

July 9th, 1945

Hi Dad--

Yes I know it's been a while since I wrote but I've been moving a little.

Just a month ago today I left Greenville. Since then I have traveled over 12,000 miles--9000 of it over water, since tired of looking down on water.

I think I wrote you from Honolulu. I left there and have been on all the main points in the in the south pacific except the present battle fronts.

Here are some of the places I've been --Xmas Is., Tarawa, Guadalcanal, New Guinea, Biak, Leyte and Luzon. I am now near /**Cut out by Censor**/ waiting to be assigned to an outfit. That shouldn't be too long.

You can probably read in the paper what the 25's are doing. We have to put in only 200 combat hours -- the least of any type of aircraft out here, including fighters.

As you've heard, Manilla is a wreck -- the place is really blown to hell. We have lived in some rough spots but this is the worst. Everything is covered with this thick goeey mud. We live in tents and the floor is, uh, huh, "mud"--about 3 inches of it.

Everyone in Manilla is selling--everything and anything. You can buy nearly anything for a price. They use Pesos for money and a peso is worth 50 cents of our money. For 1.00 (one peso) you can buy a bottle of soda, or a pineapple, or for 1.50 a dish, small, of ice cream. A meal costs from 5.00 pesos to 10.00 pesos. Used cameras sell for 300.00 pesos -- package of cigarets 1.00 peso. Everyone has plenty pesos but they aren't worth enough to buy much.

Natives come thru the camp, mostly women & children, selling bananas, pineapples , coconuts, taking laundry etc. They speak English and Gaelic (?) which sounds like Spanish. So far I haven't received any mail and won't till I am permanently assigned.

How are your crops this year? You must be pretty close to if not already in, harvest. How's the new Diesel?

Tell all hello for me as I am not writing more letters. Hope everyone is fine.

I'll write again when I get assigned to a unit. Bye now.

Your Son,
Bob

I'm enclosing some Jap invasion money which they printed up for the Philippines Is.

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U. S. ARMY EXAMINER

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