but we did not. Only difference was a little carabao which we usually get on Saturday anyway-amounted to 2 or 3 cubes the size of sugar when per man.

Yesterday was a bad day for us-on last day of mango beans-I guess today was the first one in at least 6 months that we have not had beans. Also yesterday we used the last of our butter-have been eating that every day -----our first box in December-it has enter well. We used it daily on our cookies and cup-cakes at supper-time. Yesterday we also used the last of some prunes Clare got in his box. So all in all it was a bad day. We decided to use the cocoa we got in our boxes, from home on our lugae because it takes so much sugar and milk to make cocoa out of it.

I have finally developed a boil on my tail from sitting on those planks around here. Looks like I may have to have it lanced.

Just finished reading "Reveille on Washington" very good story of life in Washington from 1860-1865. We played Sandy and Rich in bridge this morning - beat them by 5600 ----- 4 rubbers. We couldn't miss-hold very good cards all morning.

News very scarce but I am still hopeful. Japanese show every sign of being worried-have a continued air-guard on the airport detail-sentries are now carrying steel helmets.

It looks like they maybe going to clear out Bilibid and bring them up here. A detail of 150 men came in a couple of days ago-all but 5 of them went directly to the hospital - some one-armed and leg men and more are supposed to be coming. Tom Bell was supposed to have come up with the draft, but is coming on the next one rumor has it-sure hope so.

They are bringing in all the small outlying details-truck drivers from baguio and the Visayas-all report that Japanese are digging in and appear to expect something soon.

Sure hope they are not disappointed!

Started on corned chow April 30, 1944

April 30-May 7 Another month has passed fairly rapidly, thank goodness;

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bring them here which may indicate that they do not intend to take us to Japan. I have always felt that they would take the details off of the airfields when attack was imminent, because, which they have no illusion about following the rules of Land Warfare and treatment of Prisoner, to leave prisoners to be killed on airfields and other military objectives is such a violation that even the Japanese would hesitate to do it.

Various incidents seen to indicate that the Japanese expect soon attack on the Philippines very soon. Guards on the farm, the wood detail and the airport make remarks about the Americans being here soon - this is a new attitude. It used to be "when we land in Honolulu or New York etc" - no more of that kind of talk. One of the Japanese civilians on the airport told one of the Americans in charge to tell the prisoners to do good job because got here and there they would use it. Such things as that make us feel a little better - like maybe something will happen in May or June.

April 12-17 - Food, Food, Food! That is the line and cry around here these days! No one is getting enough to eat and those who didn't have any foresight as the many who have had no money with which to provide anything for themselves are really going very hungry. The meals of the last few days for those people who do not work on details has been just the same as back in the old days of 1942 except that there you could get all the rice you could eat and now there is a very definite limit to the rice. Even I, who detest rice and very soon get filled up on it can't get enough to eat. This noon-rice, 7 oz. fish can used for a dipper) of water with a few gourds in it called "soup" and a cup of weak tea. Some at night with additions of a cookie made of course rice flour which men who work get one camote one meal a day. And they make were work out in this hot, tropical sun on that diet.

The basic ration is supposed to be 600 grams for working men and 700 grams for non-working men with the promise that they can issue camotes or corn in lieu of rice gram for gram. For the last few weeks they have been arresting the camote crop from the farms and issuing 270-280 grams of rice per man and the balance in camotes. A large percentage of the camotes are wormy or rotten and have to be sent out and thrown away, so the ration suffers that much.

Recently they have brought in a lot of shelled corn which they apparently intend to assure when the camotes runs out. A number of cases of edema and beri-beri are already showing up. Thank God we are better fixed on medicine than we were in 1942 or we would soon be right back in those "old days" again. Everyone is still getting vitamin pills. Those who received pills in their packages are excluded from the general issue until their own have been used up.

Many, many, people are frantically starting gardens till nearly all available plots are used up. Our food program will carry us through August and I can't help but fill that some kind of relief will have arrived by them. If not, we'll just have to pull up on the belt and continue hoping.

Completed reading "Antony Adverse" - enjoyed it very much. Now have a Dyslectic History of the U.S. by Samuel Flagg Burns which promises to be an exhausting study. Unless I have something to read or am playing cards, I soon get terribly restless and irritable. And if I sleep much in the daytime, I can't sleep at night. Played a little bridge with Joe and to us this morning.

Been trying to min the past few days - despite all, the time continues

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Hard to realize the year is a third -----, I just asked Claire what has happened last week that I ought to write about-he said "Nothing," which is nearly true.

We were paid on the 2nd-some amount. Glad to get it though it won't buy much anymore. We started on our canned food on April 30 and are enjoying it very much-a can every other day. So far we have eaten only corned beef that we had saved from a year ago last Christmas. Joe comes up on the nights we have a loaf.

Some coffee came in the commissary at \$18.00 a kilo-this is a very good price, so we sold one of our 4 oz. cans of coffee for \$15.00 and bought a kilo of it. It gives us a lot of pleasure and is about the only luxury we have. Sure tastes good in the morning!

We wrote correspondence cards again last week-everytime I write one of those things, I think I will surely be home before it could get there. Some of the mail that has come in has indicated that our first cards got home sometime in July or August of 1943. Glad they did-I was doubtful that any of them would ever be mailed. This time they are allowing us to date them which is the first time they have allowed anything at all that would be an indication or a hint of a date.

I have just finished reading a very good book titled "All That Glitters". I don't know who the author was. There is a little Red-headed girl who is the heroine and she reminded me a lot of Betty Mildrich.

Weather continues hot although it has tried to rain a little once or twice. Been a busy week in the commissary as the first week of the month always is. Spent nearly \$1000 in the bahay.

Spent nearly \$1000 in this bahay. May 8-18 May's going along pretty rapidly. Things of great moment have been happening here in camp and here presented my writing up till now and may for some time to come. On about the 5th or 6th of this month the carabao driver came in from this dirty run to town and without being able to say a word to any other Americans, they were whisked away to the (other side and locked up there. On the 10th the Japanese Military Police (counterpart of Gestapo) came in to camp and took out 11 people-they kept them on the other side for a day and then took them to Cabanatuan. They came in again in the 16th and took 5 more including 3 chaplains. They have brought back from Cabanatuan 5 of the carabao drivers and one officer but have them still on the other side. Some sort of an investigation is going on. Everybody has been on edge expecting to be called next or expecting a shake-down of the camp. This has made our morale pretty low.

Been trying to rain a few times this last week. Johnny received 13 letters-9 in one night-one of them had a picture of his true little hide in it-makes him very happy. Don't know but what I might be hanging my mind a little about wanting any children - my! what is this camp doing to me?

Been reading and playing bridge lately-helps pass the time. Expect the Davao detail in here any day if stories of some of the Japanese are true.

Joe had a birthday on 12th-it was our regular long day. Not much commissions this month and probably won't be as many in the future. Not probably won't be as many in the future. Not until the "best" is off anyway. No nerve! May 19-July 19-Buried -See insert in small notebook. July 19-Details of 840 left for Japan on 16th-mostly enlisted men. Taggart and Turner were among the officers who volunteered and have gone. Looks like they will try to take us all up there before the end. I figure if they do, they will have to do it before the end of September. Our only hope is that they miscal-

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culate and can't get us out at the last minute. They are transporting prisoners in the holds of ships and it is very rough to take--sure hope I can avoid it ----- would mean 8 months to a year more a prisoner--certainly a thing to be avoided if at all possible.

Strength of camp (this side) is now about 2300. Have brought in a couple of small detach from Bilibid in last couple of days--men from various outside details--most of them are in bad shape physically and report poor chow universally. On food has not improved any at all--still very little of it - get about 260 grams of rice per day with a few vegetables--had a spoonful of fish mixed with rice the last 3 - 4 days.

I've exhausted my own vitamin supply and the camp supply ran out a few days after mine, so am not getting any more vitamin. We have about 30 can left which we eat every other day supplemented with a lite extra rice which we have cooked up - rice is now ₱25.00 a cup in camp and hard to get. We had Joe up the other morning and had a ₱40.00 breakfast of hotcakes based on present prices--each hotcake was worth one peso. Got our stomachs full for once--lasted all day. We ate our last chocolate bar last night--we have saved them and eaten them when we had an extra bed day in the mess--we called these days "depression" periods and the bar near our -----now all have no more.

Tomorrow will mark the completion of 4 years in the islands for Joe and I, 27 months of which we have been prisoners.

Mail continue to come out daily, but I haven't but since the one from Dabolile--look forward each day to getting more, but am always disappointed. Had a rumor the other day that they were going to release all of this mail--everybody's spirits soared, but they just had it all out for counting purposes.

Value of money decreasing daily--duck eggs, are 1-90 each and hen eggs 1.60--Johnny got in a lot of pony sugar this month--Claire & I spent ₱35.00--Capt. Rodilieff--Mounton detail.
 Tayabas detail--had one.

And got about 3 pints--hope to be able to keep it so it will last about a month. The commissary boils it down and issues it as -----.

Tobacco very short, but we are allright for 6 or 8 months on that count--Johnny has only been able to get in leaf tobacco which sells for from 10 to 20 center per leaf--very strong.

Weather has been very rainy of late--typical rainy season weather--we should be used to it by now. Clothes & bedding all get damp & stay that way--can't go anywhere without getting soaked--have to stand roll call formation in rain.

Moved up to mess in Division II - not as handy as good as another mess--one of the changes that we have become used to. Everytime a detail leaves, the camp has to be consolidated--so we are kept in a more or less constant state of terminal.

Davao detail is still kept incommunicable--some of the men who came in from Bilibid were sent to the other side from the Davao detail and they were separated & sent to the other side.

Not much news--expect attach on Luzon anytime from September to end of year--it's been a long time coming. And if we are still here, we will be pretty hungry by the time they get here.

Ward detail has not been out for 4 or 5 days and wood is becoming scarce in camp--bridge is washed out and they can't get to their cutting area. They don't like to rut because they don't get this "worker's chow". No more corn-

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we had been getting corn meal much for breakfast & the workers had been getting corn meal now its lugao for breakfast & lugao for workers-glad we have sirup to put on it.

If we have to go, I'm going to try to take this diary out and a false bottom in my Red Cross box-don't believe they'll kill me if they find it although they might put me in solitary or something-but of steve it here, I don't think I can get it again.

Period July 19 to Oct 10 on small notebook pages inserted loose someplace in diary.

Oct 10-Back in big book-Joe said yesterday we had been prisoners 2 and one half years-a long time in any man's life.

Oct 11-came in from detail this noon to find that detail of 475 officers leaving tomorrow and next day all of us down to go except Joe who is war alternate. After some indecision, Joe volunteered to go so could be with us-hope he didn't make mistake. Still don't think they can get us out, though they may get us sunk on a boat. Hope not.

We have spent nearly entire afternoon quanning-come bread, fried vegetables & canotes. Will probably be sick. Trouble is we can't take much with us and must try to eat it all.

Have breakfast at 5:00 am & inspection after-probably leave around 7:30-
Am going to bury this and hope somebody gets it who doesn't have to leave. Must just now and peek. May God be with us.

Love to mother and Bob, family & friends if I don't make it. Hope the Japanese get what they deserve before this war is over with.
