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Maj. Godfrey R. Ames (both A.)

(1 of 3)

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ment of the endocrine. He comes out a different person than when she conceived. Many considerate husbands do not realize that as long as a mother is nursing her child, her sex instinct is satisfied. They need to be told. Somehow the idea is getting around that the relation of husband + wife has something to it besides procreation.

Our finest couples are anxious to do the right thing by themselves + their children, + produce no more than they can properly care for. The right to limit the size of one's family has not been wisely recognized. How to select the number? - - -

- - - The race must be perpetuated. The fates do not care whether or not married people are happy. That does not seem right. Just when people are most in need of guidance, they are left to the teaching of a fool ancestry. - - -

- - - Domestic tragedies happen to persons who are not morally guilty. Child marriages are hereditary, + represent the first step toward self-murder. Most of the men in these cases are sexually irresponsible. Society looks on, helplessly.

world. The first is the love of a child who knows only love, not sex. Next the love of a single woman who shows us, sex can be sublimated in a noble cause, and now finally love which comes after sex as such has died.

When one observes an old couple gradually fading into the beyond, with nothing to bind them but that fine sentiment which seems to be but a return of the love of a child, he sees the highest state of which man is capable. Leave me a picture of the mother & her child; a picture without lust; one which reveals the humanizing effect of suffering & love, & I can construct for you, and myself, the outlines of a real Christian civilization."

M August 23, 1942.

Readers Digest

March 1940

"Why We Must Have a Separate Air Force."

By Alexander F. de Seversky (Harmon Trophy ¹⁹³⁹ Foreword ¹⁹³⁹ ¹⁹³⁹ ¹⁹³⁹)
Major, U.S. Air Corps Specialist Reserve.

In Europe today a flaming scroll bearing a military message of tremendous import is being unrolled before America's eyes. That message is unambiguously clear: vast armies lie immobilized in England and Europe; once-proud navies venture forth in peril of destruction from the skies; and, plainly for all to see, the air has become the decisive arena of combat.

In view of this indisputable fact, I pose two simple but vital questions:

1. Are the men responsible for America's defense program sufficiently aware that the airplane is the dominant weapon of the future?
2. Are they spending America's defense billions, and guarding the safety of our people, with intelligent vision of this new role of air power?

It is imperative that these questions be canvassed frankly and fully, before our program for national defense becomes congealed in obsolete and ineffectual patterns.

The dominant role played by air power in Europe today gives only the merest hint of its complete ascendancy in the future — the future for which we should be diligently

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preparing right now. While we solemnly debate a "two-ocean Navy," the increasing range and striking power of aerial warships promise to reduce all navies to a secondary role within the very few years that it will take to complete our new naval program.

The tactical reach of bombers has been raised from 1000 miles to 7500 in the last five years - an advance of 650%. Right now our Douglas B-19 can fly to Europe and back with 36,000 pounds of explosives. This is a true dreadnaught of the air - but, unfortunately, we have only one of them. Any nation possessing a fleet of such bombers could quickly end all questions as to the ability of aircraft, single-handed, to win decisive victories on land or sea.

Within the next five years we shall witness a further step-up in bombing ranges to 25,000 miles. This equalling the earth's circumference, is a mere 233% advance on present ranges. Germany is already racing furiously toward that goal; her gigantic Kuriers, capable of 20,000-mile ranges, is in production, and she is desperately re-tooling to turn out machines with ever-increasing range and bomb load. Soon the Atlantic and the Pacific will be no wider than the British Channel for the nation which dominates the skies.

Within five years we can bomb any spot in any nation - or be bombed by it in any part of our anatomy.

To America the lesson of all this is brutally clear: unless we are to risk destructive onslaughts by enemy air powers, we must completely revise our thinking in matters of national defense. No longer can we rely on the leadership of old-line strategists who, proud in cavalry tactics and infantry maneuvers, still think of military aviation in terms of yesterday & as only an adjunct to armies & navies. In the name of common sense & common safety we must begin now to prepare our aviation for tomorrow. And the first step is the establishment of an independent Air Command, possessing the imagination and audacity to wage all-out war in the air and operating on terms of equality with the Army & Navy.

I have studied, as far as I am aware, all recent attacks on the idea of an independent air force, whether emanating from official or unofficial quarters. The common denominator of all the objections is the claim that the U.S. has built a fairly creditable air force under the aegis of the two older services.

The rebuttal is simple. It

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is that at present the U.S. has no air power at all! We have a miscellany of warplanes but no air power. We have an effective naval air-arm, plus an immense mass of Army aircraft. Neither of them nor the two together constitute air power.

No matter what the departmental "bass hats" affirm or deny, the present war discloses one basic principle of air power: no land or sea operations are possible when control of the air is in the hands of the adversary. Dunkirk is a superb demonstration. The withdrawal operations were accomplished primarily because the British had established local superiority in the air. British Spitfires and Hurricanes, masters of any German pursuit plane by reason of a mere 25-mile-per-hour margin, were able to control the air over the Channel; without such control the evacuation would have been a shambles. This supremacy, however, applied only within a radius of 100 miles - the effective range of land-based British pursuit planes.

This same local superiority accounts for Hitler's inability to invade England.

The Battle of Britain is an almost perfect laboratory case of pure air warfare. Out of it one blood-red fact emerges: Hitler cannot invade Britain so long as a swift British fighter combats magnificently its margin of superiority in the skies over the British Isles.

In the light of these facts, no one contradicts the assertion that America needs a vast number of planes. We have the inventive genius and the productive power to turn them out. But the unvarnished truth is that we are not likely to get the kind or quality of planes we need while our air program is in the hands of men unconsciously loyal to their own older services and checked by the red tape of military tradition.

The leather medal for all-time futility should go to those who keep up the argument about the relative merits of naval power and air power. The battleship, the admiral are fond of emphasizing, is still master of the sea. It is (beyond the range of aircraft), just as the lion is still master of the jungle. Who pays any heed to losses when crossing by airplane overhead? True, sea power is still our chief defensive reliance, and will remain so until we achieve an adequate

air armada. It would be dangerous to switch from an old form of national defense before a new one is perfected. And even when the transformation is complete there will be special tactical purposes for surface and underwater craft.

However, even today, naval fleets can operate only beyond the reach of warplanes based on a given shore. When land-based planes can strike, the ships are doomed. The recent engagement between warships and dive bombers in the Sicilian Strait demonstrates this. Only a handful of German planes was used in the initial encounter, yet the cruiser Southampton was sunk & the aircraft-carrier Illustrious & the destroyer Gallant limped away disabled. It is reported on good authority that anti-aircraft fire from the British ships brought down not a single Nazi bomber. The 12 Stukas bagged by the British were shot down by land-based pursuit planes, coming from Malta 60 miles distant.

The area of naval control is being narrowed with every enlargement of the striking range of military aeronautics. Formerly the North Atlantic was immune from air attack. Today great German

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bombers scout the ocean lanes 500 miles west of Ireland, attacking British naval and commercial targets. Soon naval immunity will be wiped out entirely. Thereafter, the navies of the world, like armies in the greater part of Europe at this time, will be able to swing into action only under the canopy of land-based air power.

Let me define the concept of true air power as developed in the present European conflict. Its prime function is to ignore and over-reach fleets and armies & to reduce the enemy to helplessness by striking directly at its most vital spots—aircraft industries, public utilities, munition plants, harbors, airbases. The perfection of this new strategy will render obsolete the mile-by-mile surface struggle for ports and territories. An enemy so thoroughly battered from the air that it loses the strength to fight back will not have to be occupied.

But the old-school army & navy mentality, nurtured in textbook strategy in terms of naval blockade and infantry development, hasn't the air-mindedness to grasp such concepts. It is this diehard adherence to outmoded principles, rather than any inability on

our part to produce airplanes or pilots, which has prevented the creation in the U.S. of a true air power capable of protecting us whether by offense or defense, against annihilating air attack.

Of course, in the future, as now, aircraft used in common tactical operations with land forces ought to be under direct command of the Army. The same is true of the Navy. Our aviation with the fleet is splendid naval aviation, precisely because it has been developed by the Navy. But aviation developed by the Army + Navy, no matter how strong it may become, always remains a weapon of these services, unfitted for the major task of pure air power.

In the very nature of the case, aviation tied to an older, slower service is destined to become inhibited. New ideas are slowed up + frequently doomed to premature death; the channels through which they must move are clogged by the prejudices, ambitions + fixations of the older services. Talented air strategists and designers, of whom we have plenty, cannot contribute their best when condemned to work within fallacious

plans of strategy.

As far back as 1917 I personally fought in pursuit ships that carried three machine guns, and in 1918 cannon were mounted in French air fighters. With this experience in mind, I submitted to the U.S. Army Air Corps in April 1938 two designs of fighter planes that carried up to six machine guns and one cannon, as well as armor protection. Yet, until forced out of their inertia by the experience of the present war, our authorities continued to specify only two machine guns for pursuit planes. And this, mind you, at a time when German & British pursuits were carrying not only 8 machine guns but cannon also.

Characteristic of the infantry viewpoint which dominates our air program is the fact that, while European nations had machine guns streaming from one wing tip to the other, our regulations placed the guns within 14 inches from the eye of the pilot - simulating the army sharpshooter with the rifle butt on his shoulder.

For years the Army Air Corps could not convince Army Ordnance that machine guns on aircraft should be fed ammunition from

either side. Machine guns ^{used} on land were fed only from one side. Army regulations therefore permitted no deviation from this standard. It was only recently that this situation was corrected.

For an illustration of our present unimaginative conservatism, take the Army's P-35 pursuit ship. It carries two machine guns and 100 pounds of bombs over a range of 1000 miles. This is a pitifully small utilization of the plane's potentiality. Modified for export under less exacting regulations than our Army's, the same plane carries four machine guns & a 1300-pound bomb load nearly 2000 miles. The increase in fighting capacity is evident.

The limitations imposed by the Army on the Eagle of our air power help explain the inferiority of American military aircraft, as now disclosed by the present war. In Great Britain and Germany, where air power was independent, such anachronisms did not occur.

So much for the technical side. The unreality of tying air power to the older service is also reflected in our truly fantastic organizational setup. Our Air Corps has two parallel

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Chiefs, both Major Generals, who are in charge of equipment, personnel, and training. One of them is at the same time Deputy Chief of Staff for the Air in the General Staff of the Army. Our striking aviation is known as the General Headquarters Air Force and is headed by a Lieut. General who outranks the Chief of Air Corps troops. Nevertheless he has no authority in the selection of equipment + personnel, + must work with what the Chiefs of Air Corps decide he should have. As far as tactical disposition of his units is concerned, he cannot move without approval of the Chief of the General Staff of the Army. The latter, not being an aviation man, has to consult his Deputy for the Air before he can give intelligent orders. Thus a Major General really gives orders (without taking responsibility) to a Lieutenant General who outranks him, but has no authority.

Does this sound complicated? Well, it is. No military machine can function efficiently under such a crossword puzzle system of authority. Through our Air Corps officers are gamely doing their best, without a moment's respite, under such conditions. But only an independent air

force based on a straight line of authority can really be effective.

The Navy also has its pet foibles which hamper the development of genuine air power. The illusion that sea power can carry its own "umbrella" in the shape of naval aircraft operating from carriers is an instance of horse + buggy thinking. Naval planes based on ships are encumbered by landing + arresting gear; their performance is inferior. At Shaybrook, as in the recent case of the Ilustrious, it was tragically demonstrated that the air protection carried by the fleet is nothing but a clay pigeon for a land-based air force.

The British fully realize this now. In the Mediterranean, therefore, they begin to support their fleet with land-based planes at Crete, Malta + Sicily. Only under the protection of air power that commands the entire theater of naval operations will any navy be able to function in the near future.

The objections to an independent Air Command add up to a puffing zero. Unless men high in our national councils break thru the blind traditionalism that is clipping the wings of American air power - unless they free it to attain its rightful independent

stature - the nation will pay dearly in blood + money for their failure.

What, specifically, are the first steps we should take? To begin with, airmen of proved vision should be placed in charge of the aviation branch of our national defense, + be permitted to translate tactical lessons into mechanical improvements. There is no dearth of such men. We have at least a thousand experts in military aeronautics, with nearly a quarter of a century of active experience, whose skill, inventiveness + creative vision are unsurpassed. We also have an aviation industry capable of giving us world supremacy in design + production.

An independent Air Department staffed by such experts + backed by this industrial capacity would call for + could produce:

Long-range bombers able to do more damage in a single raid than the Nazi armadas have inflicted on England since the beginning of the war.

So protect the bombers, especially designed fighters, capable of speeds 50% greater than the bombers + equipped with fire power surpassing the enemy's.

Today we have no such planes.

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The present tendency to adapt the armaments of older services to aerial warfare, must be abandoned; new concepts growing out of the special problems of aerial battle should be developed. For instance, future pursuit planes may be armed by a weapon comparable to the naval torpedo, capable of knocking out the target bomber with a single projectile.

Again, an independent Air Department would provide long-range interceptor fighters, to head off enemy planes long before they even approached American targets; + short-range, fast climbing pursuiter for local protection of military objectives. The disposition of these local pursuiter would be logically related to such objectives; they would not, as at present, be located as though they were cavalry units.

Also, we should transfer to the Air Command the entire anti-aircraft defenses of our nation, including anti-aircraft artillery, listening devices, etc. This the British and Germans have been compelled by experience to do.

These are but a few of the essentials.

were we to build, as we could, an independent air force such as this, no nation would venture to attack us.

And it is not yet too late for us to plan such an all-round, independent air force. The cheering fact about the air situation in Europe is this: Both Germany & England are making practically a ~~new~~ start, from scratch, in an all-out attempt to make ~~a~~ aviation ^a weapon capable of functioning on its own. Even Hitler's huge & rammed Luftwaffe was built to blast the way for invading armies & not to replace them. Both nations now realize that victory will go to the country that becomes supreme by air power alone.

On this race, the U.S. is favorably situated as regards brains, plant & money. But if we allow the outworn, terrestrial-minded thinking of the Army & Navy to dominate, we shall find ourselves fatally handicapped - losers in the race for air supremacy, which we ought to win.

Our national security depends, then, on an independent and hard-hitting air force, with a personnel completely divorced from Army & Navy supervision, trained upon the new principles & conditioned to the new strategy.

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tactics + psychology of air war.
It should be organized
immediately, before we commit
ourselves irrevocably to a program
of error which can only result
in our ultimate humiliation
at the hands of the enemies of
democracy.

Opp August 21, 1942.

Saturday August 8th 1942.

Our Carregizer again - surprise!
Came over with water cans yesterday
& brought along a 12th can of Bogate
which I immediately sold for 12⁰⁰.
The Sugar & Rice available to take
back. No food available yet - 2 1/2 hours
overdue at Ft. Hughes now. Lots of
wind & rain tho so they don't lack water.
We have had such comparatively fine
chow at Hughes the past week tho I
can get my fine rice now on rice,
hash & gravy.

Suddenly was lucky to have a pr.
of rubbers here & found Nixon's
2 wool undershirts - I was awfully
wet & cold. Borrowed a pair of
socks & used an old dirty towel of my
own. Got all squared away. Has
been rough thru Mud-bay with
brush, comb & a change of shorts
tho.

Really stuck my t-neck out this
P.M. - Sort of a turn-about on the
Nasty Nips for a real change. Hope
to see I don't slip up - will
cost me just my life, that's all!
Feel a lot better than I have
in a long while - except for
being obviously deficient in some
important food elements - I'm
sporting a highly infected skin - hands &
face - I am well enough & well!

pick up strength & endurance in
time. My bowels are normal for
the present & believe me that
is a very important item among
the members of this group of POWs.

After what I've gone thru
now there are no items of rumor
or "inside dope" which I can even
begin to believe. We hear no news
of importance to us these days -
so some sort of began to con-
sider the allies vs the Axis as
"Our" war. Some of us seem to
notice reflections of victories &
defeats in the treatment accorded
us by the Japs. That fooled
some of us to believe we will
be left dead here if MacArthur
again fights the Japs this far
North. The Japs do close to us
& work us plenty & laugh with us
on occasion & but keep us at
a distance & could kill us all
without a qualm.

Tinko & Bayjo!!

Both successful! A fight
came in to North back today.
The Hon Juan O. saw something
and all hands had a bite or
so of candy & some part of
the gang of 300 odd Americans here
with hard bananas & cigars &
cigs etc.

This page is nearly torn

out already so will write on the
one side only from here on.
Am going to turn over new +
copy some gap phrases to
learn for this week. Knowing
a little conversational gap might
help a lot. Saves lot of needless
expenditure of energy, etc. at least.

Well + the other a peso (at
the boat) bananas are now
selling 12 for a peso. + candy
240 pieces per box (37 at the boat) at
25 to 40 pieces for a peso - to the
"buddies" the candy is supposed
to retail at one or two pieces for a
centavo or 120 pieces for a peso.
Some fellows make herough
this way to keep in sugar
(at 50¢ per 100 per kilo and in
cigarettes 35¢ per 100 per pack.

Comment: It is reported that
some American soldiers are trying
to sell looted Army medicine to
the corpsmen for the patients in
our "Red Bay". Earl Southwell
was operated last Friday for his
appetix + goes on ~~tomorrow~~
tomorrow + quite improved.

One man died in the next
room here yesterday with a
"step" throat. Operated but too late!
Will miss this place when we
leave. We are doing far better
than any other war prisoners of
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ever heard of. Understand the latest "dope" from Cabanatuan reports 37 deaths per day to be a conservative estimate.

The wife asked today for a report on the physical condition of all prisoners here. What hell? Gave more of the old Cabanatuan to duty from sick in the P.M. Hope the weather is so I can get back to the guest & get my "stuff" before we are due to leave there - any way!

Now, hope "post" powered here in the hospital & several hot plates - helps a lot. Plenty of water here too. Conditions could be arranged so that this would be a pretty good place to spend the next 6 to 8 months - very easy - but very likely won't be!

Some hope out that we may be held here to dismantle & move some heavy guns for scrap. Job would take months & is something which should have been done years ago. We may get to do it! But wife & I can't guess it up. The more months I stay here - alive & relatively healthy the more months I'll see of so coming to my 33, sticks upon

the "books" I guess! Hope Dad
 is alive & healthy & allowing the
 \$175⁰⁰ per month I've allotted to
 him for that purpose. It's see,
 Feb. march 100 - April 100 -
 May, June, July & August at 125⁰⁰
 he a total of \$900⁰⁰ he would have
 received by Sept 5th or there-
 abouts & I have on the books
 about \$586⁰⁰ to May 1st & about 900⁰⁰
 since then. Total funds \$1575⁰⁰
 And I only owe a couple of
 hundred out of that & beside
 the \$150⁰⁰ Tom has & had - which
 he owes me about \$1200⁰⁰ in the
 clear right now. Regarding, of
 course that I'm still allowing
 pay at the rate of approx \$210⁰⁰
 per month. About these &
 lots of things we wonder at
 times. That's a good sign in
 itself. Wonder now if I can
 get a bath before "lystolati."

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Sunday Aug 9th 1964
 Capt. Hoff & John Canell got
 back here Sunday for a 4 day
 day (camping) & report pulled in very
 conditions & procedures - however
 still here on the north because no
 boat permit to work to try a look at
 Ft. Weyler

There is a little rain yet tonight
but the wind has fallen off -
we may get over there tomorrow
OK. I'm full of candy from the
don Juan Co but not so far!
Am smoking cig. butts - Ran clear
out this evening. Nice!! Feel
a haircut again - or a shave - but
those sores on neck if we would take
away a lot of the ordinary satis-
factions of some. Have about 1/2 finished
reading a novel today. The Boat of the
Fishery Cat by J. G. P. de la Salle - 1929
Int. Time built but not so hot. Very dull
evening here & nearly time for hot
cut. I'm sleepy & tomorrow, since I'm
quite a day. H. So!

Monday evening August 10th 1902
Made a flying trip of a rough sea over
to Hingham & back today. So over they
with the water came just in time to sup-
load the boat with some chow (water
tins & such) & had my gear - all packed
by myself & came back me & myself
Have had an inadequate night chow
& have done a little washing of shirts &
socks etc. Have a bath towel soaking
in water to soak & soak & soak till of
you know what I mean. And
staid for our tent, but have a lot
of sugar between tent & myself -
won't size coming up - no tent!

7-11-42 - Noon. Has rained off on since night before last. Have had had to work yesterday & this Morn. Spent day, but may work this Morn. on building a boarded-up fence at Bry Cheney. Am now reading *Spring & The Human Body* by Dr. Loren Chen starting 7-24-42 - After all these months just passed, am now living in Malibu - applying for the "D.T.S." as it were! Have cleaned up Wheeler, Cheney, Gable, & Smith & are now working on Way. The other half of our section have worked on Geary, Crockett, Ramsay & Hearn, & are now at James. We also built a fence at Bry Morrison. The Lord only knows what comes next! Chew is now Rice, Tomlinson & C. B. Hoch! 3 per day had had some salmon for a change this morn too. It was really appreciated. Made a big haul off the "New Juan O" this afternoon, which spread over the 63 of 10 pretty well. Having no ^{fr} I got a banana & a chance to make some candy. It is mighty fine fudge too. I got about 5 pieces! Heeray!! Have plenty of clothes for right now - far more junk than I can carry. Some loot! But no more loot is to be had - So, will have to save some energy & wash clothes mighty soon. Water is awfully short & sanitary conditions deplorable; to say the least. Many sick here - but dying like flies at other Camps, etc., so we consider ourselves lucky in just lots of ways. Find the that we can all start out in the very best of spirits - willing, etc. & but just naturally peep out before a real period. One doesn't hold up well on rice, after what we have been thru. We get too little sleep & don't sleep well in this crowded, wretched lateral. Look forward to the advantage of proposed speedy return to the States, & minimize drawbacks. Wish I could write about our captors right now - but know I am far too prejudiced & lack proper perspective about them - the war, the surrender, etc., etc., so will just let all that stew awhile. We get very little news from outside, of course most of that is rumor - hearsay & 2nd hand - so much of the time is wholly unreliable. Have found my 201 file & my diary from Dec 26, 1941 & April 12, 42. Of course I was sent down here to be destroyed in case of any chance of its falling into enemy hands. (I found). Have it on pretty good authority that I'm not to draw "quarters" during these times - so with my insurance (\$750) & my allotment to head for savings (\$1250) I have only \$2500 per month stacking up on it a bank - O.K. - but it made my loss thru that of my wallet - the other way is remarkable - I had about \$300 in one form or another. Now have only - my creditable possessions, only - my identification card, my 401 (Aug), & my Tom

metal rings I made in Burma. All else is long gone. Bill Edison just gave me a shot of good strong coffee - so since it's plainly ~~not~~ Polish my Kaywardie (P.C.) of cig. butts, & got my "downy" to dream of home & food & jump up about 5' time to run out of the tunnel. None of us have any idea at all of actual U.S.A. conditions - but bet we'd surely all be surprised! I'm reading the New Testament again & am in St. Luke & St. John tonight. O.K. to

8-5-42 - On Fort High since 7-29th Will leave here in a few more days. We have had comparatively fine chow here - Rice, Flour, C.B., C. Black Beans, Hot Sauce, Bacon, Salmon, T. Coffee, Cocoa - all in plenty. Some milk, sugar, gingerbread, I made kidge once, etc. Sugar & milk all gone now - O.K. to! Are trying to get more from the 12 men we left over on Ceresister. I have been a voluntary K.A. for about 5 or 6 days & like the chow but the hours are too long & I am drinking too much coffee, etc. & too much heat. Will try going back to duty tomorrow. Just played a lot of pinchile evenings & have gained quite a bit of weight, no doubt. Am awfully glad to be here instead of back at Colonistan - we hear they are having lots of deaths per day up there.

Hear rumors now that we are all to be sent home between 1st & 1st of Sep. (Year not stated!) 8-16-42 - It is just after 10:00 AM & we are all still here on the "rail" & working. About 16 of us were left behind this AM. "No Truck!" So I've had a haircut & am washing up some things. Looks like rain tho - so they probably won't dry! Found lots of new Gambles here this AM. More fun!

8-26-42 - Started out to go to Ft. Frank (as we thought) this AM. & when we got this far (St. Drum) we were ordered off & unloaded of our gear & tools & have been here 7 hours now - so will probably be here a week or two. The channel was as smooth as could be when we came over but has kicked up a real mess outside now. Bored, as usual, for a transfer. Hope Ft. Frank will have more & better chow although they promise us fruit or vegetable tomorrow. Had "A Message From Batang" tonight. It is the Diary of Z.S. Loh (No. who went out to Tibet to serve under Dr. Shelton (Bonitani).)

Thanksgiving '42 - No Etmin!! Have extra chow - about P. 15th hour - there is good news in the offing! Am reading "Main Lamp".

12-29-42 - Am still reading "Main Lamp" & also "Outlines of Economics" Edited by R.C. Ly (S.E.A.) 1932, Millers Co., NY, 1933. I'm O.K.
24 Ly & B. 7-8.

1-14-43 — Reading "The Life of Greece" by Will Durant — Simon & Schuster
 N.Y. 1939. 3-2-43 — Tired & sunburned. Crapped wood this AM. 1
 for "I" Japs Kitchen. 3-17-43 — St. Pat's day! Waper is out last P.M.
 I worked AM. — carried straw — am peoped! Am reading "The Hidden
 Lincoln" by E. Hertz — and the "Old Testament".

6-23-42 — General's inspection in the line now! Am far far inside & going
 deeper. Ginebra A-I-IA is mighty hard to resist tho! Running this
 damn bet. commissary is a pain in the neck. Will work on the farm this

7.M. Had 3 carts filled this AM. They ground up some coals for the stoves.
 Chows constantly falling off. Getting a few cucumbers, squash, & greens
 off the farm — but cutting rice & cocobool. Beatings increasing &
 so are the deaths. Have sent two men to the hospital in last 3 days from
 this "bohay". Has rained every day for the past 2 weeks & every-

thing I have is dirty & muddy & no chance to wash or dry clothing.
 Shoes all but gone! 3000 men per day to the farm now & all
 bare feet, & in rags & tatters. Hats are going now — dry season

will bring its troubles! Sugar, Coffee, etc. very hard to get. Coffee
 is P62 per kilo (crude). 6-25-43 — Yasume this AM. Charney &

I killed a Grande last nite! I don't know when or where.
 I'll get money to pay for some! To hell with it! Have had a lot
 of tea this AM. & feel horrible. Big ringworm on my bony — & it
 certainly itches! Hardest half-day so far yesterday on farm th

7-3-43 — No hope in sight — have pellets & no eggs — a breed lost.
 Had some mango beans with my rice for lunch! Am to quit smoking
 in the AM. Why? Have to buy eggs to keep from going blind.

Sept. 18th Got soaking wet this AM. — standing by to do it or a million.
 Rumors flying thick & fast & most all of them stink! Hear Hitler
 is in Switzerland, Italy has fallen, Tojo has resigned & the war soon to end.

Sol. 875 men & officers left here this AM for Japan. About 200 died
 here. My kidneys & bladder now in bad shape. Food has been getting
 less & worse since I hit this camp. 816 to leave here in the AM on
 detail. Sugar in town now P3500 per sack. Can't get it here.
 Coffee (Crude) P140 per kilo. Shelled peanuts P100 per sack on cup.

1-3-43 — Paid us P300 yesterday & return now all of Bilibid bit here.
 All expect big Japan detail. 36 ext. B.T.C.

August 11th noon

Have had all morning off - washed & filled around & then had meal next for dinner. I went back for seconds - & got some, by gosh. It was a real treat! Think I had some horse-radish & that helped a million. Am going to play possible round. Had - but only a couple of hands & then the two fellows that P. Hunkind & I were playing with had to go out on a work detail. Finished "Soldiers of the Night" today - if told how G-2 (Combat intelligence, in particular) won the World War⁴.

Could be getting "squared away" very well here now if I were not such a lazy S.O.B. We will probably be called over to Ft. Wint before this is all over - but will probably clean up Ft. Frank & Ft. Drum first. Expect to be called over to Ft. Frank just any day now. Might even leave tomorrow. However, we are hearing all sorts of more or less nebulous & highly conflicting rumors lately. About them (Gips) having required the special report of name, rates & physical condition of each of us because we see to be (1) Sent home next month (2) next year (3) Sent to work in the mines (4) coal (5) gold if physically fit & sent to Cabanatuan if not. Oh hell!! Heard again tonight about the battle which is supposed to be raging at sea & ashore in the Solomon - South East of here. As we get it, both navies are

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catching it pretty rough. + the warves
are supposed to have landed followed
by allied - (Amer + Brit) troops.
All with heavy losses etc. Admiral
Hart is supposed to have made a statement
about the losses to be expected while on
the offensive against a well defended en-
emy etc. Here too that we are bombing
in U. Africa with B24's and are on the
offensive in New Guinea. Hope so! It's
great for morale here (which is very [absol-
utely unbelievably] low) to know that our
troops somewhere are fighting + winning
something! Men + officers here call
Mac Arthur "Dungou Dong" openly +
without criticism. Officers are called
by their names only by the men + even
"Hey you" without reprisal. The Japs
are the authority + tho they hold
the rank around here responsible
they give them very little authority
except to back them up in getting
the best of everything for themselves
+ sitting in their forts while the rest
of us do hard manual labor +
are unmercifully looted. Articles
of govt. issue + once looted from
battery supplies here on the rock -
such as foodstuffs in cans + other
articles of clothing as shirts, pants,
shoes + socks etc are now being
sold back + forth between enlisted
personnel + officers + when it
can be swiked then - are traded

for food & cigs to the Filipinos on the boats at the docks.

I still have my many metal rings which I made & my 3 Comedals & my dog tags. All else is lost from the Batterie I've worked at cleaning up, & stuff I bought for cigs at Calma train. Am very low on borrowed cash now & not much chance to borrow any more. Ought to be profiting on what little I have I guess - but just can't see my way clear to try that stuff. Too damned lazy maybe!

Have enough clothing to last a while if I don't have to carry it very far. Am short tho on bath towels etc.

There is a lot of talk here now by Officers who were Commissioned from civilian jobs here in the Philippines after the outbreak of the war - of the profits to be made on mining stocks on the market here - the day that it opens up on gold mining stocks. (If & when the U.S. wins the war.)!

Employment should be very good here in all lines if & when the U.S. wins. Granted that I have about 1 in 1000 chance of coming out of all this alive & sane & in reasonable health - that is, reclaimable as far as my physical structure goes - it is worth a bit of serious consideration to think of staying on here a bit if possible & trying to live up some employment.

If conditions permit I might
diddle around a little with the
idea of looking up the J.C.S. out
here to seeing just what goes on. I
could hold something like that for
a meal ticket & maybe land some-
thing which pays \$600 a month or
over & be sitting pretty well a few
years hence. After all - I did
come out here with the idea of
sticking around till August '43 or
so anyhow - no strain as yet!
(No, not much!)

One even hears a bit of talk
these days among the younger regular
officers about possibly leaving the
service when peace is again restored &
we are all safe home, etc. That is
providing a lot of things are thus &
so after things are all squared away
again. I know for myself - if I am
not at least a capt with a chance of
being a major by the time I'm 35 yrs of
age & the Army of Peace is not kept
at 500,000 men at least - I will not
try to stay & probably couldn't if I did
try. But, I'm not going to make the
mistake a lot of fellows made after^{1st}
W.W. & rush out to get home & get a
job on the "good floor" before it was
too late & they were "all taken up" & in
so doing passed up needed hospital-
ization & signed away a lot of claims &
rights they had, to compensation etc. &

then spent the next 20 yrs or so trying to get their rights.

When I get right down to serious thinking - which is mighty seldom these days - here is about the way things line up.

(1) In the first place my chances of being released by the Japs ain't be better than 50-50.

(2) If this war lack 'til '43-'44 there is less than a 50-50 chance that I will ever again be in good enough health to be able to be classed as a fair risk by an insurance co. & be employable.

(3) I have no home to return to.

(a) My dad, who was in mighty poor health 10 months ago has probably succored to the hectic time & is now beside mom in the cemetery.

(b) Margaret & I are too changed to be able to recognize each other & were never really compatible to start with - (I can readily see that plainly now).

(c) Sis, with her husband & baby has a complete life in which I have no place.

(4) My future will date from the day I'm released from the military service - where & under whatever circumstances I then find myself. All ties with my past pretty well severed.

The Lord only knows & Time alone will tell what the future holds for me, but from where I sit it is not very encouraging.

to say the least. But, where there is life there is hope to be had! It's true! Just keep us alive & we fight & plan & sweat & stew & hope without a single ray of enlightenment or encouragement from any direction.

Tomorrow - work or not - I've got to put my things in order for another quick trip. This time I expect to be gone from here for a long period - probably both Drum & Frank on a trip without coming back here. But, surely aim to take less stuff along. May have to really give up some 'stock' of necessary items. Am gradually coming to know just what is most useful than I really let better since we returned from Hughes - but our loot from there will soon be gone & if we go before it is - I'm learning my share of it - will have to do as well in the new place or do without, that's all!

Compared to my preconceived ideas of prisoners of war - these conditions are surely a jar. In certain ways we are all treated so much better than we could be - but in so many petty things which would make life so much more livable - we are denied necessities. Pay - dental & proper medical treatment - Eggs - fresh fruits & vegetables - fresh meat - etc. But Bay ohay - it could be so very much worse - we know!

It has been -
I may be again!! 4/4 2/19/54

Am glad to say I really believe my things at Catabatan are a complete & total loss. Don't think we'll ever have to go back there. Surely hope not. Rice & Onion Soup are not a healthy diet. Am sure too that Capt. Wrayhew who shared my table on the "Coolidge" died from double pneumonia at Camp ^{at} Catabatan. He had no medical care at all! Earl Southwell - the boy here from my battery who was operated for ruptured appendix would probably get well - but he can't eat. Some fruit?
 ☺ j'rite!

8-13-42: Worked hard today & yesterday at Battery James & got a lot of sunshine & sun afraid - quite a bit of sunburns. Have been eating very heartily tho & feel fairly fit tho awfully tired. Much too tired to wash any clothing, for instance.

Just made a pot of coffee & for chic expediency only - will have canned corn & sugar with same. Slow - sharp - sharp. It's certainly fine! I and Theron just bought a kilo of sugar for a peso - so will last a while longer. a little happier - certainly makes a difference on rice - or even cracked wheat. We also have a can of cinnamon which really knocks the sour taste out of rice.

We are most fortunate that a ship of British Registry on the
 45 25 634

way to Hong Kong - Loaded with Cracked wheat (50th Red Cross bags) was in this harbor when Hong Kong fell. So we have a bit of "Life Saver" each day now. Has been a wonderful help to all the Catalaw war bunch of us who have averaged, I'd say, a gain of 15 lbs. since we got here two months ago.

But right now if I could get to a good hospital & on a proper diet etc & could spend about a week taking steam baths & massage I'd be in fair shape again. Have lots of old scabby sores on the back of my neck & head. They are over a month old now so are beginning to worry me some. Nothing much I can do about them tho.

Surely better to live a lot these days - down yesterday - up today - because of good radio. Sometimes we hear that none of us will live to leave here alive and again - the tips will tell us that we are to be sent home soon. One gets so nothing is fit to be believed - or one is really to believe nothing one hears anywhere!

Having had the experience of returning to the U.S. in Brazil times after a protracted Panamanian visit - I can scarcely conceive the many far more sweeping changes I'll encounter this time - If & when I do get home. I'm sure tho that I'd really have to find myself all over again had I my.

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self remained pretty much the same. As is. I expect I'll be positively stopped by what I find. There is only one big helpful factor, financially, & I will probably have time to get my breath before having to dash out & find a means to earn my biscuits.

There is one weird possibility which naturally presents itself when I look over the field: that is - going back to K. U. for another year & then teaching Psychology in some dinky college somewhere. That might be ok - especially if I'm partially physically disabled or my health is permanently impaired.

As I recall - I'd need 4 hours of practice teaching in Social Science and a 2 hour course for method of teaching such subjects & I could get a class in High School Teacher diploma for History - Sociology - etc. Could also teach Educational Psych or any other Psych - for that matter after another 10 hours or so. By consulting Wheeler & Sarason & a few others I might live up a nice job in testing under some possible future civil service set up - for which I'd be especially qualified having a 2 to give me on my exam for my military service.

Unless one in my peculiar position dreams strange ideas up now and then I know I do.

A number of people here - because they see me reading the bible now and then - have the idea that some time during the "Beating & Shelling I 'found religion'". Proves how people can get weird ideas. The simple facts are that since the Christian Religion is based more or less on the Bible & is so important an effect in the lives of so many people in civilized countries today - it behooves any enlightened individual to know at least the fundamentals & know them fairly well. Fundamentals, that is, of the 4 Gospels of the Apostles & to be cognizant of the prophecies of the Old Testament. The Psalms, with George Washington's rules of conduct & Ben Franklin's comments of the down-trodden type of simple person should be studied simultaneously to show by how paired a "feet of balance" one may rise to fame. Oh, warty!

Intend visiting "Chicago" in the Aug. Have slight hopes of finding anything of mine - that I'd want! But must make the trip just to satisfy myself one way or another. Regardless of what!

Friday, August 14th, 1942.

Got up to old C. Battery this afternoon. The mosquitoes were terrible! Hardly was able to recognize the old place with the John growth of Epal. Epal, trees, etc. Found my pants of can suit & will

profit from same by 4 shirts (white, all)
or 4 pr. of trousers - a pair of shoes
or two some hats - a few pr. of socks
etc. May go up again to get a couple of
pr. of galabedine trousers etc. If I can't
cash all this with me I may be
able to trade them off. Can always
use sugar etc. Will try to find a
few more things down in the
barracks too - would certainly like
to recover my sheep-skin & my cumin
seeds, etc. Saw my humidior full
of water, as well as the blown-up
battery saps, etc. Will probably get P3⁰⁰
for a couple of pair of shoes & have already
sold one pair of slacks for P1⁰⁰. There
is to be an inspection right now 8⁰⁰ A.M.
Aug 15th. Not a restful night. Have quite a wash
to do today & will try to save a pr. of Garrison shoes.
Inspection O.K. was merely a prisoner commit
for a change in Jap admn. Worked the rest
of the A.M. but laid off this P.M. with a
touch of dengue. Just after lights-out
now. Am writing in my bunk by
flashlight & smoking a double cig. with a
sipping hot tea (part of the remaining loaf
from Ft. Hughes). Collected a kilo of
sugar for the "slacks" mentioned above
but the store deal fell thru. Gave
Herman Hawk the good white buck
pair for a pair he gave me a couple
of months ago. Washed out a bath
towel & some hats for underwear tonight
but are not being used. Have to

get them on the line early in the A.M.
Paid \$1.00 for a pack of Dovie Cigs
tonight & split with Mickson. He
doesn't eat enough & is about 50 lbs
below his normal weight now because
he has had the coregitor Quicksilb for
weeks.

A ^{Student} Jap Bugler - a wounded soldier
has been here in the room all
evening giving free conversation
lessons to Jack Wright & Harry
Simpson. My Jap is coming on
very very slowly.

I think Wip has the 'dope',
at least some of the American
prisoners are scheduled to end up
in Japan. He says they will just treat
us better there & we won't have to
work as we do here. How much
of that is plain "bull" & how much
just future Jap planning which war
victories or defeats may change - no
one knows.

We all hold at least a vague
hope that will be going home some
day the & I personally have no
slightest basis for any idea of just
when that will be how it
will come about or from where - or
anything.

We all entertain more or less
schulans ideas too of having to try
to escape attention squads & maybe
right here sometime - if & when!

no news of the Solomons or of
the Arthur route. Hope the
American push in the Far East
hasn't been halted or even slowed
down tho' that it keeps right
on until Japan is wiped off the
face of the earth. They haven't
broken and spirits high & I am
one & not alone - who have faced
death too much to fear it any more,
in the common aversion even
that a normal person holds for it.

Death now would be a release from
many things - tho' of course we all
hope to live & if we have to die -
we all want to go quickly. Have
been thru far too much to
stand much suffering or torture.

Have had occasion to speak
in conversation lately about the many
things which are far better left
unmentioned back in the States.

The El Canigido episode & the Q.M.
& its Tactical Administration & the Fall
& the Filipinos etc. It will all come
out in floods & pieces & attitudes etc
all over lived - but to stress certain
things publicly is not to be done.
That is - providing always that
the opportunity to speak publicly
comes up sometime in the future.

I hope it does. There are some
few things it will be a pleasure to
get off my chest!

Oh well - tomorrow as always is another day - so with a promise to myself to dream of helping Sis Cook + Ralph Jr. to learn to chew tobacco - I'll relax now + try + sleep -

8-16-43 -- 4:05 P.M. Have had the whole Sunday off! Mighty fine! Am going to relax now before show. I got Nixon to K.P. for me + made a 3 kilos (6.6 pound) batch of fudge + have sold \$7.50 out of it. Will paid \$2.00 for the 3 kilos - so we made a little + have more than a pound between us to eat. Have some cigarettes now too. Will make what I have last 10 drops or so. Am still out about \$300 the the so will have to watch out.

Have ailed up 3 pairs of shoes after saddle soaping them. Would gladly sell one pair. Have no prospects tho. Rough! Might make a couple of pieces if I could find the right man - + bay how I need the piece. Nothing is free + using my bankroll to the dips will hurt me as long as I'm in captivity + then come.

Had a good noon chow - pie + gravy, 1 hot dog + mustard - and a biscuit. Hope we can prove another one for chow tonight. A welcome change. Am going to try to learn some Jap toilet + buff my nose clean. Not much chance to be otherwise.

Intend reading Os. Jacoby on Paker
too!

"Prayer is Power" Alexis Lavel, M.D.

In Reader's Digest March 1941.

"Prayer is the effort of man to reach God, to commune with an invisible being, creator of all things, supreme wisdom, truth, beauty, and strength, father and redeemer of each man. This god of prayer always remains hidden to intelligence. For both language & thought fail when we attempt to describe God."

"We do know, however, that whenever we address God in fervent prayer we change both soul and body for the better. It could not happen that any man or woman could pray for a single moment without some good result. 'No man ever prayed,' said Emerson, 'without learning something.' - - -

"Thinks of God more often than you breathe," said Epictetus, the Stoic. In order really to mold personality, prayer must become a habit. - - -

Today, as never before, prayer is a binding necessity in the lives of man and nations.

8-17-42. Awfully tired - a long hard working day - pretty good show - am today awake just long enough to try to have a shot of jansko off the hot radiator on the east bay. Finally hung up my two pairs of work pants - just as duty as when I put them to rest.

Seem to be sticking up on things to do here. Can't understand why we have not gone on over to Ft. Frank before now! The wet weather we have had certainly won't help those guns any more the Japs want to save them. Johnny Coughlin is fixing up a machine shop here to put guns in shape for the Japs. He turned in a list of names of Filipinos (20-30) of whom he wants over here to work in the shop. He may get them. We are all more or less divided about his ideas & his conduct - but there are certainly a lot of angles.

Wed 19th Jan. Just after breakfast & a bright clear day. We are building fences on old General post #11, at the magazines, and the mosquitoes are bad in the damp shaded there. Looted a few odds & ends this morn'g & am really squared away here now so expect to move soon. Made a 3 kilo batch of candy & sold only two pieces worth 10 cents - but that paid for the sugar! Lots to eat if we sell no more. May sell my blue gabardine pants from the battery, which I went up & got this AM. to J. Coughlin for 2. Better than nothing! Hope we get home by Xmas. Some Xmas!!!

Sunday 21st Aug. Three weeks over a year in the Philippines today. Hope I don't have to stay here another one. Yesterday will long be known for the big "shakedown". The pipe went off for all stuff yesterday & took plenty. I was not hit hard, and they left us our books & chew - The Strain! Well - today, swim the P.M. - done for a dynamited fish got him later. These last two days - have done very little work. And going to try to get a shower now & read awhile & smoke in bed in my Kaywoodie. Made some fuel for fox Nixon - the same - "chuck" myself. Only about a kilo of sugar. Have enough chocolate left for one good batch. Am about out of sugar though. Jack Wright shows himself to be under a little more each day. Ego-centric in the extreme. Had to call Kinbold's "water off" today. He is still too much of an over-stuffed play-jockey. Typically a mid-western hypocrite. As orthodox of his "provincial" opinions & too full of "should" & "shouldn't" for everything and every body. Oh well! A

Sat 20th - Only worked a half day - but it was a "honey". Moon chew was mighty light - hope far more & better than "big" of it for tonight. Will probably lose to him some of anything remaining some of learned helplessness. Chewing a getting might be worse. No rest

know the answers. Now sending
a list around - those who want to
be transferred to the mainland. They
send them to Cabanatuan says
"Name Runners". Guesses to say
Do not put my name on that
list.

E-25-42... Third day of cleaning up
the scrap metal on the 'deck'. Our gang
started out at Hooker Pt. & are now at Monkey
Point & coming this way. Lots of real sights.
Especially so yesterday & this AM. We saw the tanker
burn at sea & heard explosions & saw ships
being towed in & then saw the hospital ship
with the big red cross on it coming in this
AM. Hear rumors now that "wanids" caught
some bombs too. Some fun. Actually,
none of us knew what the hell!

We do know that 30 of us are to
leave for Ft. Front in the A.M. Hope we
get off ok. & the work is not too hard, nor the
hours too long. Hope too that the food sit-
uations comes up to our expectations.
Am having to leave a great many things here.
Am also taking quite a load along. Union &
I will be separated again. Galt to leave
him here sick with dengue too but can't
very well get around it. Same mightly
if he follows staying here. Tough!
Have weighed only once in the last
few days & have no reason to believe it
was exactly correct, but! The scales said
170 anyway. That's a 22 pound gain over
we lost 2 months - anyway.

Since I had my bilfold stolen
 about the 4th of July & I've borrowed the
 following: St. Thomas P. 20⁰⁰, St. Catharine P. 10⁰⁰
 and St. Kitts P. 5⁰⁰. Have made out on
 that acct. It's darned hard to keep in
 cigar & sugar though! Just can't do it
 without some money.

Eventually, of course, 99.99% of
 us will be flat broke. One can't keep
 on spending forever without a pay-
 day near & then selling some of my
 clothing & making & selling candy has
 kept me up so far - but, when there
 are no more Luxia & Kismet!

That can of bacon which I
 brought over from St. Thomas has surely
 paid off too, but would rather find other
 money right now than any kind of supplies.

Have to admit when I look back on
 my first year in the Philippines - it has
 been awful! Wonder what the next year
 will bring? Will it too be a year of events -
 or of stagnating monotony as far as I am
 personally concerned? All hands here
 are trying to rekindle some kind of
 hope in the future - but it's coming
 along mighty slowly. One good thing;
 if the real bad break comes in the next
 few days, it is only 800 yds to the main
 land from Carabao (St. Paul). Could make
 a break from there better than from here
 by a whole lot. But, as far as I know
 now, would have to take off immediately
 & that's not too good an idea. In sum

where arms & ammo are here - but there, don't know! Maybe McRae will find out about a few things over there when he gets his bearings etc. He spent a lot of time there before & during the war. St. John, Wain, Paul & McKinnon are also returning to their old stamping grounds. Major Cook spent 18 months there.

Aug 27-42. Were "sold down the river" when we got as far as Ft. Wain, they had us get off & unload all our gear, etc. There we are, all 300 of us, leg & baggage. Lots of work to do here - don't know how long it will take us - but quite a while - weeks anyway, to look at the job. May go on to Ft. Frank from here. Don't know. The food situation is critical & apt to get worse, too the weather is now so bad that native boats can't get out to us & we work inside. Don't like it a bit! The American detail here consists of 9 engineers, & they are not doing much better than we are but Paul had a wash & bananas, etc. Rather a large Jap garrison (20 or thereabouts) here & mighty close hands on food. Brought about a pound of sugar with me & left 2 kilos or so with Mitsuh. I'm going to run short in a couple of days - We brought me coffee with us & so are learning to do without it. Some fun! There are two barrels of 2-1/4" gauge used. Also 4-1/2" gauge for the 450 cal mounts & 1-3/4" quick firing gun here on the ship. It is really a marvelous place & I don't

believe the Japs could well have
taken it had plenty of food & fresh
water & could have "held out" for a long
long time. It is damn near impossible.
There are no flies & I personally have
not seen a mosquito although there
are a few - we don't use mosquito
bars over our bunks anyhow. Had a
cold shower (rain) last evening &
feel pretty well today. Rice & "quan"
& "fou" gravy is a real hit & one might
leave one heavier but mighty short
of breath. "Turn to" will go very
shortly. Must get "squared away".
Have studied my Japanese lesson very
extensively & this evening thanks to
some interest upon the part of my
captains I had a couple of them who
are very bright & amiable.

Aug 30th - Noon - chow about all
gone. Are working on tearing down
a 3" gun. Have lots of work to do
here, yet we hear we are to move
on in a very few more days. Time
to do a little washing after dark to-
night - have done none since
I've been here & am filthy. I'll
so very uncertain! Was too tired to wash
clothing to me - so laid down right after
night chow & slept until "lulu". Then
had my head shaved & smoked the
last cigarette & had a hot cup of tea
& shot the breeze with a few of "the boys".
Am developing a bad case of neuritis

in my left knee. Dig around in my field bag & found my notebook from the 92nd Camp. (May 31.) That I'd left it at Caberethan. My infected right hand looks better this evening. Believe it will be OK in a few more days. Am sure I weigh over 170 now - have a tremendous "rice gut". No strain!
 8-31-42. 'Laid up' this afternoon with neuritis in my left knee & upper leg. Managed to wash two bath towels & a hand towel. Got the 1st wash - it will take at least 3 more before I can use them - only pair of socks - another hand towel, a white sport shirt & a pair of undersweat shorts & a work shorts (one was white). 'A Tip' 'made me' for my small mouth-ping & gave me a pack of Bayling cig. & a song & dance about his family & how we will be traded in 1946. I told him I didn't believe in this "Echange" story, so he showed me in a Japanese news paper where the Empire are now being traded at Laurens Marques, Madagunigue. Also, showed Dip planes which were reported to be bombing 2 cities in Australia. Oh well!

Have started to read Proverbs in Colonel Bunk's Bible. Thought I might as well get some good out of it before it falls apart or I lose it. It is a very nice Bible and easy print, the book like

has all necessary cross references, etc. Of course I shall return it to the Colonel immediately, if & when the opportunity presents itself.

It occurs to many of us very often, that the small groups of us in corridor @ 380 are receiving very preferential treatment as compared to the rest of the prisoners of war here in the Philippines. We know only that we are being treated better than any prisoners of war we can see about anywhere ever. We feel too that our own buddies here in the Philippines are just naturals, ^{not} giving us good. They just can't be because they are in too large groups - without many necessities ^{which} we have here & no chance to get out & get things.

1946 is too long to wait for an exchange of any kind. Some like that are based upon a strong "Die Tappan" idea. Japan must be victorious, in other words, or else. And, none of the common soldiers around here have ever been given the chance to figure on an "orleke". Ind. folks there has been no hint of a reason. (In their propaganda newspapers) to believe anything we not just say they have been told.

9-1-42: No "turn to" for me this P.M.
My left knee is more swollen, and has
I heard knot just above the knee-cap &
a little on the inside of the leg. The
'dope' came out that all sick (unable
to work) were to be sent back to
Corregidor this A.M. The boat is here
right now - but unable to take off a
Ship Lt. who wants to go to Ft. Frank.
He got good and wet trying, though. We
are plugging rice, etc. on board by
main strength & awkwardness & a line
from top side. Most of it is not very
wet upon arrival. Hope we get some
coffee, etc. if we have to be here much
longer. Am all packed & ready - saying
it's calm & nice. Wish I knew just
what the heck is wrong with this knee.

9-4-42: All just quiet show, or something. Here
I am in Bilibid Hospital in Manila & they are
working on my knee - trying not to have to operate.
On the 3rd I got over to Ft. Frank (the boat with
on to Magsaysay) then yesterday got to Corregidor
& just "hit & banded" right over to here.
Didn't hit come. There were 5 of us left
down for Carabao & 6 left the hospital
for Manila. Left only 5 patients at the
hospital in the ward at Corregidor. Rice &
soup here nasty. But this noon there
was real beef in the soup - & lots a
lot of vegetables - so I left a lot of my
rice in my mess kit. Captain just
brought over a hot cake. Fine. He came
out on the Cralidge with me & is convalescent

here now. Surely miss my coffee here.
Those with money can buy lots of
things here at the store.

9-5-42 Sat P.M. Leg shaping up fast enough from
hot wet dressings; decided to keep them up another day
or so - not cut this P.M. Gave Col Bunker's
Bible to Col. Bucher who is to go to Japan &
will see Bunker there & can give it to him.

80 of the gang move out for Labeaction at 6:30
A.M. Capt. Seidel gave me a can of soluble
so I had a cup of coffee just now. Am
sneezing profusely. Aight to operate in a
day or two. Shaved today. Am tired & cheery
G² out

9-6-42 Sunday P.M. The gang got off ok. It
was exciting to hear when a cup of instant coffee.
Looks a decent, may ain. What's Yubudli?
He is the guy who pulls the trigger when
you get your gun off! Something, eh? It is
just after sick call now. The doctor just came
thru & operated on my left leg. Got a foreign
body & some pus out of the hole & attached a drain
in it. Cut in about 3/4 inch. No anesthesia,
but it hurts - washed the skin off with
iodine before he cut.

9/8/42: Drain chime came out & had to be
replaced this P.M. & I had to vent up over
the head of the bed. They will be moving
me out of here in a couple of days
and then I'll be going North with
the next bunch but I don't know
when. Am completely out of sight
to face. Plenty tough. Good luck
this I hope

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unnecessary. Even to have a piece or two left.

Wed 9-9-42. Let me go to the office down this P.M. stopped all treatment on my leg. Just kept it covered & let me up & don't have to be waited on. Some fun. Bought 25 very small + mangy bananas to eat for 50¢. Heard a rumour tonight that there was fighting on Luzon (How Silly!).

9-11-42. Knee Ok. Had a shovel + a hoe + this P.M. + feel considerably spruced up. If it were not raining this P.M. would certainly go wash out some clothing. Has been a week now + I've used up about everything I have here. Have some soap which will do the job + there is lots of running water so I shouldn't hesitate to get going. Have had a real week of rest tho + feel somewhat refreshed as a result.

9-12-42. Transferred to "L" Bldg #10 yesterday all of a sudden. This isn't so hot here but I guess I'll make out until I can leave here for Cabanatuan.

An officer from the 51st Inf. gave me a shot of coffee last night. Supply was a life saver. I drank it without cream or sugar so it would be more of a jolt. Coffee is awfully expensive here. Have to go out + straddle now. (I don't know why the hell I'm writing this anyhow.)

9-13-42. Just started on the 2nd pack (of 5) of pipe which I got the other day with the last of my money (I sold out). Have to buy some more of sugar, soap, or cream anyhow, & don't know where I could get it any cheaper than right

The latrine & garbage & water
situation has not really im-
proved - but flies, blow out
sores & are in our food & all
over us continuously. If it
rains on us here on the
beach - Oh, but if we catch a
typhoon, god help us. There
are 7000 Americans & nearly 4000
Philippines here on a space of
filthy earth scarcely big enough for
1000 men to sleep on. One night
the Japs bombed but Capt. Ames
& I had walked down to the beach
about 7:30 P.M. I drew my pay
up to April 30th (556⁰⁰ I believe)
Took a check on the U.S. #18,217
for 4556⁰⁰ and dated of May 6th made
out to L. M. Edwards, no "200-709"
and endorsed to me. I re-

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endorsed it over to Dad on his
estate & didn't tear it up until
nearly noon the next day. The
rest of my pay I took in cash -
which left me with P450⁰⁰
for the Japanese to pick up, as
they did everything else. The
"Fall" certainly has been a
population top lot of us - it
showed up the pawls as good
wrong. We have been cheated
of food - needlessly starved -
made to cook with wood & reveal
suspicions with smoke with these
pails of gallons of gasoline being
with old firing when I do so would
have saved our lives & destroyed
the enemy etc. Now the
central part prevalent in the
high officers of our army in

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inflaming & agitating ourselves
these by putting the wrong
way with our captives. It
is quite evident that our
condition is by no means
improved in the past days.
We still in prison & has already
extended the hospital to over-
flowing & now as stretcher go
up the hill each day. And
people still pull triggers accidentally
& pick up "chick". Khmer is
life but all we know is that our
game & cement & hundreds of
tons of food sleeping killed
on Japanese ships. Our
working parties are repairing
barracks (I suppose a well built
probably for Japanese occupiers).
They are building a wooden
74

be overeating this week too -
whatever that means. All in
all many of our men & officers
are eating better (in our trading)
than they have in months & need
working parties as fed & well-treated
enough by the guards that we
have lots of volunteers each day.

I have charge of 100 men
in a 1000 man group. There are
USAC grad to be (some, none) and
the Col. Chase (68th Co). Most
of the men in my group are
from C & D Sq. Have some few
Sgt's from FOUSA units. They are
all section (some) leaders except most
Walker (his other work in Dugout
Unit, Section 1) who is acting 1st Sgt.
Sgt. Long is related to be Section 1
of Section 1 and Section 1 Section 1
75 C.A.B. 7-8

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H. Riley will be. Think Capt. Vance
has a group of 100-150 hundred of
Officers do not & are simply sitting
on their hands. I don't get in
at break, ever! Can't they
followed & assist at it I drew my pay
on the 1st of the month. I had a tooth
pulled (lower right) & only had 10¢
of 7000000. Must admit that between
then & 4:30 AM when I knocked off of
guard duty & tried to sleep - I never
felt things - too busy - then tomorrow
had to feel anything. In looking over
at 11:00 pm. Wonder how long your
this book will remain in my possession
- I figure when it gets to go. Will
run out of cigarettes today - don't fear
that to much cause I know I can
take it - but they have certainly
been a lot of satisfaction there
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last two weeks. Think all that has
happened here - I have constantly
striven to just be a man & to
provide better morale & better con-
ditions among these men where I
could. The fact that I was given
the Silver Star in Official Order of May
42 has been both a help & a hind-
rance to me. Wish it were possible
before who rate it to be given before
& those who don't - not to get them
would make each more meaningful.
Lt. Price, who was killed at Iwo Jima, his
job on about Apr 26th - was
as new & fine an officer as I have ever
met - who'd it all to be decorated &
why another could mention - not
only scorn - but of other medals &
promotions. Damn them. Wish to
Christ we had not been so
77 ex YB. 38

ambushed by so much dead
 wood (Bambusa, etc) here all
 this time & things might
 have been different! But as
 is ~ My job now is to do what
 little is within my power to see
 them something less worse (which
 is still possible) On food & housing.

Swear that the first place I
 get into on the 13th SA of course
 what a hell ready to eat food. In
 going to see a 2500 hill eat
 it all - that kills me. A stream
 of food - just says all EPOPs.
 In my waking moments the
 the which predominate. There is
 his meat for 100 minutes &
 gallons (lb) of Kopia rice with 20
 little class (Cevrotin) thrown in

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+ coffee (no cream or sugar - usually
 from a concentrate - but coffee). The
 was also issued 5 centan cups of
 flowers & 2 gallons of hard (100min)
 to last me 2 days - last night.
 That will make a fine party to go
 over the river to the (park) it
 I have someone picked up a
 couple of sacks off the ground
 spread - it will be a fine
 show.

8-28-42.

Most miserable night (last) I
 ever spent. Rain & how - wet every-
 thing in camp & flood wet - every
 morning - started cooking at
 about 1 AM & were at the at 6
 as - plenty coffee & day - came
 me home right in the middle
 of the storm that we were
 to move at 9 AM the morning

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Maj. Godfrey R. Ames (both Co.)

(1 of 3)

Folios 4

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