

P.O.W./C.I. - A.L. Shreve

Book 2

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TITLE DIARY, BOOK II _____

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DATES 2 OCT 43 to 13 JULY 1944 _____

AUTHENTICITY CERTIFIED COPY OF ORIGINAL _____

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DIARY OF
ARTHUR L. SHREVE
Lt. Col. (F.A.) G.S.C.
Personnel

Book # 2

Oct. 2, 1943

My Darling Judy,

As I have said in my other book which is now about complete, it has been reconstructed from notes that I have kept and from memory. This was necessary for two reasons; first during the active campaign I was too busy or incapacitated. During our surrender and in the early days of our captivity I considered it dangerous to put anything in writing which referred to the war or the Japanese, this danger although still present is now much less, so from now on until the end which God willing will unite us never to be separated again. I am going to try to make entries as they occur.

Arthur L. Shreve

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Oct. 2nd Friday.

We are in the middle of the wet season and it has rained nearly all day too bad that it is the day that the Japanese give us as Sunday for had it been any other day our men due to the rain would have had a day off.

I went to Church and communion, we have a short service each Sunday. The Chaplain is from N. East Mo. Memories dearest mine of the times that we have worshiped our God together.

So much rain, I have been unable to get my daily exercise cutting wood.

I am quite comfortable in the Staff Bshay, there are four of us there, I have a spring bed and with my air mattress that I have managed to hold on too, I am quite comfortable.

Food is falling off and although I have some money there is little that one can buy.

Oct. 6th.

Weather improving, for three days the Japanese have had 300 of our Officers appearing in a Movie, the title being "Down with the Stars and Stripes" our men are in the scene depicting the fall of Bataan and Corregidor. It is better than the farm. My health is remarkably good considering the diet, I still have some sugar to go on the morning "Lugao" none has come into camp officially, I have been able to get some on the Black Market for ₱5.00 a canteen cup. Commissary prices are going up. Eggs 26¢ ea., Bananas 4¢, Guava Jelly ₱4.70, 1 pt Jar Ducies ₱4.00, Chickens ₱3.75, S. Pancit 80¢ per canteen cup, Oranges 30¢, Beans we cannot get, Coffee 2 lbs ₱12.75.

Have cut wood for about an hour, had my bath and soon supper and a show by the Camp Band.

Oct. 8th.

Many happy returns of the day dearest Judy and may I be there next year to be happy with you. In church I said a special little prayer this morning, you are always in my prayers as in my thoughts. But this was a special one for you on your birthday.

I have had a very happy feeling all day that you and our lads are all well and as happy as can be under the circumstances and that it will not be too long before the war will be over. So many times Judy mine have I felt that I must just get thru this for there are a lot of little things that I know I have done Foolish Selfish things that have made you unhappy, I want to live to ask forgiveness and they will never happen again.

The Japanese have ordered us to consider the surplus Med Personnel over and above a maximum which they have set up for the Hosp. and the Group's (142). Both Doctors and Corps Men as available for all work details.

I weight 147.5 lb a little light but not bad for the food and the heat. I feel well so do not worry.

Oct. 10th

The exchange ship has left, there are rumors from Sto. Tomas where all Aliens are interned, that some mostly English were for some reason taken from the original list. Applications were made for substitutes and due to language difficulties the approval came back for prostitutes, the sailing list then had 5 classes to wit the Preachers, the Physicians, the Politicians, the Profiteers and the Prostitutes.

The Japanese have levied a tax on all purchases made by our Commissary 3% on the Gross, it is to be paid by the vendors who pass it directly to us. This fund is to be used for the good of the camp as a whole when it has accumulated \$3000.00. The profit that we now have about \$4000.00 we can spend as we see fit.

Oct. 16th

Little or no change less rain the long awaited Philippine Ind. was declared with much celebration on the 14th the J.M.A. is officially discontinued. The 16th saw the Burma offensive start. I have had a cold but it is better. We had a Walt Disney Movie the 12th made me homesick.

Oct. 24th

Sunday. If Philippine Independence has done nothing else. We now have Sunday on Sunday. We started today. I did not get to church: cold is still here but better.

Yesterday one of our poor insane men from the hospital disappeared. He was present and taken to the latrine by the Medical Corps Attendant just before morning Roll Call and absent at Roll Call. He had attempted to kill himself several times. The Japanese have confined the Attendant. The Bks leaded and one of our guards who was on the post where the man was supposed to have escaped. Our meat ration has been very low lately.

45 Officers and 57 Enlisted have Med. been sent to Gr #1 and #2 for duty not medical.

The weather at home must be grand now, two years ago tomorrow I had to say good-bye to you and our boys, that dearest mine was the hardest thing I have ever done in my life. I will never forget, the station you in the car, and watching you drive off. You were brave. God grant another year will not go by before we are united again.

Oct. 27th.

Enlisted men involved in or associated with the supposed escape of the insane patient in the hospital, have been placed in the guard house some for 20 days and some for 10 - all on heavy confinement 2 days out of three on rice and water they are in our custody. Group Staff's are to be punished upon the occasion of future escapes. We have been notified that we are to receive no more news papers. My cold is better. I have just learned that Japanese sentries have been put on our G. House.

Oct. 30th.

Our insane man was found on the farm, he was discovered by some Americans lying in a pile of vines and other discarded grass etc. He was eating a raw camote, very weak covered with filth and unable to walk. He was brought to Japanese Hq. on a stretcher where I understand he was questioned as to his method of escape, from all accounts he was entirely out of his head. That night Col. Beecher was called in and notified that the culprit had been treated in accordance with the Japanese regulations. My cold is nearly gone so are the rains.

Nov. 11th.

Twenty Five years ago today was the end of our last Big War, I hope that it will not be long before we see the end of this one. We had some good news last night, the Japanese authorities notified us to prepare a warehouse for Red Cross packages from the States. No one knows how welcome they will be. We were inspected by the Japanese General who is incharge of P.W. here, he brought us some magazines and also reduced the hours of work on the farm. The last escape has resulted in a strengthening of the fence, it is being built higher and it is rumored an apron is to be put on it.

Rains continued, with very hot interim, my cold is better, with my duties. My wood chopping and reading a little (eyes are none to good), the days go by quite fast it is the nights that are so lonely.

Nov. 14th.

Sunday and I did not get to church, I slept so badly last night that I did not get up until 8:30 A.M. and by time I attended to a few things it was too late.

So many things of late that have brought thoughts and memories. On Friday night 12th. the Japanese had the best and latest movie we have had "Look Whoe's Laughing" Charlie McCarthy, Edgar Bergen, Fibber McGee and Molly, made late in 1941, it was in fine condition I enjoyed it no end but I couldn't sleep that night. Yesterday we were told by Jap Hq. that there were individual packages and letters in the Red Cross shipment recently arrived in Manila. And that we must from our records make up lists of where the men were so that the things could be sorted. They made available some of their records I find that to date 5200 P.W. have been sent to Japan.

Diary of Lt. Col. Arthur L. Shreve Cont'd

Last night we had a Recital by the Camp Male Chorus, they sang some lovely songs. So between thoughts of letters from you and fond memories again a bad night.

I have managed some Cod Liver Oil I hope that it will help my eyes.

Joe Ganahl is outside we are going to cut some wood for an hour or so it should help the sleep.

Nov.. 19th.

Typhoon; we have been in one for the last five days, finally it began to clear yesterday and today has been clear but not humid. The first day the wind was from the N. and that night changed to the S. and finally blew itself out in 2 days, it rained over 5 inches a lot of rain. Lots of buildings were blown down mostly sheds but much damage was done to roofs, at one time it looked as if the rain was not falling but going parallel to the ground. Everyone and everything gets wet and stays that way bedding, blankets, shoes, clothes all develop green mold so today with the sun everything was out to dry.

We have further news of Red Cross supplies we will get about 500 tons according to Japanese Hq., if they are going to censor the mails, lord knows when we will get it. I will soon be in the islands 2 years a long time to be separated from my dear ones my thoughts are always of you my dearest and of the happy days that are to come so many plans and dreams my they soon come true.

Nov. 21st.

Another Sunday and again I did not get to Church this time, my gang was interfered with by a meeting of Officers and Barracks Leaders to talk of the old but ever present subject of escape. We the Americans are held by the Japanese responsible that none of us escape a strange system. A check on the meat ration for the past week shows an average of about 50 kilos or 100 lbs of meat and bone for 1000 men hardly a subsistence ration, much less a ration for men doing hard labor as ours are. Among the last batch of magazines brought us by the Japanese General was an issue of House Beautiful entitled Builders Manual, I have studied it with great interest for during our incarceration. I have made some sketches of what we have planned to do to our little place in Howard, I have 2 or more plans both for our proposed addition and the rearrangement of the present interior, of course I think they are good I have spent hours of thought on them. There are some attractive things in House Beautiful that I have made notes of. We can have a lovely place without too much expense, we have such a good start. I am specially pleased with my plan for the garage and servants quarters. I can't wait to show it to you.

Thanksgiving Day. Nov. 25th., we were not allowed a holiday, however we all have a great deal to be thankful for. Information has come in by a truck driver from Manila, that in addition to food contained in the R. C. packages, there are shoes for all, some clothes, athletic and recreational supplies

including much needed amoebic dysentery medicine for all. Our great and generous nation, it is wonderful to know we have not been forgotten. Our information also indicates that the R. C. authorities are handling all of the supplies, last year the terrific.

Due to the typhoon the R. R. to Manila has been out for over a week, it is in again with the first train arriving yesterday Manila was badly hit by the typhoon. They had a bad flood with a loss to PRIMCO of 10,000,000 pesos of much needed supplies and food. Our order with Bureau of Animal Industry, Jan., Syrup, Vinegar etc. was also badly hit, we will get it but late.

Our own little Eks had our dinner yesterday, Roast Duck, Sage dressing, Baked Camotes, Salad and Cake I had so much, I was uncomfortable although we ate half at noon and half at night. I inspected the noon meal at one of our Messes, they do wonders Baked Beans. (Purchased by Welfare), Meat and Vegetable stew, Fried Greens, Cake with ice tea, American money from Commissary profit supplied, Sugar, extra Fat, Grinder to grind Rice flour and as above Beans.

Our Meat ration for 23 days this; Month has averaged as follows:

Date	Issue Kg.	Str	Ration Gr.	Date	Issue kg	St.	Ration Gr.	Date	Issue kg.	St.	Ration
1	81	1000	81	11	101	994	101.5	20	98	989	99
2	103	1000	103	12	105	994	106	21	78	984	79
3	107	1000	104	13	100	994	106	22	63	983	64
4	114	1000	114	14	0	985	0	23	48	983	49
5	114	1000	114								
6	100	1000	100	15	0	983	0				
7	109	1000	109	16	60	990	60.6		Average		82.4
8	103	996	103.5	17	0	990	0				
9	105	994	106	18	105	989	106				
10	115	995	116	19	71	989	72				

22 Corps Men Med to duty not medical our Hospital is cut way below efficient strength. 60 men to Manila including 4 Officers temporary duty. Another 100 men to leave soon. We are to have service tonight, I will try to attend. Latter, our service was very nice, so many came that I had to sit outside. Chaplain Donald spoke. We sang some of our familiar hymns and all went away better for our going.

I just remembered our Salad dressing was made with oil from the power house supplied by our captors to run the electric power plant.

Nov. 28th. Sunday,

Again I did not go to Church, I spent the morning on the wood pile, one of the regular cutters was sick where I usually go to cut in the afternoons for exercise so I took his place, I certainly got a work out.

Red Cross packages have been arriving all day. I must admit that the Japanese are scrupulous in their care to see that there is no looting by their troops. M.P. guards on all cars and receipts for each package. A great change from last year where there were packages strewn all along the road from Camp #3 to Cabanatuan. It appears that each man will get 4 packages of about 12 lbs each of much needed food. There are also about 600 cases of miscellaneous supplies, Shoes, Shoe repair kits, Toilet articles, Phonographs and records sheets, Books, Toilet paper, Soap, Cigaretts, Tobacco, Pipes, athletic and recreational supplies. Much excitement among the men and moral is tops. There is mail in Manila, I will trade my packages for a letter from you my sweetheart. I know you have written but I also know the Japanese there will be many a letter lost in censorship.

I stopped in at a belated Thanksgiving dinner held by one of the enlisted Co's, their C.O. Ma J. Howser, Inf. U.S.A. (Reg), deserves no end of credit. He collected enough money to buy a Carabao some Beans. (I borrowed from all over camp until his order is filled) coconuts for cakes and sugar for the tea. They had the band. Menu, baked black beans with meat, potatoes, greens sprouted mungo beans, rice, tea and cake. The Band as usual played my favorite piece when I arrived.

Dec. 2nd.

The Japanese authorities upon examination of our R. C. packages found some Old Gold cigarets with a patriotic verse printed on the package so they opened all of the packages exposing all of the untinned (Chocolate, Prunes, Cheese etc.) to spoilage, they allowed the issue of one package. One more to be given us at Christmas and they spoke vaguely of making the other 2 last until April. Col. Beecher is having some success with a suggestion to give us all of the articles that might spoil at the next issue (Christmas) leaving the canned goods only in the 2 remaining.

Our hosts have taken from us so far. 3 cases of cigarets, 1000 shoe laces, 100 sewing kits, 3 shoe repair kits, 16 packages R. C. Food (taken on the excuse that it is samples to be sure that the food is O'k for us to eat), miscellaneous athletic equipment. What more they will get on one excuse or another?

I got a so called invalid pkg. 1 C. beef, 1 Salmon, 2 Chocolate bars, 3½ oz. Butter, ½ lb cheese, 2 soluble coffee, 1 Frem, 2 Ham and Eggs, 2 Corned Pork, 1 Meat Past, 8 Bouillion Cubes, ¼ lb sugar, 12 Vit-C, tablets, 116 Prunes, 116 Dried Milk, 2 Soap bath, I also received 1 razor, 2 packages Blades, 1 sewing kit, 2 bars laundry soap, tooth brush, tooth powder, Comb, shoe polish.

All very welcome, it is all a mystery to the Japanese where it all came from, for according to them our country is starving, and out of metals.

Dec. 6th.

Went to Church yesterday, Communion with what I hope is the beginning of a choir. In the afternoon the Chaplain had a church meeting, we are going to try and have a grand Christmas service. All of us have something to do to add to it's success. I am going to try and make the Chapel more attractive.

It is hard to have to watch the Japanese playing Base Ball with what we know came in our R. C. shipment. 1,500 Pks. of Old Golds taken from our R. C. packages, because they had a verse of a patriotic nature on them were sent to Manila by the Japanese, we will never see them again.

I have another cold, so last night the Dr. gave me some asperin and iodine, result strange and wild dreams, I was home and in talking to you, said that it was too bad I had been caught here by the ear and if I had been some other place I might have been promoted to Brig. Gen, to which you replied you did not think so that I had been sent here to get me out of the way, then I said lets retire and go to the country, to which you said no you wanted to stay in 10 more years, I was very upset.

We are having cool weather with some rain I enjoy it as you know I do not enjoy heat. I have had to stop cutting wood until my cold is better, leaves me at lose ends in the afternoons. Our issued food is very scarce, small meat rations, some days none.

Dec. 12th.

Less than 2 weeks until Christmas, I know our boys are excited, all I ask from Santa is a letter from my Judy. I have been in bed three days with my cold, felt quite badly but am up again.

We sent a detail of 99 men and I Officer to Clark Field, we see evidence of increased air activity here. More and more bombers they seem to be on patrol missions as they fly singularly and in pairs. As the Japanese issue us no more papers, we get no news except thru the grape vine. Our diet due to R. C. food is much better, food outside is evidently getting very scarce, rice is quoted on the black market at ₱ 175.00 a sack. We are quoted a price of ₱ 70.00, for a k. 2.2 lb bag of Pepper. We are still getting rain very unusual for this time of the year.

Dec. 16th.

The days are fixing by my cold, is quite a lot better and I can cut wood again. A small world we live in 2 nights ago, I was sitting on Hq. steps when a man came up in the semi-darkness and asked, where I could be found, I told him who I was and he asked if my mother lived on Lanvale St. in Baltimore, he turned out to be Corp Schatz George 803rd Engr. from Ellicotts City, Md. He and his father are carpenters and painters. The last job he did before he came in the service was to do over mother 1st. floor, you remember? He was as glad to see me as I was him, we talked of home and all those thing I told him he

could go right to work on our decision when he got home. He had just married before he left and has a child, he has never seen nor knows if it is boy or girl. His sight has been impaired by lack of food, I talked to the doctor about him, he will, we hope get some better with proper diet, but may never full recover. He is going to come down to see the pictures and plans of the house.

Things in Camp just about the same. Rice with a few vegetables is all we get to eat.

Dec. 18th.

Saturday night before Christmas, "Oh dearest, I can imagine the excitement that is prevailing at 502 Wingate Road, where is the tree going to be and what is Santa going to bring for Christmas?, I certainly hope that Santa brings your Arthur to you by next Christmas. I have arranged to get the decorations for the stage for the Christmas services, both the Catholic and NonSectarian. I hope it will look well.

Our R. C. shoes have gone a long way nearly every duty man will receive a pair and with the repair kits. We will be able to fix all of the shoes turned in, so everyone will get some sort of foot wear. For one Mess about 925 men the Japanese issued us 42 kilos sugar, 150 lbs pail of cooking fat and 100 lbs pail of dried fish, this an extra issue for Christmas.

Col. Johnson our Commissary officer told me today that one of the Filipino vendors asked him today for a pass to get him safely by the guerrilleros as he was afraid to go where he was going unless he had it in writing, that the supplies where for the U.S. War Prisoners, that is some commentary on the Japanese occupational force. The weather is fine again cool and clear, my cold is about gone. Joe Genahl and I cut wood everyday now about 1 1/2 hours. I weight 150 lbs. a little light.

Dec. 25th.

Christmas, a lovely dry but first about Christmas eve. Our show to have been put on by Col. O.O. Wilsons, players was postponed at the last minute due to the arrival of a movie, Japanese supplied first Propaganda then the feature "Top of the Town" very good although terribly cut, I think we all enjoyed it very much, lots of singing and dancing. A direct gesture by the Japanese I believe, after that the Glee Club sang Carrols, (Oh dearest what memories specially Leavenworth my waiting for you that wonderful night.) Then at 11:50, Catholic high mass I had attended last year, so after seeing that the Japanese who were to attend were properly seated, I went to bed but not to sleep, I laid there for three and half hours dreaming of you and our lads and of days to come after this is over. I forgot to tell that we had our Christmas dinner yesterday noon, Roast duck wonderful dressing Gravy and of course rice topped of with fruit cake made of rice flour, raisins, prunes, chocolate from our R. C. packages for icing, for supper I had a cocktail real brandy and orange juice.

I proposed a toast to our country which was solemnly drunk standing by. This morning I called on Group Staffs to wish them Merry Christmas, gave some tobacco to two boys from Baltimore, and went to Church. I have been trying to fix up the Chapel with some results. We had quite a congregation over 50 for communion, tears filled my eyes when one of our officers recited a poem of Christmas thanks to God for the safety and happiness of our loved ones at home. I must be off to the Hospital to cheer those who are unfortunate enough to be there more later. Col. Wilson's players gave a fine performance of Dickens Christmas Carrol adopted to the present and to our situation the Carrols were sung again, a fine show.

We are having trouble getting what I understand are the R. C. medicines a list was furnished as of what was available, However our requisition was turned down on the basis that it was to big, we are now going to ask the Japanese Med what we can have and requisition on that basis all this time and we have yet to receive one pill from the R. C. shipment that arrived in Oct. I have just talked to the Surgeon who informs me that there are among the drugs many that we are in dier need of ameobasides and vitamines, concentra-tes being the most needed. Col Craig is still trying to get them.

Jan. 1, 1944

Happy New Year my dearest to you and our boys may it hold for you all of the happiness and joys that you have wished for. I hope and pray that the coming year will see the end of the war and that we can be united again. Only half of me lives when we are apart. Last night we had a New Years Eve show. Wilson has worked hard and done no end of good, his show last night was a Cavalcade of bits from the shows he has put on since we came here. The Band now a really fine one employing 2 arrangers played both popular and classical tunes, after the show we went to Medical Hq., Col. Craig served us a hot rum drink made with milk very good, we stayed until about 11:30 and with many happy new years wishes we returned to our Bks. to sit and talk until 12:00 to see the New Year in.

Sgt. Mitchel (retired) our chief cook and Mayordomo, had his 61st birthday today, we had a great dinner at noon for him a bottle of rum provided us all with a drink to toast his health while the band played Happy Birthday, roast chicken and duck, candied sweet potatoes of a sort, native greens with garlic vinegar, fine gravy made with bullion powder from R. C. packages, rice bread with butter (R.C.) and fruit cake, rice flour with prunes and raisins (also R.C.) for Prison Camp, a banquet, I still feel uncomfortable from over eating supper was impossible although I cut wood for about an hour and a half.

Jan. 10th.

Our Sandy is thirteen today. Many happy returns to you, our oldest, your mother and father were very very happy when you arrived 13 years ago today. I know you have been a joy to your mother during my absence and will so remain no matter what may come to pass.

We are given some Tokio Times papers covering a few days in Oct, Nov, and December last, they are very interesting even if they do claim tremendous

losses for our side. We the americans, british and russians are moving though slowly.

Things are going well with little change, Post Cards were given to us to be sent home, no dates, no reference to any one in camps no business and many other restrictions are placed on their contents. Weather clear and cool, we have yet to receive medicines or mail reported in R. C. shipment.

I received my second money from outside with prices so high, it is a necessity. 2 checks of \$100.00 ea. have been drawn on our account at the Petapso Nat. Bank.

Meat is still a serious problem, we have had none since before thanksgiving, fish dried and salted, we do get and our R.C. packages will last it we stretch them until March 1st. Our efforts in this connection although progressing satisfactorily from all reports have shown no results.

I have a comfortable feeling that will see our Sandy before he has another birthday.

Jan. 15th.

A little flare up over our musical program, the Japanese M.C.C. of the day found our band giving a concert in the Hospital Dysentery Area. This area by Japanese order who are deathly afraid of the disease is closed to all except Staff Officers and Doctors, the question was immediately raised as to why they were in the area although our moral program covered the recital, the result no music, but 2 per week by the band. All instruments had to be turned not in the hands of the band, no singing by individuals or groups, 1/2 hour per day was allowed the band to practice (same mass punishment) this order has been somewhat liberalized today. We have received some medicines 22,000 Amoebicides some Asperin, Nicotinic Acid and some other odds and ends that Japanese doctor ordered that only Amoebic who would recover quickly should be treated our Chief Surgeon, of course practically refused it would have resulted in the active cases in the hospital receiving no treatment.

One of the numbers played on our program last Wednesday and very well done was "The Breeze and I" Barber's favorite took me back to the many happy hours we spent in their sitting room, may there be many more my dearest.

Jan 22nd.

No entries for a long time the days go by interruptive only by small incidents concerning the administration of the camp. We still have received no mail for reasons best known to our hosts. The weather is quite unusual for this time of the year as we are still having some rain, our nights are cool but days hot. We received another R.C. box which will carry us until the end of February with care. Manila Rail Road reported out S. of Manila, we believe shortage of equipment as a train seen by one of our work details in Cabanatuan of 5 cars was pulled by 3 engines. Commissary by dint of getting permits fit from Japanese was able to send one of our vendors to Cagayan Valley. He brought back beans, 55 sacks @ \$150.00, 4000 Eggs @ \$40, some chickens @ \$10.50, a few ducks and a few cabbage (present). We were given

one the first I have tasted since I have been on the Island. Beatings have started on the farm again this time an officer Capt. Wermoth, Col. Beecher protested he believes with some success. My health continues good. A cup of coffee in Manila is said to be ₱ 1.25 per, signs of inflation. I have just completed checking 4089 questionnaires as to the P.W. present feelings, most harrowing experience, report of equipment failures, outbreak of disease etc., to be like a propaganda. I guess deleted those which would anger them for no purpose.

Jan. 29th.

Things go on without much change the rains continue which is a blessing, for without our little gardens and the Camp Farm, we would be absolutely without vegetables as it is except for a few bananas which the Americans bought there has been no fruit of any type in our diet for at least 3 months. No meat except Red Cross boxes since late November, dried fish being issued in lieu thereof except for what is grown in individual gardens, we get a native white sweet potatoes called camote it tops being supplied as greens. Sugar is nearly unobtainable at any price I bought a canteen cup on the black market probably sold over the fence by the Japs for ₱10.00, the currency is nearly worthless. I saw a Manila paper among the for sale items was second hand beauty parlor outfit ₱10,000.00, Calesa pony w/ harness ₱13,500.00, house and lot ₱550,000.00.

There arrived from Manila yesterday 5 sacks of Mail from the U.S.A. approx. 25000 letters they as far as I can find out uncensored. 28 were delivered to us today, at this rate it will take 800 days. We were told there was more to come.

We are required by the Japanese to be in bed by Nine P.M., the reason unknown.

Jan. 31st.

Pay day also we were notified that beginning Febl, the rice ration would be cut 400 gr. with 250 gr., additional for worries of certain classes, the catch in it is that there is provided the substitution of corn or camotes as the basic ration, as heretofore these items have been issued as a vegetable component. The net result will be as rice is very short, that we will get camotes or corn which we usually got as vegetables and greens, other components remain the same.

Lt. Col. Warner a reserve Officer from Baltimore who received one of the few letters distributed so far showed me where someone had made an inquiry about me in the letter. I am not without some recognition at home nice feeling. Joe Ganahl got 7 letters, 5 from Connie and 2 from his mother. Mine will come along soon, I am sure what happiness to look forward too.

Feb. 5th.

One senior Medical Officer and his Adjutant were sent to Manila a few days ago and have returned, the purpose of their trip is not clear even to them, for they did nothing but talk to the senior Japanese doctor for a short

while. They brought back some interesting items of interest. The train trip took 18 hrs, they with their guards rode in a truck in or on a flat car. Their reports of conditions is very dark the natives are half starved and in rags. Rice is rationed at 240 gr., but 120 only is issued by the control agency when cards are presented, if there is any to issue which is seldom.

Conditions are reported at various air fields where our men are working as beyond description specially Nichols and Nielson, long hours no decent food and many beatings.

Mail is still in Manila for us, it seems that the mail now in camp which is being delivered to us at about 75 letters per day was all mailed in the U.S. prior to June 1943 and arrived here via Japan, that in Manila arrived on the exchange ship which brought our R. C. packages last fall and was mailed in the U.S. from June to Sept 15th when the boat sailed. There are also individual packages, if the system of censorship is not changed it will take years to get it.

Our rice ration is way down in Mess #1 Group #1 on Feb. 4th. They were issued 7 sacks of rice and $1\frac{1}{2}$ sacks of rice flour (from our savings) The strength for rations is 1050, each sack contains 50 kilos, if 350 gr. per man per day not including rice flour.

Feb. 6th.

Today was Lt. Col Charles Leinbach F.A. U.S.A. birthday, he is on Camp Staff and lives in our Bks. We had a fine party for him roast duck and chicken. (we couldn't get enough ducks), candied potatoes, fried bananas, coffee and a fine cake, we used our last prunes from R.C. boxes in it. Everyone found a present of some kind for him. For once we had enough to eat. Another detail this time 150 Med Corps and 50 doctors, we are at a loss to figure where they are to go, they are organized into 4 groups. Our efforts to get meat to the Camp to be sold to the Japanese are showing results although none has actually come in, all plans are going well.

Feb. 13th.

Sunday, again I have let my wood cutting interfere with my going to Church it was unintentional as I planned to go but the time slipped by and it was after 11:00 when I got to Qtrs. to take my bath. We received our last R. C. food, 1 Can powdered Milk, 4 Cans large of Corned Beef or Spam, 4 Cans Butter, 1 Can Jam, 1 Can ham and eggs, 1 Can Corned Fork, 2 pk Bullions and Soap. By fooling we will make ours last until April at least. An additional detail of 300 - including 7 Officers has been called for, first called a temporary detail, we expected it to be used here on the Islands, but later developments lead us to believe it may be going elsewhere. We examined all available well men and were only able to make available 36%, to those from we are very short of well men. In addition we have been called upon to furnish 500 men to work on the Air Port about 2.5 miles from camp this combined with 500 for the farm takes all available well men and about 150 Qtrs. to meet the Japanese have for some reason have prohibited the use of amebics, on the wood cutting detail (outside) which is now composed entirely of Officers (100).

Maj. Christensen, who as a captain was with me in the south, is to command the 300 men detailed. He is a fine Officer, I will miss him around camp.

Mail continues to come over in small lots of 50 to 75 per day so far I have not been lucky. Valentine's day tomorrow, I pray I may be with you dearest by this time next year.

Feb. 15th.

Rain today very unusual for this time of the year. We are fortunate it will help the farm. Col. Brady 31st. Inf. who is in charge of the 500 men at work on the Air Port asked me if something could be done to get the men working there, more food as the lunch was so light that the men were print from lack of food doing such hard work. I made a survey of the rice ration for today.

<u>GROUP #1</u>	<u>KITCHEN #1</u>	<u>#2</u>	<u>GROUP#2</u>
Breakfast	70.8	70.6	71.6
Lunch	148.3	120.4	153.9
Dinner	120.4	148.3	379.4
Average	338.1	339.1	379.4

Average for Camp per ration 352.56 rice substitute is issued Camotes 50 gr. per ration and 50 gr. per heavy work P. of W. The heavy work are supposed to get 200 gr. of rice extra it is not issued. 50 gr. of salt fish, per ration is issued and 25 gr. per heavy work. There is so much that is spoiled or full of maggots that we cannot eat. That we average less than 50 gr. per ration.

Vegetables 300 gr. per ration consist of camote tops or radishes with tops, the radish is large but contains mostly water and cellulose, I have yet to hit it lucky on the mail, Joe Ganshl got 2 letters from his Joe ages 12 he read them to me so like our Sandy.

Feb. 17th.

Maj. T. B. Maury F. A. Asst. Camp Adj. at one time C. O. Group #1 was 3/4 today. Bill Shreves age nearly to a day. We had a big feed, chop suey boiled beans, and cake. My last box of Prunes went in the cake, Spam from our R. C. boxes made up the meat and our Sgt. Mitchel made wonderful noodles with rice flour and duck eggs. Maury received a little present from each of us. The Japanese who went to Batangas with our filipino vendor to purchase bananas have not returned needless to say no bananas.

Feb. 20th.

Our vendor returned with only one truck load of bananas due to R. Road breakdown, they arrived the day after market day and could only purchase what they could and locally. As the Japanese added the expenses of the Guards, Interpreter etc., to the price of the lot our price was up. 8.5 centavos per each banana. We had a set back in our attempt to procure meat for this camp, our scheme was briefly to arrange for some carabao vendor to purchase on the Island for any price carabao and to sell them to the Japanese here at their controlled price, 20 centavos per kilo on the hoof.

The difference plus reasonable profit to be paid by some group of loyal Filipinos the necessary guarantee of payment being made by myself and some other officers, the involved were quite large about 1 1/2 times the cost of "Our Decision" the obligation was to be first on the U.S. government, if they failed to pay it would be ours. Our agent reported today that a large group of Spanish Philippine citizens with whom we were evidently dealing all names are in code, had been picked up by the Japanese M.P. cutting off our source of capital. We will have to try some other scheme.

They are getting 150 to 200 pesos in Manila on the black market.

Feb. 22nd.

My first letters words cannot describe my happiness yours of Feb. 17th. and Mar 12, 1943. Dearest you not I are the brave, and it is you of whom I am so proud. I was distressed to hear of Bill Warters death, I will of course learn more when I get your # 1,2,3,4,5, and 7 letters. Our boys "Oh dearest you are so fine they will be fine men my Judy because of you. We are so alike Judy mine our sleepless nights and our lives only half lived when we are separated + have faith my Judy and the day of our reunion is not so far away.

I am of course curious about your move. I suspect servant and fuel trouble, I was overjoyed to hear of my mother, what of yours and Jay but all will be cleared with more letters. I am glad for mothers sake that Bill S. is near.

Pride of our Sandy, all the Camp knows the Colonel's son is head of the Jr. R. C. I am sure you know where I am and that I am Ok by now.

Our decision must be lovely with what you have done. You were so smart to sell the sod to Brossine. I read your letters over and over, first thing in the morning lasting at night.

Feb. 25th.

The 200 Officers and men Medical detail is to leave at 3:00 P.M. 26th. They are outside our Hq. now receiving first aid kits Postal Savings, chops and last minute instructions.

I am to be allowed to write you a letter but only about the receipt of R. C. Supplies, I cannot even say I am well. It is not hard to see thru this one in hopes of getting any word to our loved ones. We write only things favorable to the Japanese not me as much as I want to communicate with you I cannot sell my birthright; letter attached.

Gordon Schneider civilian on duty at Camp #3 near here came in on the ration truck he reported that each Japanese soldier (139 or 140) connected with the Supply Corps there was issued by the Japanese 2-lbs cans of Hershey Cocoa which arrived in fresh new cartoons. I suspect looting of R. C.

February 20, 1944

Mrs. Arthur L. Shreve
Tuscany Apt. E-3
Stony Run Lane,
Baltimore, Maryland

My darling Judy:

The Japanese Military authorities have allowed me through you to communicate to the International Red Cross concerning the food and other supplies sent to the American prisoners of War. On Sunday, November 28, supplies were brought to this camp, the first since November of last year, under the supervision of the Japanese Military Police. Members of the Military Police of the Japanese Army accompanied the Red Cross supplies on the train from Manila. They were delivered to us in trucks guarded by a member of the Military Police Force, to whom a receipt was given for the supplies on each individual truck. Each prisoner of war received a little more than four individual food packages--two invalid packages, two regular packages. Any surplus was equally divided among all of the prisoners. There were in addition about six hundred cases of miscellaneous supplies, principally shoes, which were very acceptable as there was much need for them. There were also shoe repair kits, toilet articles, including laundry soap, and toilet paper, cigarettes, tobacco, pipes, and recreational supplies. The Japanese authorities requested that they be given certain of these supplies to which we graciously acceded. Recently medicine has been received to fill our most urgent needs. Amoebicides and vitamin tablets were sorely needed and were received in large quantities. Cigarettes whose outer wrapper contained a patriotic verse were removed from the packages by the Japanese Military Police. The outer wrapper was removed and the national Red Cross authorities, especially the local Elementary Junior Representative, the deep appreciation of every man here for the bountiful supplies which have been sent to us. They have not only been a great source of enjoyment and health-building food, but also a tremendous factor in maintaining the morale of the prisoners of war.

Your devoted husband,

Lieutenant-Colonel,
General Staff Corps,
U. S. Army.

ARTHUR L. SHREVE

CERTIFIED A TRUE COPY

T. B. MAURY 111
Major F.A.

Feb. 29th.

Hot dry weather, we have a 300 men detail still standing by no date set for its departure. I read a note from an officer interned in Bilibid Prison, he has been sorting mail and individual packages destined for American P. of W. He said that there were 100,000 letters and thousands of packages, the letters uncensored a part of which are destined for this camp at the present rate figuring our percent due and the rate which the local Japanese authorities censor and deliver, it will take from 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 years to get this mail of about 25,000 received here about Feb. 1st, we have received 1650 in 32 days.

I spend my days chopping wood, performing my few duties and trying to keep healthy, nights are bad, I sleep so badly. I dream of you my Judy and the wonderful days when we are united again.

Mar. 2nd.

The Lord is good it rained today for about a half hour helps the farm and garden plots. The 300 men detailed is being outfitted with clothing. Our naval uniforms for the men and Japanese uniforms (to small) for the Officers, they are a strange sight with P.A. helmets. Again we are having trouble on the farm beating for no reason, we protest but get no where. Some hope for mail before the war is over. Four Japanese soldiers who can read American have come to help censor the mail we have yet to receive any so cannot tell if the rate will increase. News is good Col. Beecher and I are making plans just in case we are still here when things change.

Mar. 5th.

Darling, I am so happy even if I am in prison camp. I have received 2 more wonderful letters from you #10 and #11. You are such a wonderful girl to have gone thru all you have not knowing if I were dead or alive and to carry on as you have my eyes fill with tears of pride and love every time I read your letters. The first ones I received are nearly worn out.

You are doing wonders with our decision. I know am so glad you have had the lane fixed. Smart girl to make cook pay $\frac{1}{2}$.

I am relieved to hear that mother is well. So sorry about Uncle Jim. Dearest I too am sure that I will someday not too far off return to hold you in my arms again.

386 mail sack with parcels post for us arrive the 4th after some maneuvering we finally got them, stored on our side of the fence until a decision can be gotten from the Japanese as to there disposition and if they have to be searched for contraban. I hope not yours to me is in there, the names of recipients are on tags on the sacks. Washed my finger cutting wood it does not help the printing.

Mar. 9th.

Lt. Col. Johnson our Camp Commissary and purchasing officer returned from Manila, he went with the Japanese sup. Sgt. to see the tobacco Mfg. in hope of getting more tobacco for us. He could do no good the Japanese Military

has taken over everything and no one knew anything or who to ask. We received more mail yesterday about 85, this makes 1862 since January 29, about 46 1/2 per day, 25000 in all figure it out how long?, 60 sacks of packages also arrived, this in addition to the 386, none have been released yet.

After being on a dried fish ration since last fall, the Japanese told us that the fish had run out and they expected no more. Six head of carabao were brought in on the 8th and 16th today, our issue of dressed meat was about 75 gr. per man including bone. I must go to the dentist, he is cleaning and treating my gums. Wonderful to have them to keep our teeth in condition.

Mar. 10th.

Japanese Army Day we have a holiday. Cut wood this A.M. We had a movie last night, first Jap news reel then "The Boys from Syracuse" the film was in terrible shape, kept breaking and the sound track was very bad, but we all enjoyed it anything that is a bit of home. 2 small melons like water-melons ¥5.75 worth about 8¢ American money. Bananas ¥.08, were .01¢.

Beautiful moon these nights, I sit after all have gone to bed and dream of you and moonlit nights when I was with you Hawaii, Ohio, Sill, Indiana, Ocean City, all were so perfect they will come again. News is good.

Mar. 12th.

Sunday a lovely day cloudy and cool very unusual for this time of the year. Last night about 8:00 P.M., Lt. Col. Johnson our Commissary Officer brought me a paper to sign as president of the Camp Council. It was to the effect that he and I as authorized representative of the Camp Comm., did release the Imperial Japanese Army from responsibility if the ¥15,000.00 entrusted to them to purchase cigarets fit from "Princo", was lost thru brigandy, or highway robbery. They said that they would "Fight to the Death" to protect your money, but hings are very bad so we must have a release. Such are conditions here. Must go to supper. Pfc. Bell (colored) died in the Hospital, he had been retired long ago and had come back in, he was in his late 60's.

Mar. 14th.

Still no package distribution, we received 125 letters yesterday. The supply has been notified that we will receive 2 carabao per week as a meat ration, this will seriously affect our health, in a few months we will be back to where we were in Sept and October 1942. High death rate and sickness. Our agent with 27 sacks of beans and 20 sacks of peanuts was intercepted by the Japanese from Manila and his supplies were requisitioned. He was paid the control price about 1/2 of the cost to him and no transportation, he must have lost about ¥6,000 to ¥7,000. The loss of the beans to us is beyond description. I have a slight cold but still continue my exercise if the food is to continue so poor I will have to cut down on the wood cutting or I will lose weight which I cannot afford.

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Mar. 16th.

At 6:30 P.M. after waiting without supper for 1 hour. The most excited officer in this camp I am sure was given a package from the most wonderful girl in all the world. The tooth powder could not stand the strain of the trip, but after a little dusting off, exciting proved to be O.K. My dearest, if I had picked the things myself they could not have been better "the Pipe" is most acceptable as I only had one and after 2 years of continuous smoking it is a bit strong, you have a wonderful memory, my favorite candy the almonds and the Nestles Cocoa you knew I loved. 67 letters yesterday still slow. It gets hotter and dustier each day. No meat since Monday.

Mar. 17th.

Smoking my new pipe and thinking of my love who set it to me. The General incharge of Prison Camps (a new one Gen. Morimoto late incumbent having been relieved and gone to Japan according to Japanese Officers here) inspected today, no report as to his views or policy. No mail, no packages. I inspected a mess, our ration of rice is about 350 gr. of rice per day of which about 50 is ground for rice cake etc., which leaves about 100 gr. per meal. Supper consisted of baked camote, rice cake (our purchased sugar to supplement issue), camote soup, tea, pickled greens. No meat or substitute since March 13th. The other mess same rice, same soup, boiled greens cocoa nut (our purchase) corn starch pudding, tea. We were more fortunate, your prunes produced a pie, omelet with corn beef (R.C.) then as above (the second). I was cutting wood right beside the fence when the General was scheduled in grand stand seat, but the Japs made us stop, I will admit the costume was not fetching G. string shoes and socks.

Sunday 19th.

Finished my chopping and attended in my new socks and belt with a new handkerchief in pocket. I went to communion in the P.M. I put a new handle in my axe. The Japs called for a 200 men local detail, check shows 346 well men in Camp, this including all S.D. on our side and Jap side. We are getting very low. The hot season is here, food is poor and scarce. 2 more days and all packages will be distributed.

Friday 24th.

Lt. Com. Jordan U.S.N. Japanese language officer who acts as one of two interpreters on the Camp farm was beaten and kicked down by a Jap soldier from Hq. who counts the men in and out of the gate. I have investigated the incident and all available witnesses, I find no justification. Col. Beecher will protest. This occured at about 5:00 P.M. today.

Sunday 26th.

Lucky me I received another from my sweetheart and one from mother last evening you #9 April 1, 1943. Dancing class for our boys it seems incredible they are that big. You are doing all the thing, I knew you would do I am so proud. Good for Ned Searby, he is a good man will make a good B. G. Mother's letter was quite cheerful so glad, Bill S is fortunate to be near home. You spoke of the young apple trees, you must have put those in.

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Authority W40885075

E.T. 3 E

I have just finished studying a book on farm management, there is a lot to learn. You, I am sure by your letters will be an expert on truck gardens when I get back.

Our weekly issue of meat averaged 123.5 gr. per man or about 17 gr. per day per man.

Friday 31st.

25% of 1944 has passed if all goes as well as the first part, this war will be over before 1945. Monday at 11:30 A.M. as I was returning from my bath, I saw a Jap soldier beating four of our men on their bare backs with a stick, they were carrying a large liter of camotes, reason for punishment, I could not ascertain. We received 92 kilos of meat today for 1915 men. About 50 gr. bone and meat per man last issue as above. I read your letters over and over my Judy, it helps so to have them thought it does not help the sleeping to many days of dreams.

I live over our happy years. Our trips together there were no unhappy moment. While I cut wood or work in the garden, I find myself smiling as some incident of our wonderful life together. It is hot these days, I feel for the men on the AirPort and farm. The Japs still require some of our men to go without shoes on the farm. We are trying to get permission for them to wear shoes.

April 1st.

Thru our efforts based on the heat and short rations, the Japanese have changed the work hours, now 7:00 to 11:00 A.M. and 3:00 to 4:30 P.M. except on the Air Port where our men leave at 8:00 A.M. and return at 4:30 P.M. A letter from the U.S. Treasury to Pvt. Harvey Michaels notifying him that his sister had purchased some bonds in his favor was withheld by the Japs. One of our Adj. saw the notice in Jap Hq. and tried to get it released, in this way he was able to notify Michaels. This is but one of many instances of mail being withheld.

I have arranged for salt to be issued to the men to be taken when working in this heat. Our source of news is gone.

Monday 3rd April.

American Medical Hq. told me today that the Jap doctor said our weekly issue of meat was to be increased to 10 gr. per man per day 70 gr. per week. The following is interesting.

Ration Summary

Average per day per man

Month	Proteins Gr.	Fat gr.	Carbohydrate gr.	Calories
3 - 43	73.00	44.01	555.00	2980.00
4 - 43	70.45	42.37	528.6	2748.00
5 - 43	64.08	44.04	519.7	2747.00
6 - 43	62.29	40.89	502.2	2622.00
7 - 43	57.41	40.96	484.83	2534.00

8 - 43	58.85	44.68	434.46	2362.1
9 - 43	67.49	41.56	461.77	2488.23
10 - 43	63.3	43.32	477.42	2552.1
11 - 43	57.9	40.26	510.21	2624.6
12 - 43	55.75	33.18	411.12	2485.2
1 - 44	68.01	25.52	455.72	2360.6
2 - 44	60.33	30.53	375.99	2010.9
3 - 44	40.04	27.79	344.16	1786.6

Monday 4th.

After nearly 2 years of faint light begins to show thru the darkness our hope that some day our forces would arrive before we were all sent to Japan, looks as though it may come true. Jap Hq. has told us that about 4000 American P.W. just about the number now away from this camp on temporary details, are to be returned soon 60 to 90 days or less. With what news we have 2 and 2 adds up they expect an attack. Oh dearest it may be that our long separation maybe coming to an end and that in less than 3 years total, I will be with you, three years. A thousand lonely days and nights when I am only half alive for without you I am only that.

April 7th.

Good Friday, our 2nd in Prison yesterday we wrote a letter to the Camp C.O. suggesting that mail deliveries could be increased. Masada one of the interpreters took offence, we offered to withdraw the letter, but were refused. He has taken it upon himself to discipline us, no mail for 2 days hot and dry.

Easter Sunday 9th.

I went to communion at 11:00 A.M. after cutting wood with Joe G. The Japs released 295 letters first in 3 days. I am sure that we will not be prisoners next Easter, I expect and plan to go to church with you my love next Easter.

April 14th.

Yesterday I inspected the Medical records in this Camp. I find that the Hospital records are in good shape, the infirmary records not so, books in one and cards in another, no records being transferred with men from Group to Group, no office of record for non active files. I took the question up with Col. Beecher and this A.M. with Med Hq., they were not to receptive but promised to get at consolidation and filing of non active records in Med Hq. I am very restless and have a terrible time sleeping. I dream of you constantly, I know it will be alright when I can be near to you my Judy. I love you so.

April 17th.

The days slip by hot and dusty, we had light rain yesterday which helped to cool the air and we had a nice cool night. The ration has been cut again 300 gr. rice, 100 gr. corn. The camote will be furnished 350 gr. per working man as long as they last. I may not off mentioned this before, but ever since the farm has been producing, the choice vegetables have been taken by

the Japs both for Camp #3 and here. The statement that everything produced on the farm would be placed to our credit to buy meat with, has of course never been lived up to, we get now 2 issues of 2 animals per week about 130-150 gr. of carcass per man, or from 4-5 oz of meat and bone. The following figures are interesting:

<u>Commissary Prices</u>	<u>Oct. 1943</u>	<u>April 1944</u>
Camotes - kilo	₱ .35	₱ .60
Hen Eggs - ea.	" .20	" .60
Duck " - "	" .27	" .77
Salted Peanuts - ganta	" 3.20	" 5.50
Mungo beans - "	" 3.20	" 12.50
Bananas - kilo	" .50	" 1.45
Black beans - "	" 3.60	" 13.00
Coconuts - ea.	" .15	" .35
Sugar (69) kilos sack	" 16.20	" 33.50
Cigaretts (Phil.) Pkg	" .22	" .45
Ranutsa (raw sugar cake) kilo	" 1.95	" 5.50

Jap controlled price thru "Primco".

April 23rd.

Sunday, I did not get to church, had a shot for cholera this A.M. Japanese origin our Med Officers doubt its worth. We had our first good rain this P.M. the first this dry season. We are averaging about 100 letters per day much better. The Japs have stopped the beating on the farm and have lately turned all culprits to us for punishment. I hope we can break up the stealing of vegetables it is hard the men are so hungry. What little news we get is good, I feel we will not be here 6 months from now. We have some new books in the library, I study all I can find on farming, it makes me feel close to you as I know you spend a lot of time at our place.

April 25th.

Oh my dearest you never miss a chance to send me words of cheer and love and it make me very happy. Today when I returned from cutting wood there was a telegram from you dated April 1st. Tokyo, so recent. I know you knew in December that I was O.K. My faith has never faltered, we will be united again in the not too distant future. We are in the height of the hot season and for the first time in months. I am without sugar with no hope of getting any.

April 28th.

Up at 2:30 A.M. to meet 150 patients and 5 others from Bilibid, the men looked very badly thin and pale dressed in rags, none of them will ever recover from this ordeal most of them Beriberi with optical neuritis slowly going blind. Another scorcher even the Japs suffer the sun is N. of us now being directly overhead a few days ago to get in the shade you sit on the S. side.

May 2nd.

Capt. Blackledge was beaten on the farm today, I investigated and had Col. Englenart the chief interpreter and american incharge on the farm investigated also. A case of language difficulty, but entirely uncalled for the serious part was that the Japs would not allow Blackledge to receive first aid, he had a bad scalp wound A.P. Hq. has protested in writing.

May 3rd

The Bull cart drivers were taken to the Jap guard, no use after the cart came in and were unloaded. The first I knew of it Col. Johnson (Comm) came to me to hide some of his papers. Mr. Threatt Civ. incharge of the drivers as he approached the unloading platform inside the fence manged though costly watched to whisper to Col. J. "the fat is in the fire" the drivers have been one of our main contacts with the outside partially by collision with the guards and partially by the use of a canteen with a false bottom. Mrs. Threatt acting as a waitress in a small shop fills Mr. T's canteen with water for him taking it from view to do so, upon its return to him and also when he is searched at the gate, he drinks from it and puts a little water on his hands and face to allay suspicion. Threatt and his men must have known that something was up not only his words to Col. J. but while in unloading the carts, they unloaded to dropping canteen belt and shoulder bags which were picked up and disappeared. One of the drivers dropped his sawali bag in a dry ditch on the road outside the fence near the power station. Maj. Renolds sent a man who works over on that side to retrieve it while say and I watched the Japs. Threatt and his men were taken away and searched nothing but some money and razor blades where found all are being detained incommunicado. We are all very anxious, some money had been secured by notes signed by U.S. (see Feb. 20-44) had been cashed 7.5 to 1, that money has been left outside. Commodities purchased and delivered, (Japs do not check weights) are deducted from this fund. Our invoices and receipts via Bull Cart Drivers. Some had left this A.M.

May 5th.

Our men are still being held by the Japs. As far as we can determine, they are well treated. We feed them, send them cigarets and coffee. Our minds are much relieved, Lieut. Itoh (Jap) has contrary to Japanese orders, been purchasing american cigarets from Prisoners of War and as we in camp Hq. have procured some for him (£ 5.00 ea.), we sort of have him on the hip. Maj. Maury asked him what the men were being held for, he told us that the Jap M.P. in Cabanatuan had raided a shop or shops and had found notes and money addressed to persons in Camp, but as far as he knew there was nothing to connect our drivers and nothing had been found on them. The Jap M.P.'s are having our men held not Camp Hq. Hot dry weather, I weigh 149 or 50 not bad.

May 11th.

Evil days are upon us yesterday in addition to Threat and his five men, the Jap M.P.s. decended upon came and took out first nine and then two more. The fortunate part is that, one of our men undoubtedly when put under pressure squealed; as I have the word of Lt. Col. Montgomery McKee, U.S.A. and Maj. Wade Cothran, F.A. Resv., that they heard and saw Pvt. H. K. Ballew, F.A.

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Authority: E.O. 13526

identify P. D. Rogers (Ex. Gov. of Jolo) to the Japanese as the man to whom he gave a note. Subsequently, Lt. Col. Mack was picked up. List of those taken are the following:

BISH, Seth G.	S/Sgt MD	Grp 1)	
BURNS, Virgil F.	S/Sgt VC	" 1)	
PHILLIPS, Breed S.	Pvt.	" 1)	Bull
TYSDIGER, Raymond L.	ACMM USN	" 11)	Cart
ROSS, Robert A.	Sgt USMC	" 11)	Drivers
THREBATT, Fred G.	Civilian	" 1)	
* MACK, Edward C.	Lt. Col.	Grp 1	
BALDWIN, Lee	Capt.	" 1	
BYRNE, Patrick J.	Capt.	" 1	
LE MIRE, Jack F.	Capt.	" 1	
SHERK, Robert H.	1st Lt.	" 11	
PATRICK, Darwin O.	T/Sgt MD	Hosp.	
BALLEW, Herbert K.	Pvt.	Grp 11	
TYLER, Floyd E.	1st Sgt MD	" 1	
CHURAKOVSKY, Valdimir B.	Civ	" 1	
JASTEN, Walter	Civ	" 1	
* ROGERS, Paul D.	Civ	" 1	
* Not taken in first round up.			

These men were evidently questioned all yesterday afternoon and some last night and this morning in company with some Filipinos, one who has been worrying for one of our vendors, and one of the vendors were all loaded on a truck and taken out of Camp, destination and fate unknown. The truck stopped at the gate where more Filipinos were loaded and then proceeded west. Yesterday I checked the Group and Hosp. Commissaries to assure myself that their books would stand, inspection also disposed of Main Comm. surplus funds and papers during disposition the Japs went into the building next door close but we made it.

I wrote a card to you yesterday, we are to be allowed to date them, this time there is so little I can say of what I would like to. If the Japs object to what you say, they simply tear up the card, you have no chance to correct it.

May 12th.

We have received a tip from the Jap Side that the Jap M.P.'s may return and search the Camp, this book will go underground tonight until we see what is to happen.

May 17th.

Quite some time has passed and no search, so I have dug up my book again today. I went to the Hospital to have some Calcium deposits, removed from under my left eyelid. (Maj. Wilson RE&T) just afterwards while talking to Col. Schwartz, our Chief Surgeon, he was sent for by A.P. Hq. I walked

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up with him to find there Col. Oliver Chief Chaplin, Capt. Aton V.C. Capts (Chap) Zimmerman and Taylor. They were sent to Jap Hq., where they were taken by the M.P. in a truck to we believe Cabanatuan. This is born out by the Japs order to our Camp Supply officer Col. Britell to furnish rations for 17 men, these were then placed on a truck and taken to Jap Hq. in Cabanatuan by one of our truck drivers, this was on May 12th. On May 13th, Lt. Bob Shirk was returned to this Camp, but held in Jap Guard House. Lt. Jack Shirk and Capt. (Chap) Tiffany were arrested and taken out on May 15, Pvt. Bellow was returned to Ja. G. House. On May 16th, Bish, Burns, Phillips, Tysinger, Ross and Jasten were returned to Jap G. House late this P.M., Capt. (Chap) Zimmerman was also returned.

May 19th.

No further development in the investigation. There are 2 men in Camp who were called, but not taken out. From them we find that the course of the investigation points to a search for the outside source of notes, money, so far has not been mentioned at least during the questioning of these two.

May 20th.

Two wonderful letters from you my Judy mine, I was so proud of you, your courage is magnificent to go on as you do and have done only on hope; no words no news to help you. Never a word of complaint or a note of despair. your letters so cheerful and encouraging. I am glad you had a phone put in. The minute I get out of here I am going to call you now even if you are at our decision I can reach you. Interesting figures on average weights taken at the end of period April 16 to May 14, showing loss by groups and work categories, Group #1 - 7 lbs., Group #2 - 2 lbs., Hospital -(4 Months ending as above) 6.3, heavy workers 3.65 lbs., Non-workers 5.15 (None-workers including Qtrs and per Qtrs., all fatigue and kitchen details inside the fence, and all Sr. Officers, Clerks etc.) Capt. Chunn was called, interviewed and returned, same line of questioning.

I loved the snap of the view from "Our Decision", you and the boys could have been a little more in evidence. I am deep in a book on Chicken raising written by the Head of Poultry Dept. Univ. of Maryland. Junn by name very good.

May 21st.

While I was at the hospital visiting today the Jap M.P. truck came in with the remainder of the men and officers held, they were taken to the other side and of course we do not know their eventual disposition. We are no end pleased to see them come in for we believe it will be only a matter of time before they will be returned to our side. Returned were Threatt, Mack, Baldwin, Byrne, Lemire, Sherk, Jack, Patrick, Tyler, Churakovsky, Rogers, Oliver, Schwartz, Aton, Taylor, Tiffany. Everyone in camp feels much better as to the eventual outcome. Food is scarce everyone complains of being hungry all time. We received on Friday last a small donation from the neutral aid community in Manila. Tomatoes, Onions, Beans, Jam, about 16 kilos of meat. Soy

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sauce, Cigars and Cigaretts (1 ea.) We had a good soup for 1 meal. I have lost only 5 lbs since Jan, I am fortunate an easy keeper.

May 22nd.

Words has just come to me of the death of my mother. It is of course a shock, as much as one steals ones self knowing that our dear ones are old and that their days with us are numbered when the time arrives, it makes it no less hard to bear. Words cannot express my admiration and love for her, all that I have done or made of myself in this world, I owe largely to two people, you and her. I had hoped to see her again, but I guess she was not sorry, father died 31 years ago, a long time for a woman to be alone. I have yet to receive the word from the Japs. It was sent me by our Ex. A.P. Hq. Sgts, Major who saw it in Bilibid, I wonder how long it will take for them to get it from Manila 125 kms. My friends have been very kind. The war has taken its toll of our family, please God there will be no more. I know so well that you were splendid and that you and our boys were a great joy to her, she never failed to praise you in her letters.

May 23rd.

The General was to inspect today, but he spent his time going thru our old hospital area, kept us standing around for 3 hrs. waiting and never showed up. Thirteen of those arrested and held by the M.P.'s were released to us today. They were told not to talk on Threatt of being arrested again. Capt. Byrne, Capt. Zimmerman, Lts. Shirk, Jack and Bob, Sgts Burns, Bish, and Patrick, Pvt. Phillips C.M.M. Tysinger, Sgt. Ross, 1st Sgt Tyler. Civ Jasten and Churakovsky. As to the others, we have no words, we are doing all we can or are allowed to do for them.

May 25th.

Lucky me I got another letter from my love last night you #4 written Feb. 1, 1943. Things begin to make some sense the plum sale was made which I did not know, also about Waxter. I am overjoyed that you have been able to get the allotment increased, I know you will manage well, and it is a help to know you do not have any financial worries. Sorry about the tooth and Sandy's arm. The official copy of your wire arrived today enclosed. Food is very scarce, I know what it is to be hungry all of the time, But back to better things I cannot figure how I could have all the service you claim, but I am glad I get more pay.

May 27th.

Capt. (Chap) Tiffany one of the number still held on the Japanese side was returned to this side on a stretcher. He had been suffering from bacillary dysentery, he was having a chill at the time of his return, he had been ill for 6 days before he was allowed to have medical attention. This is typical. After more than a year, I have given up cutting wood. Food is just to scarce, I am taking over the garden in hopes of getting more from that source.

Lt. Col. Johnson Camp Comm. Officer was called to Jap Hq., subject new system of purchase and delivery of supplies. The Jap Supply Officer is to act as agent in all but one case he will buy thru the Japanese Assn. O'Fugie is to continue to come in. Col Johnson feels that O'yogi (Jap Lt.) is sincere for the tremendous price increase, we will fair as well as before. No X. account will be possible as no money will get in for a long time.

Sunday May 28th.

With the aid of some of my Bahai companions, I dug up another garden plot, will put it in some sort of greens. Went to Church Communion with a memorial service as it was the nearest Sunday. The Chaplain said a lovely prayer in memory of mother, I had asked him to as I could not be at her funeral, I feel better about it as I feel that I have participated in a service for her. No word of our men and Offices held by the Japs. The men are so hungry that we have had to put guards on the individual gardens at night.

June 4th.

No entries for some time things go along. The Japanese made a partial issue of clothes, shorts (under) for about 75 or 80 % and a so called towel 1 ea. The towel a piece of unbleached rough cotton cloth 7 in. wide by about 20 in. long. Soap was also issued. Everyone is hungry, the men collect and cook weeds, potato skins etc., it is hard to watch the so called garbage from the kitchens being picked over by the men as it is being carried to the swamps. Old pieces of tin and any old cans serve as stew pots. The Jap lieut. has told us that bananas are on the way, tobacco is terribly scarce. I am smoking in my pipes (2) plain sun dried leaf which I cut up myself. Capt Jack, La Mize was returned to us as Tiffany on a stretcher, bacillary dysentery quite ill. He told us this much when they (all) were returned from Cabanatuan, they were told by the M.P.'s that they were thru with them. Mr. Teto (interpreter) told them to sit down that they would soon be sent to this side. Maj. Tswana Camp C.O. came out sent those listed as returned, to this side and the remaining (10) to the Jap guard house. They were first placed in a very small shack so small that they could hardly lie down. The Jap Gen. on the day, he inspected evidently ordered them placed elsewhere, for they are now under a shed (lean to) beside the guard house. I weigh 140 lbs.

June 7th.

News which comes to us in a miraculous manner is good yesterday, Rome fell and this A.M. came news of the invasion of Europe. Still no hope of more food. Our issue of rice made by the sack supposed to weigh 100 kilos is invariably short yesterday in Group #1 alone (Strength 1100 - 1200). They were 200 rations short and today 230. This on top of our short rations is bad. Prices of things outside are terrific, sugar cake native product must be boiled and cleaned before fit to use. ₱ 5.00 for 2 small cakes, ₱ 16.50 kilo. Manila cigaretts in Cabanatuan according to the Japs, 30¢ each or ₱ 9.00 a package. Col Johnson was offered some beans today by one of the vendors thru the Japs for ₱16.00 a canteen cup.

June 10th.

Terribly hot weather. Our diet consists of boiled rice (gruel) another for breakfast, steamed rice with corn (1/3), sometimes a few greens and tea for lunch. Some for supper plus a small cookie made with rice flour, we are temporary out of sugar, so we get no cookie these days. Our vegetables is varied from greens with baked pumpkin. The men who work outside the fence for the Japs and on work details receive 300 gr. extra either of corn or canotes. Twice a week we receive meat at the rate of 50 gr per man per issue (meat and bone). On this one is hungry all of the time and the weight loss is terrific, I doubt is you will starve. A few eggs @.65¢ and some green papaya is all that has been able to get in. We have bought eggs with our money which is about exhausted now. I work hard trying to raise a few vegetables, but with the bugs, heat and poor ground, it is very discouraging. The value of the pesos is dropping fast. We have made a plea to Jap Hq. to increase our pay. My weight seems to be holding at 140 lbs.

June 13th.

Capt. Lee Baldwin (C of E) was sent to the hospital from the Jap. G. House (Sacroiliac Arthritis) yesterday. Col. Johnson much to our surprise was allowed to go to Cabanatuan with the Jap Supply Sgt. He reports prices skyrocketing peanuts ₱ 20.00 a ganta. He priced a hoe head ₱ 18.00, our success in Italy and France have had their effect. To our request for toilet paper, the Japs suggested that we make it, our supply officer thought they were joking, whereupon they became very indignant. Food is the topic of conversation, it is very scarce, no sugar no vegetables in the messes, rice and corn only, no tea today. We received thru the Commissary 1 kilo of panutca (sugar cake) ₱ 12.50. You must be busy at "Our Decision", I worry that you work too hard. You are never out of my thoughts.

June 15th.

253 Officers and men from Bilibid. Hospital and Qtrs cases. 97 without blankets, Japs have or will furnish none, Lt. Col. "Bob" Lindsey was among them. He looks well but thin, his cheerful good humor will be welcome. When their baggage was searched the local Japs had a fine looting party all R. C., cigarets were taken along with local brands of cigarets and tobacco which they will sell to our men at tremendous prices. I have been investigating the hospital mess for alleged leaks it appears that the accusations are unfounded. Food is so scarce and everyone so hungry that all sorts of charges are made. Sugar has been removed from the list of articles to be supplied Prisoners of war by the Jap Army the local Jap supply officer has notified our S. O. of this, but says he has money to buy it or sugar substitute. I doubt if they can buy either. Very little if anything has come it to our Commissary. A few packages of cigarets, some toacoco and a few eggs. Our hopes of the Japs being able to get things for us is fading. Our request for increase in pay received (40 pesos F.O. 30 Company Officers) is not favorably considered by Manila Hq., We have been told. Our place must be lovely now, Oh dearest to be there with you again. Rains are quite frequent nearly daily now.

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June 19th.

We have been in or near a typhoon for the past 4 days with hard rains, it has reduced the bug menace in the garden, but has added to the problems of the tropical garden everything has to be killed or the rain washes the dirt away from the roots. Speaking of gardens and produce, with everyone here at the point of slow starvation, the Japs shipped out from the farm today nine(9) long tons of vegetables. We have been given an allowance 200 Gr. per day. I believe that the Japanese would let the vegetables on the farm rotten rather than exceed it. 150 men detailed local leaves tomorrow 9:50 A.M. I dreamed of you last night my love. I was so alone when I awakened, I lay under my mosquito bar and heard the bell sound 11:30, 12:00 1:00, 1:30 before I fell asleep again. I still am confident of victory in this calender year. We have struck at Japan proper (air) and are pressing her hard from the sea.

June 20th.

I will have to retract my statement of yesterday. The Japs today sent us in quite a lot of cucumbers that were about to spoil. Rains continue, I am having a recurrence of my old trouble (Hemorrhoids) I hope I can get well without being operated. In the condition I am in recovery would be slow and painful due to lack of fuel our water pumps are in operative from 2:00 P.M. until dark, about 7:30 P. The night pumping is done from the upper well, a poor producer by electricity. The lower well (diesel) is pumped from about 6:00 A. until 2:00 P., water is off from 12:00 N to 5:00 P.M.

Johnson and I are plugging a scheme to pull all, but a small portion of pay (5.00 pesos) per individual receiving pay. This fund to be a general mess fund. Those receiving pay would fair worse, but all would benefit its chance of success. I am afraid is small distrust of those in authority, I am sorry to say.

June 23rd.

Clear hot days, I am better but am to go to the hospital Monday night for a minor operation. I will not have to stay, but will have to stay close to my bed for a day or so. The Japs have increased our vegetable ration by 100 gr. Cucumbers is all we get for supper, our ration consisted of boiled rice with hominy with cucumbers cooked in it and a piece of cucumber. on one side, to this was added a fish tasting gravy of ground rice and cocoa nut oil. The fish taste was fur nished by our welfare fund thru the medium of a five gallon can of salt fish and shrimp at the modest price of \$150.00 at \$5.00 a 5 gal. can. Before the war.

June 24th.

We had a meeting of representatives of the men and officers today as I had predicted we are not meeting with much success, motives are too selfish, everyone's plan is to get the other fellow to put up his money for the general good or if he contributes to reserve for himself some privilege. We (Johnson and me) appointed a board to draw up a plan which will be submitted

to the Camp for approval or disapproval that is all we can do. 400 men, 4 line Officers, 2 Medical Officers, 6 Corps men (Med Dep) ordered out look like Japan. We will be pressed to carry on here, the air port will have to be cut. I think of you at "Our Decision" some day dearest I will live again when we are united, I love you so.

June 26th.

The Surgeon will not operate, not at present, at least I am so much better. Quite a relief, our vegetable ration still remains cucumbers and has been reduced the 100 gr., that it was increased the other day. Our Chief Surgeons report to American Prisoner H. for the period June 1 to 25, shows Non Japanese workers, ration 1685.2 Calories per day. Authorized Jap workers additional 1008 Cal. It is wonderful that our sick rate is no higher. It will come if our food specially protein is no increased. The Jap experience with their first issue of corn as a ration is too good to record. First they tried boiling it as they do rice, it was of course hard and the husk was still on the grain, so as they had heard that the americans used ashes (lye) they put the boiled corn on a table and sprinkled it with dry ashes. This not appearing right they decided to sprinkle it with water. In true oriental form, one of the cooks filled his mouth with water and blew it on the mixture and awaited results. Nothing happened, so they took to beating it with clubs until it was of course ruined. They sent for 2 men special duty as cook Jap kitchen qualification must know how to fix corn.

June 27th.

Our detail leaves at 7:30 A.M. tomorrow. A detail of 70 arrived from Bilid, 25 duty, 45 disabled. Another detail will arrive tomorrow, 69 Officers, 642 Enlisted. They are to be put in the old hospital area and kept incommunicado. We believe they are from Davao. There are ugly rumors about their trip up, two (2) were reputed as escaping in Zamboanga, from then on up twenty (20) days they were kept in the holes; though one more managed to escape over the side. Upon arrival at Manila over 40 had to be carried off on stretchers, 200 were seriously ill. Our medical report May 25 to June 25 shows Group #1 and #2 strength. 3079 Pellegra, Nutritional Bema 1043, over 25% affected. Weight loss average Group #1 - 2.4 lbs, Group #2 - 3.7 lbs hospital 3.6 lbs., not a pretty picture. We continue to press Japan hard on the Pacific front with great success, if I can remain here, I believe early fall will see the end. In my search for knowledge in Agriculture, I find that my Chemistry is lacking, so I have embarked on a course, my instructor Lt. Col. Peoples my classmate at Leavenworth.

June 30th.

Tomorrow will be our Douglas birthday, also the first half of the year has supped away our last calendar year of the war. The Japs are either very sure of their position here or they do not care if they lose us, for from all appearances this camp is quite permanent. They have shipped up from Davao all sorts of junk trucks full of old patched, 5 gal cans, an old l cylinder engine and no end of just junk; too numerous to describe. The system of guarding has changed our sentries, the Japanese post theirs inside the fence, Why?. Not a word comes from our fellow prisoners in the old hospital area. We supply them and will pay and administer them but we are not allowed to speak to

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them. No change in rations, we did get 15 gr. per man, sugar issue on the 28th first since June 8th, everyone is hungry, several dogs have died of starvation in the last 2 weeks. I have enough saved from my R. C. to eat, 1 - 3½ oz. Can of high protein food each week which I am doing, to last until the 1st week in August what then. We have hopes there is no tobacco in Camp, I will have to stop smoking tomorrow.

July 1st.

To our Douglas, Many Happy Returns of the Day. I know he is enjoying his 10th birthday, for so well so I know his adorable mother, that I know she will provide for him all that his heart desires. In memory I live again that mad dash from Fort Knox to arrive to late. I will be there for his 11th. We issue ration for 684 total in the old hospital area, our first figure must have been in error. We are to reorganize the camp soon by order of the Japs, Group #1 and #2 are to be equalized all active amebics are to be sent to the hospital. As we know that this order came from Manila it has no appearance of breaking up this camp. I work in the garden each day and soon I believe we will begin to harvest.

July 2nd.

A lovely day sunshine a breeze and no rain. We were paid today, and with the exception of a little work in the garden, I have taken it easy, one has to on this ration today with nothing extra we had. Rice gruel with the left over broth from last night a little flavor of meat was all one could detect. Lunch steamed rice and corn with a spoon full of greens, supper the same plus a rice cookie, (sour from yeast with a little sugar in it) such is our daily bread.

July 5th.

We have had another reorganization, first it was ordered that the groups be equalized and then on the night of the third, they Japs brought out another plan for the Administration of the Camp. A Prisoners of War Office is to be established with a Jap Officer at its head under him, ten American Officers, Adj. Med Utilities, Library Q.M., Finance Officer Pay, Fin. E.M. pay, Commissary, Statistical, Work details. Each division (old groups) including hospital to report direct to P. of W. D. It was evident that with no coordinator, the thing would not work. Col. Beecher decided after a talk with us (Staff) to recommend to the Japs a coordinator or Ex. if this did not meet with their approval some senior officer would be recommended for one of the staff positions as listed above, and he by mutual agreement of the P. of W. would coordinate the command. On July 4th, Col. Beecher was sent for during the interview, he convinced them that a coordinator solution to give me some official status. He recommended me as Officer incharge of salaried pay, so I believe that that problem is solved, there are of course details to be worked out, but in the main, the system will work.

July 6th.

The Japanese and very wisely I think deleted the office of salaried pay, so I am out of a job, Col. Beecher kindly agreed to let me stay where I am so I do not have to move away from my garden.

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July 8th.

Last evening there was quite a commotion on the Japanese side all of the Officers and N.C.O.'s were assembled and as far as we could ascertain were given a talk by a field Officer who returned from Manila with Maj. Iwanaka C.O. this A.M. being imperial rescript day. All of the Jap Garrison except those on duty were paraded and the rescript read to them. Afterwards much to our surprise, they were lined up along the road in one of their farewell formations to our further surprise, Maj. Iwanaka and Lieut Hirota left among many "Banzai's", soon there after we were told to be prepared to be inspected by the new C.O. name not given. He duly arrived late as usual, made a tour thru camp and returned to the Jap side to do the same. Later in the morning a Capt Scarda, 515 Cal. (AA) came to me to report that the new C.O. was Maj. Takahashi and that he had been Military Gov. of Bataan, while Scarda commanded a detail there from Sept. to the end of Dec. 1942. I took Scarda to Col. Beecher and he described Takahashi as certainly not Anti-American, fond of women and wine, a good administrator who insisted that the P. of W. be well fed and well treated, well cared for Medically and that he understood and spoke American fairly well. We believe he has been sent here due to the change in policy as to change policy without changing the C.O. would cause lots of loss of face. Maj. Iwanaka sent a message that he was sorry not to have had a chance to give the Staff and Sr. Officers a good by talk, but he had not the time as the change was unexpected. As to my position Col. Beecher told me he was going to recommend to the Japanese that I be appointed Moral Officer which will keep me on duty at Hq. Our former Moral Officer Col. Montgomery has never been officially recognized by the Japs, Col. Beecher's idea is to allow him to continue as heretofore. My position I have yet to consult with him about.

July 9th.

Sunday worked in the garden this A.M. just after lunch we received thru the Japs for our Commissary 16 - 60 K. sacks of beans @ ₱30.80 a ganta, 1085 Pks. tobacco 250 gr. ea @ ₱3.80. The Jap interpreter, as they are so careful about P. of W. leaving Camp, had to load the truck. As he has on several occasions been very good about helping us. I donated the leather kit that you sent me, I hated to part with it, but it has gone for a good cause and I know it will be appreciated by the Jap who will help us get food and tobacco for the men. I have stopped weighing myself. Why worry about weight when you can do nothing. I am sure I am quite thin. I started for the latrine today without my belt on and had I not grabbed my shorts in time I would have lost them. It is nice to be slender at my age, but not that slender. News is good despite the starvation diet, moral is high.

July 11th.

Interesting figures shows the attitude of the Filipinos. Our total purchases thru Lt. Col. Johnson: Feb. 1943 thru June 1944 - ₱902,685.23, our pay plus the welfare fund same period ₱586,556.00 showing a balance ₱16,129.23 which has been sent into this Camp. Of course there is a lot yet unused in the hands of individuals, I believe at least ₱50,000.00. We were fortunate

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yesterday we received over 3500 kilos of Banutsa, so all will have something sweet for a while, the price \$13.80 is terrific, but as long as I can get money our little group will eat. We can settle afterwards. The new C.O. is really taking hold in a big way. Beginning last night everyone stands two roll call, checks daily and the count is made by the Japanese O.D. last night it was 9:45 before they completed the count. It is the first that the Japanese really knew of their own knowledge how many prisoners they had. The distribution of our mail has picked up nearly 400 yesterday. I will be lucky again soon with a letter from my love. I feel confident that there will be a lot of changes made here, I hope for the better.

July 13th.

Just as it looks that things are settling down with Maby a turn for the better. We are ordered to turn out a detail of 800 E.M., 16 Officers (1 F.O.) 6 Med Officers, 3 Chaplains, and 18 Med. E.M. to form 5 Co's of 150 men and 1 of 89 with C.O. and Adj. leaving 5 Officers available to command other Co's raised elsewhere probably Bilibid. They are to leave the 16th or shortly thereafter for Japan or Manchuria. Rains continue, The attacked weight record is of interest, the officers listed are those who are or were on the Staff.

<u>Names</u>	<u>Weight Jan.1-44</u>	<u>Present Weight</u>	<u>Loss</u>
Lt. Col. Beecher	175	156	(19)
" " Leinback	160	145	15
" " Conaty	165	151	14
" " Shreve	154	136	18
" " Say	146	121	25
" " Craig	175	150	25
" " Brinkmeyer	181	170	11
" " Brettel	165	143	22
" " Cremer	154	136	18
" " Drumond	165	146	19
" " Johnson	165	143	22
Major Bradley	153	145	8
" " Houghton	178	150	28
" " Fysick	135	114	21
" " Reynolds	180	148	32
" " Maury	170	145	25

Today we received a pair of socks the first issued since about a year ago Feb. One thing of interest is that as far as we can ascertain no one from the Div (#3) which is in the old hospital area (recently arrived from Davao) is to be on the detail.

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Ruth H. Essary
RUTH H. ESSARY
Capt WAC

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Diary of ARTHUR L. SHREVE
Lieut. Col. (F.A.) G.S. C.

Diary # 3.

July 15th On the eve of my 47th Birthday I open a new book of entries of my life and work in the Philippines. This the third will be the last for it will take nearly a year to fill this and it is my unfailling belief that the war will be over before that time elapses. Today as I do many times I reread your letters. Word fall me when I try to describe the love and admiration I hold for you My Judy Mine. My only desire is to return to you never to be seperated again I dream and pray every day that when this is all over I can return to you, and retire from the service of my country to go to Our Decision as we have so often planed to live in happiness with our lads. The rain seems to be over. One third of the detail left at 5:00 AM. Today being trucked to Manila the second group (1/3) was due to leave by truck at noon. As we expected they had sat up a rather ambitious schedule for the trucks. It is now about 6:15 P.M. and the second group is just leaving the third and last is now scheduled to go at 10:00 AM the 16th an all night drive for our already over tired drivers. It is amusing to see how the elaborate system of searching equipment and baggage has gone by the board when the pressure gets on the Japs. I am sorry to have to record the departure of Capt (Chap) Donald on this detail he is a lot of fun and a fine Moral builder always cheerful.

July 16th Before I go to more serious things I will tell you of my Birthday I worked in my garden in the morning and after a shower I wrote a card to you my dearest I hope it will reach you soon. When I doubt. For Dimer to which Maj Maury was invited, we had roast duck the last I expect we will ever have here delicious dressing and cucumbers from our garden I was full for the first time in months. After a short nap I went and played Cribbage with Steve Sitter, Charlie Lineback & Maury Soath gave me an undershirt. All in all a nice Birthday in a Prison Camp.

As to the camp it is a mad house it was long after Roll call (6.45) before the detail was called to leave. When all the trucks were loaded there were 12 American P of W left over The Adj (ours) was taking a bath so I answered the Japs call I was told to feed and put them up for the night. When we thought things had quieted down some, one of the interpreters arrived with a request for a temp. detail of 180 men to leave at 10:00 AM today. We told him that was practically impossible and he left to report. Just after call to Quarters (9:00 PM) back comes a truck with 55 P.W. one truck had broken down so we had to get them taken care of so thins were when we went to bed early this A.M we were told all leave at noon, the truck from Manila will bring 80 P.W. when they arrived there were 138 with 90 more to come when the truck return tomorrow. What we will get no one knows.

From what we can get from the incoming men the Japs are drawing from the detail working on the air fields on the Island the men are being sent to Bilibid and added to Detail from there. Bilibid is full to overflowing our detail that left here late in June is still on a ship in the harbor little or no water 2 poor meal a day many sick are being debarked and sent to the Hosp at Bilibid Manila is full of troops and the activity is feverish. The whole Jap garrison here seems very uneasy. It is a race against time I hope they dont make it. Still no one being taken from Div # 3. Rumor has it that all over 40 are being rejected for Japan Detail at Bilibid. The 180 will leave Tuesday.

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Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

July 19th Hard rains for the last 2 days. Our detail of 180 left yesterday at 2:00 P. M. Trucks to Cabanatuan then train all were soaking wet. 91 arrived from Bilibid the night of the 17th about 4:30 P.M. 39 to our side and the remainder to Div #3, mostly Officers. Then had been in Bilibid Hosp. Since the trip up. All of the reports of the bad treatment on the trip are confirmed also they were blindfolded and then tied in the trucks in rows parallel to the front of the body, the ropes secured to the sides and kept that way during a 2 hr. trip. Many fainted enroute. Our Camp overhead has been cut, not out of proportion to our strength. However no essential agencies deleted but all cut. We have had no meat for a week today dried fish (local) have been supplied in limited quantities although hard to get by the nose they are better than nothing. Our allowance is 15 (fifteen) Gr. per man per day less than 1/2 oz.

July 20th More rain but clear tonight. We were inspected today by 2 General Officers. They were the Chief of the Supply Section (G-2) of the Southern Regions, the other the General in Charge of P. of W. Camps - Philippines. Their inspection was very cursory they looked in 2 kitchens and passed thru Div # 1 & 2 on the way to the farm. No mail today our total so far is 18365. In six months less 9 days.

July 21st Our fellow P.W now in the Hosp. Area are to be transferred to our side. They are to go to Div #2 736 in all. As follows: 43 Lt. Col., 100 Maj., 157 Capt., 91 1st Lt., 99 2nd Lt., 7 Chief W. Officers, 4 W.O., 102 N.C.O., 127 Pvt., & 1 Civilian. Lt Col Jonnie Woodbridge is among those listed. Joe Ganahl is quite sick with Bacillary Dysentery, was taken to the Hosp this P.M. I went to see him and took him 2 eggs (Duck @ 1.90 ea) I happened to have.

July 23. Today was just like old home week so many Officers we all knew who have been in Davao for nearly 2 years were in the Group that came in today. They show the effects of the trip it was as described earlier in these notes. 16 went direct to the Hosp. Joe Ganahl is better. Friday nite a Co of Japs arrived in Heavy marching order about 200 not all equipped with rifles which leads us to believe they were Pioneer Inf. or Eng. They left by marching Sat A.M. going east. News is Good Hitler is having internal troubles, the Russians are driving hard, and we are on Guam. I saw Jonnie Woodbridge thin but O.K.

July 25th. The Japanese yesterday authorized us to increase our donation to welfare heretofore 50.00 ₪ from 100 Field Officers. Postal Savings Per Month to twice that sum I assembled the newly arrived P.O. from Davao and explained the set up. I am sure there will be no objection. Nearly all signed before I left an authorization to have it deducted when their turn came to contribute. The Japs are preparing regulation to govern the camp. Johnson and I have prepared those governing the Commissary even down to the distribution to men in Barracks with Beechers approval are going to see that everyone no matter what rank get their fair share of the essentials that we can get in, which I am sorry to say has not been so in many instances. Col. Johnson (Comm) was one selected to send a radio home. They are broadcast with a request that anyone picking the message up relay it to the given address. He kindly mentioned my name I hope you received word my dearest promptly. It is a least a hope that you will know I am OK in July 1944

July 27th Still rain we have hardly seen the sun for 2 weeks. Quotations on Beans (sack) reflects the decreasing value of the ₪ Sat. last 800 ₪ Monday 850 ₪

Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

Wed 1000 P. All of the recently arrived Field Officers agreed to contribute to Welfare except 3 Majors. Jackson, (MO) Babcock and Webb I made a trip to give them a second chance and to see if I could explain it further to them. They were extremely hostile hardly condensing to listen to what I had to say. Your gift to me overnight kitt was graciously received by the interpreter. I hate to part with it but it will do no end to good where it is and I can get along. Food is still the burning question everyone continues to get down in weight and resistance. Our Hospital is filling up.

July 28th Not much change. Details are heavy with Lt. Col required to work as laborers. Nice show with the Glee Club among others rendered was "Among My Souvenirs" shades of the Columbia Club and Lobster dinner with you fond memories. I slept badly. While I worked the Garden today I saw many of our men picking over the trash and garbage pile in hopes of finding something to eat. We live on hope.

July 29th Your letter # 18 arrived the latest I have received. We will be in O.C.I together again someday I know we will My dearest. I learned with regret of the Death of Lt. Gen L.J. McNair today. He was killed in France. A great loss to the Nation and to us.

Aug 1. I was too excited to write in my book last night the occasion. Two wonderful letters from you My own Judy Mine # 19 & # 20 in the former you spoke of your first word from me in the later of your sending me a package. Something was censored out followed by the word "taken" April 4 - 1942. I fear it referred to pictures which were not there. A letter from Mother Sept 8th gave news of the entire family also spoke of someone staying at the Philhimmon so I gather it was operating I hope we are being paid. You are so smart to raise so much, I always fear that you work too hard. Rains continue and our little garden on which we depend so much, dose badly. We are to receive a draft from Bilibid aprox 300: as follows due in tomorrow at 4:00 P.M. 100 Hospital Cases, 70 Quarters & 130 Duty. The Japanese have cut our Camp overhead again their call for work details was so great that we have had to turn out sick. Men lately as this looks bad on the record they are trying to cut our overhead. We may have to cut some of our entertainment programs. Needless to say I did not sleep well last night. Too much lying awake. Dreaming of the days when we will be happy again.

Aug 3rd I have taken over the camp Welfare a fund of 10,000 P subscribed by 200 P.O each month to purchase extra food for the sick. Both in the Hosp and in the Divisions. The actual cash is held by the Jap. Supply O. I simply administer the fund. On the 1st we had a flair up of beatings on the farm. Personal investigation shows that a detail of mostly officers from Davao was assigned to carry litters of vegetables in from the farm also loading them. Two of our supervisors warned them that they must load them well or there would be trouble. They failed to heed the warning and the Japs noticed it. This was in the A.M. Immediately after lunch the Jap farm

Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

officer 2nd Lt. Kaseino held a conference of his men, immediately followed by their going to where the same detail was working on the same work as the A.M. They made the men load the litters to where they could hardly lift them and when, on the way in the men began to play out, out came the clubs. We have protested food is terribly scarce our supper consisted of Seven table spoons fill of a mixture of rice greens and dried fish and a small cookie.

Aug 4th In effect we have had our ration cut again. Our standard ration as been 350 Gr. rice 150 Gr. rice substitute (Camotes at one time, shelled corn at another and recently rice as there were no substitutes available). Today we had issued corn on the cob in a proportion of 3 to 1 for the 150 Gr of rice we lose by test about 33 1/3 %. Vegetables and fish remain the same. Weather is much better. Clear today except for the usual afternoon shower. Our mail deliveries are better averaging over 350 per day this week. Beans are 1050 ₪ per sack.

Aug 7th As I stepped from our Barracks in the pale morning moonlight I was greeted with one of the most beautiful star displays I have ever witnessed the eastern heavens just before dawn at this time of the year contain our loveliest constellations in my opinion. We will look at them together my dearest. Some early August morning as we leave our house and walk hand in hand eastward across our lawn, God willing it may not be long, the Japs appoliged for the beatings and promised that the litters would not be loaded in excess of 15 K per man. Bad news today two (2) men were discovered outside the sentry line on the Air Port. I doubt if they were trying to escape simply trying to get out of work. Nice day with very little rain. I planted about 450 - 500 radish seeds. The Japs gave us. We also got Onion, Cabbage and Tomato. Mustard green and some others. Onion & Radish is all that will grow during the rains. The European situation seems to be clearing fast it is sure to have great repercussions in this theater.

Aug 8th Our troubles are mostly gastronomic. Survey made on the 6th shows 1099 cases of nutritional Adema? Out of a strenght of 2860 in Div # 1 & # 2. While in the Hospital area this AM. I was told by the Surgeon that they had, had 6 cases of impacted Bowels. All due to men eating corn cobs. All had to be operated. We have told all to desist but what avail when men are hungry. Our noon meal due to shortage of rice is now what is called Lugao (soft rice gruel) with greens corn okra or what other filler is available very unappetizing as the Iron pot and the vegetables give it a deep gray color. It is all we have so we eat it. The men who were discovered outside the sentry line at the Air Port got 10 days in the Jap Guard House. They were not abused.

Aug 10th Last nite another wonderful letter your # 7 Feb. 28 - 1943. I get a little more homesiak if possible and lie awake day dreaming each time one arrives. They are so welcome and my dearest you

Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

are so brave and fine, you speak so of our boys. Father dont forget their Mother while you are putting out bouquets. Our place must be lovely you have done so much from your remark about the well our supply must be problematical we may have to drill. Rain the order of the day however I fixed a bed and planted some Japanese radishes. Today they are up. More fish dried have come in although we are always hungry and terribly thin we are in no danger of starvation. The fish about 3" - 4" long, sun dried are first fried then ground and added to our rice, heads, scales, bones and all. 15 Gr. per man per day.

Aug 11th Tragedy stalked thru Camp, for today about 2 P.M. I was awakened by Maj Reynolds Adj to be told that a man had been shot by the Japanese sentry in Div # 2. Lieut Robert Huffcut Sig Corps Army of the United States was the victim (Huffcut was an ex member of the Philippine High Commissioners Staff. Expert on Economics and considered one of the ablest young men in the State Dept. He was in his late 20's P.H.D. Columbia University. Had refused to leave with Sayer. His duty being here) I have yet to make a full investigation but all indications are that he was shot while picking Okra in his garden, inside the inner fence. This the Japanese deny, claiming that he was on the guard path which is off limits. I believe that testimony will refute that claim some sun today but raining now. My supper (7) seven spoons of rice with fish and a rice cookie.

Aug 13th Sunday I did not go to Church. Our Communion Service has been discontinued and I cannot go the long sermons with which the non sectarian services are blessed? Investigation of shooting is not yet complete. I had a nice talk with Capt George Kaufman (Cav Res) who lives in Jersey. He has had experience in remodeling old houses having done there the last of which he was occupying when called to the colors. He gave me some very good advice especially as to materials, their purchase etc and also what agreements it was best to make with carpenters, plumbers, etc. He advised buying all plumbing from Sears. Also stoves set for kitchen, lumber. He believed little could be saved and the same with electrical fixtures cable or conduit yes. He advised allowing each Carpenter, Plumber, Electrician to purchase some of the materials so he can realize some profit the changes are. He will do a little nicer job. Time and materials to be basis of all work. Contracts are bad as you always want to make some slight changes and then you pay dearly.

Aug 14th Detail called to leave the 17th 500 En. men, 5 Officers, 2 Med Officers and 10 Med Corps En. I had expected it despite the tales of the difficulty of Japanese shipping to leave Manila. Our returns show about 560 odd well men for duty we will have to dig deep still no indication of Officer Details, labor is what they seem to want. Nice letter from Bill Shreve, March of 1943. The Japs are determined that there will be no escape. Today orders were issued that details except truck drivers and wood detail would go without shoes. Brutal on our people who are not accustom to it. Rains continue and my garden on which we depend so much does poorly.

Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

Aug 15th By a great good fortune we received some meat and bones today. A present from a Mr. Ted Lewen who works on the Jap. side. It is wonderful to feel satisfied after a meal.

Last evening Lieut Yamaji and Masada (interpreter) came with instructions from the Major that not enough men were turned out for details and that in the future everyone regardless of position would have to do some work i.e. on the farm. All of these orders are of course met with arguments by Maj Renolds (The following pages are torn)

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Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

CONFERENCE

Major Takasaki

August 16, 1944

Major Takasaki: The kitchen crew--the number of people now being used in the place seems to me too many and I will study it again and tell you the exact number of people you can use in the kitchen.

If anybody is found in the barracks who is not authorized to any duty approved by us, such a man will be punished and also the barracks leader or responsible people for that man will also be punished.

The reason why I want to strictly carry out my intentions under the present circumstances is that every country in the world is now in the war and everybody must work to live and everybody is actually working in those countries. As you don't read a newspaper, you have no knowledge, but we have knowledge that in the States all people are under the same situation. We have classifications of the ration for those who work and for those who don't work and I will strictly adhere to the regulations. I will give them a share of food according to the rules.

We reduced the amount of fuel in the kitchens and I notice that the kitchens here are burning too much wood and you people must notify the kitchen crew to economize the use of wood as much as possible.

The boundary line on the east side of this camp will be fixed and the order will be established from today and we will provide some sticks and wire to show clearly the boundary. Unfortunately, an officer was shot to death the other day, but we will try to fix the line clearly. All people must be aware of the boundary line.

You have 8 latrines which are outside of the new boundary line and these will be moved and the work is to be done by the men who are using the particular latrine. There is a small drain ditch between the latrine and barracks and the new plan of the boundary will be along the drain ditch there. Although you will utilize the materials that are put now on the latrines, like boxes, we know the material will be insufficient to make new latrines and we will issue material needed for the new ones.

I have some definite news from my people that there are some Americans made prisoner that have such an opinion that the more they work the more they will benefit the Japanese Army, so they want to be idle, but this is strictly prohibited by me and from now on, if anybody is found to have such an opinion and do in such a way, I will punish him very seriously, very severe. I hope that such news is a groundless rumor in this camp and all people have no such opinion in this camp and all things will be carried on smoothly.

This is all I am going to talk to you today and all men must be notified--everybody in the camp must know the things that I told you

Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

CONFERENCE

Major Takasaki August 16, 1944

and there will be nobody who is not notified about these matters which I told you now; without any exception each individual must be notified about these matters.

If there is any question among you, I will give you time.

Q. by Lt. Col. Beecher:

Now, in regard to the latrines--may we use the present latrines--at least some of them until we get others built and shift them over. As I say, the work is started and we will get it done just as soon as we possibly can and until we get that done, there is no place for them to go.

A. As the boundary line work will be started from today, when the new latrines are ready for use, we will issue orders and you may use the old ones until then.

Q. by Major Reynolds

The Major's orders will be published at evening rolloall tonight which is the first assembly.

A. by Mr. Masada

You must be very careful to notify everybody and not by only one time and you must repeat it. Some may be on duty and you must find that everyone is notified about it.

Any other question?

Major Takasaki:

I am open to receive any suggestions or anything which you want to request of the Japanese authorities and you can suggest or bring any matters which can be done to improve the present condition of the camp. I will thoroughly go through the whole matters brought by you. While I was in the office in Davao I appointed one day or two a week for all men for work, both Japanese and American side, irrespective of their work, busy or not. One doctor told the Japanese authority I am on medical duty and I am doing enough for one man and if I go out on the farm, my duty is doubled and with this I do not agree. To carry out our plan on the Japanese side will be order of the day and every Japanese soldier and officer has his own duty, even the Major has an assigned duty, but will be on the farm for duty the same thing as all the rest of men do. It is my opinion that one man who all the time sit in the office may spoil his health and one day on the farm or field will be very good and also it is a matter of principle--if one doesn't work,

at 7:17

Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

CONFERENCE

M Major Takasaki

August 16, 1944

he cannot get any food. The regular details on the farm whenever they see the staff members on the same job, they are very pleased and are naturally impressed and they are cooperating with each other and the effect is very good.

This is also very official that staff members see sometimes on the field what kind of labor and what kind of work they are doing on the farm so that they can see personally and check up any kind of things outside.

Major Takasaki talk was interpreted
by Mr. Masada.

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Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

Aug 17th Our detail left this A.M. at 9:00 by moving at the last minute. The Jap C.O. ordered that the men would have to carry their baggage. He said "Inspected the baggage yesterday and the men did not have too much, now they have padded it so I will not give them transportation." The truck with the American Officers baggage and the Jap soldiers, went out half empty. Planning on having their things sent by truck as heretofore, much was not packed to carry and there was no time to repack dog's of men lost all they had. No clothes, shoes, mess gear, blankets or canteens were issued, we were told to get blankets (Shortage 106) and shoes (Shortage 73) from the men in camp. The Japanese are terribly short of everything. The supplies needed for the latrines are not forth coming regardless of the fact that we were ordered today to have them finished in (4) four days. In view of the order that all details go bare-foot and according to the threat in Maj Takasaki's talk. I go without shoes each afternoon if I have to hit the farm. My feet will be used to it. To date we have received twenty five thousand three hundred ninety six letters (25396) seven months average per mo. 3628

Aug 18th I had my heart and blood pressure checked all O.K. I am very fortunate. Another detail of 4 Med Officers, 10 Med En, 1 Chap and 65 Warrant Officers or enlisted. We believe that it is a fill up for some outside detail on this island. Destination we believe Japan.

Sunday Aug 20th Yesterday we (Staff Group C.O. & Adj's) were called to another conference with The Jap Commander. His remarks ably taken down by my part time clerk Sgt Harrison of the 200 CAG (AA) is attached. Today as promised we received the cow (1) or about 1 lb. of meat and bone for ten (10) men also the tobacco 4 small leaves per man. Our usual issue of Cigarettes 10 per week was cut to (4) four. I believe this was a co instance and not premeditated. We held a brief memorial service at 9:00 A.M. fairly well attended, I presided. This will not be complete without some record of the condition of the men and officers of this Camp. I believe a very critical stage for from the Air the Philippines have been attacked. We will I believe either go to Japan or be in a fair way to being delivered in from 60 to 90 days. Everyone is terribly thin on the 13th of Aug there were 514 permanent disabilities in Div # 1 & # 2, 597 marked Quarters for minor ailments up to and including pneumonia and 587 patients in the Hosp. Our total strength that day 3543. Men are continually beaten for stealing and eating vegetables on the farm, but continue to take the chance. I saw three men today sitting in the mud and rain, waiting for the Jap Guard House in hope of getting the left overs. One Capt from the 86th FA (PS) told me that while on detail caring for the Japanese ducks he was able to steal 3 mess kits of the cooked duck food and eat it. Tempers are short and nerves on edge not a day passes that we do not have fights mostly over trifles. Hopes are still high and no one wants to go to Japan.

Aug 22nd Another wonderful letter from you # 12 written on Mother's day May 9th 1943. I did get a laugh about our Sandy Boy and his spelling I have never learned as these notes will bear witness. But it has not been a handicap. I am sure it will not be for him. A letter from Mother Dec 1942 telling of Bill S. good for him. I hope he is a Lt Col by now. We were each issued a coconut on Sunday last and another today and there are a good quantity still to go to the messes. Col Johnson was told by the Jap Supply C. that these and the tobacco

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Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

August 19, 1944

CONFERENCE

Major Takasaki

Place: Division II Office

Attendance: Staff Members

Division Commanders

Hospital Commander

Division Adjutants

Hospital Adjutant

Interpreter: Mr. Masada

Speaker: (unless otherwise noted) Major Takasaki

The reason why I ordered you to assemble here today is that this is a plan for using many of the war prisoners which will be important to you. There will be very few people in this camp. There will be much reduction in the personnel of this camp. It will mean that prisoners of war will be self-supporting, to work themselves and to produce the food by themselves. The amount of produce here is not sufficient and up to now we have been buying from the market as much as possible, but recently there is very little that you can buy in the market and things are becoming short every day. From now on we all have to depend upon our own products which will be produced on our farm. I found that comparatively we have too many patients and too many weak men compared with the number of healthy men in this camp. So from now on we must utilize all healthy men irrespective of age, officer, or any kind. They must all go out and be engaged in the producing of our food. So we must now find out to get the labor strength. Up to now all of the permanent quarters have been permitted to stay in the camp, but from now on even they we must utilize. If one person has not perfect legs, he must use his hands; if he has not perfect hands, he must use his feet.

Upon my arrival in this camp I first noticed that in this camp we have too many staff members and too many kitchen crew, so I have planned to reduce those personnel. Unless otherwise, we can't take out as many as are necessary for the farming. I had this plan in mind ever since I arrived at this camp, but I could not spare any time to discuss this matter and now I have a chance I want to go into this matter with you. If you will talk with Colonel Olsen of Camp II you will find the details or outline of my plans there.

I have decided the number of staff members and will now tell you. All men take out paper and note down what I say.

The staff members and office clerks in groups, in P.O.W. office, the total number of personnel has been 11, and this number will remain unchanged.

In each division we will provide one group commander and two adjutants and one assistant adjutant, a total of 4 in each division.

Typists--the total until now--2 officers and 12 enlisted men--that means total 14, and this number will be reduced from now on to 7 men.

In Camp Commissary we had 4 officers and 1 enlisted man--I mean the Camp and Division Commissary--we have 4 officers and 1 enlisted man; in total

Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

we had 5, but this number will be reduced to two men, so two men means the regular commissary staff. But when we receive delivery and you need additional hands, we will permit some extra number of men.

Rational Staff--the Supply Department--we had 6 officers and 5 enlisted men, total 11 men; but this category will be entirely closed out and we can use nobody for that department.

In the Details Office we had 5 officers and 3 enlisted men; the total we have had 8 men; but this department will be also closed; that means nobody will work.

The work of Supply and Details Office will be handled by those 11 in the P. O. W. office. Supply matters will be handled entirely in the P. O. W. office and the figures will be transmitted to the Division Headquarters Staff who will handle the work.

In Camp III we had 2800 men and all the work of this kind was handled by Colonel Olsen and three more men; that is, they handled all the work for 2800 men.

Utility Office--at present we have 12 officers and 11 enlisted men, a total we have of 23 men. We will carry on this number of men unchanged for the time being.

Shoe cobblers and tailors--at present we have 1 officer and 8 enlisted men--a total of 9. This number will not be changed.

For barbering purposes we have some number of men. In the working day, all people are supposed to be engaged in their own work and this item will be cancelled and people will have their haircut during their rest time.

In the Wage Account Office, 2 officers and 1 enlisted man and this number will remain unchanged.

The Chicken Coop--1 man and this will remain.

The Library Department we have two officers and 1 enlisted man, a total of 3. This also will remain unchanged.

Chaplains 4--we have had 5 men, but we agreed to 4 men from now on.

The Kitchen Crew--we have had 96 men in total, officers and enlisted men, but from now on there will be 6 officers and 80 enlisted men, a total of 86 men.

The Company Leaders we have 16 men and Assistant Company Commanders 17 men, and we will carry on these figures, but you must send out for work half of them each day--that means we must have about 16 or 17 more for the work and you can use the men by reliefs.

Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

The runners—we have had four runners up to now, but this will be revised to 2 and runners will belong to P. O. W.

We have had unloaders or so-called standby detail—50 men but this item will be entirely cancelled and will be sent out for farm work. When necessary, we will direct you to take out the necessary number of men.

Now for the Hospital: The Medical Headquarters in the group we have at present 2 medical officers and 4 medical corps men, a total of 6 and this number is unchanged. In the hospital there will be no changes in the fixed personnel and dispensaries in Division I and Division II the number of personnel are unchanged at this time. The total number is unchanged in the Medical Department, both in the Hospital and in the Group; but I will study the situation—that means 211 men—and I will still go into this matter further and when I form some idea to reduce the personnel, I will do that.

Is that clear to you? You can figure out the revised number of personnel of overhead, can you? The assignment and selection of men we will do in the Japanese Headquarters. In the future there will new joinings from outside—that means from Camp II and other detail places and whenever we can find some capable officer for the work of any kind on this side, I will assign them to the job. All the American prisoners in Camp No. I and No. II are under my jurisdiction and if you face some trouble in the assignment of men, I can do it myself. Seeing this camp, some things are very good and some are not so very good in comparison with Camp II, so any matters that requirement improvement, I will carry on the improvement gradually. Generally speaking, the set-up in Camp II has been better than this camp; that is my impression. In the work office system and also the system of distribution of food, it is my definite opinion that Camp No. II was better than here and you have to study still more to find out ways to accurately and quickly do the work.

Colonel Beecher, you can express your opinion whether it is possible to operate with the number of personnel I have given you.

ANSWER BY COLONEL BEECHER:

Under the circumstances I can express no opinion at present because I haven't had an opportunity to try what has been ordered. However, we will do our best. It will require a reorganization and before expressing any opinion, I would have to make the reorganization in accordance with the order and express an opinion if it can be done.

STATEMENT BY MAJOR TAKASAKI:

Since the Fall of Bataan I have been engaged in the matter of war prisoners and the figures now I give to you have some basic foundation according to my experience and I think it possible to operate by that number of people, so I order you to revise the number of men. Naturally, I realize that the amount of work assigned to one person will be increased, but I feel confident that people can do the work satisfactorily. However, as Colonel Beecher told me now, after you try to operate this camp by that number of people, if you feel some inconvenience and in some cases you find it impossible, I will be glad to consider your

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Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

opinion, but you have to try it a couple of weeks and you will complete the reorganization during the day and tomorrow you submit us a list of members. On the list we need the names of the officers wherever officers are assigned and enlisted men we do not need any names. To the staff members and also the kitchen crew, considering the amount of work they do, I realize that they work the same labor as on the farm, so from this evening I will agree to issue A chow.

When the assignment is completed, we will provide an armband on each staff member showing the assigned duty. Also the kitchen crew will have an armband. The reason why we provide armbands is to segregate the duty men from the general men.

Approximately two days in the week we have agreed to do the distribution of commissary articles. I will make more definite about A chow--all overhead men will receive A chow. Naturally those patients or quarter cases, if they don't work, they will depend upon only the regular chow--that is the "B" chow.

Tomorrow the Japanese side is going to celebrate the opening of the second year of this camp and in memory of that, for your side we will issue cow and tobacco to you. Tomorrow we will be holding the celebration outside the fence and if you like to do something in memory of those people who died in this camp, you can conduct some assembly at the same time, but the time must be reported to Japanese Headquarters.

In the graveyard in this camp, I find that there are many grasses very tall, not so neat, so I issued orders to the Japanese officer to make the place more clean and on the appointed day of cleaning some of the officers, if they care to go, can go out together with the grass cutters detail and can do something there. Not so big number, only limited number of men can go there. It is my idea four or five men may be all right.

That is all.

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Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shrove, cont'd

issued Sunday were bought with the 3% which we pay on Commissaries. The Camp now falls in, in front of the P.O.W. Hq in mass twice a day. Rain of shine to be checked by the Jap C.O. It takes about 55 min. only the sick to ill to move and the Hosp are excused. Our poor undered almost naked men take a bad beating in the cold rain and the chill before dawn. Faintings are regular.

Aug 25th Time marches on and everyday I am closer to you my dearest Judy. Yours of Sept 6th # 21 today the latest I have received. Also one from Mother, Aug 17th Darling you speak of being the wife that I put my trust in My Judy if I thought I had been able to do my job here as well as I know you have done yours I would be very happy.

Not much change. We are to be inspected tomorrow by the Jap C.O. only people with armbands (authorized overhead) and the sick are supposed to be in camp. If any others are found by C.O. and all concerned are to be punished.

Our R.C. medicines for Aug & Sept arrived the 23rd. They are held in Manila and given to us every month. We are back on Vita-caps until Oct 1st.

Aug 26th As you see by the enclosed we are trying to get the welfare fund increased. Our verbal request was turned down. Pay is to be increased for workers from Aug 10th 20¢ for Privs, 25¢ for N.C.O., 35¢ for Warrants Per 6 hr day an increase of 10¢. For salaried personnel 500% increase per month. (Note Par. 4) I am a little downcast tonite. It is the treatment accorded my fellow Officers and men. No shoes. All ranks including Lieut Col doing all sort of menial work for the Japs. Officers cleaning around the Guard Co. kitchen and quarters. Carrying slops and cleaning around latrines. I am fortunate to be on the staff. I take no chances. I go without shoes all afternoon each day just in case.

Sunday Aug 27th The camp is rife with rumors today. The Japs asked for a list by numbers of Well Officers, enlisted Men and Med E.M. The talk is of course large detail to Japan. Who knows? A lovely day spent just doing nothing. And visiting Joe Ganahl came down with some letters from his family. He is a fine man cheerful and optimistic, though troubled with a skin infection that has been chronic since he has been prisoner. News is good Germany I hope will not last out Sept.

Aug 29th Things about the same except the food I feel that I should be braying like a mule for I have had practically nothing but corn for it seems days, we are receiving a scant 350 Gr of rice, the rice substitute is corn, the vegetable issue is corn and the extra work ration corn. We have had boiled ground corn for breakfast and lunch for 2 days and hominy. Or work ration a little rice with fish gravy and more hominy for supper. Taste no longer matters only food.

Aug 30th Conference with Camp C.O. Beecher, Myself, Johnson, North (Hosp C.O.) Craig (Med Chief) much to our surprise and in reply to our request he uped the Welfare to 18,000% and said "That there would soon be more officers joining the Camp when they arrived. He would authorize an additional 2,000% lucky me four letters 2 from you, 2 Bill. All 25 words not so nice but welcome.

Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

PRISONER OF WAR OFFICE
Military Prison Camp No. 1 of the Philippine Islands
Cabanatuan, P. I.

C O P Y

August 26, 1944

SUBJECT: Increase in Welfare Contribution

TO: Commanding Officer, Military Prison Camp No. 1 of the Philippine Islands, Cabanatuan, P. I.

1. It is respectfully requested that the amount of money authorized for expenditure for the welfare of sick prisoners of war be increased to ₱22,500 per month, this amount to be collected by contribution of ₱75.00 each month from 300 field officers who have signified their willingness to such contributions.

2. At present there are in this camp many prisoners of war who have been returned to this camp either through the Military Hospital at Bilibid, Manila, or directly from outside work details, due to the failing condition of their health. As the health of men in this category has improved, they have subsequently been sent on other details, leaving in this camp the more serious cases.

3. At the present time 458 sick prisoners of war are being given additional food, consisting of 50 grams of beans each day. The cost of beans for one month at existing prices is approximately ₱12,540. This leaves no funds available for the purchase of fresh fruit and eggs which are sorely needed in the hospital for patients recovering from operations and those in the tuberculosis ward.

4. During the month of December 1942, when the sick fund was authorized, beans cost ₱36.25 per sack (25 gantas); duck eggs, 9½ centavos each, and bananas, 85 centavos per 100. At the present time beans cost ₱100. per sack, or 30 times as much; duck eggs, ₱2.35 each, or about 25 times greater; bananas ₱28.66 per 100, more than 33 times as much.

5. There are almost 1200 prisoners of war who are either patients in the hospital or temporarily sick marked quarters in Divisions I and II at the present time. This figure does not include many permanent disability cases who would be benefited by extra food were it available.

6. If this increase is authorized, it will be expended only for the welfare of the sick as shown above.

ARTHUR L. SHREVE
Lieutenant-Colonel, GSC
Morale and Welfare Officer

Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

Sept 2nd No entry for 3 days partially due to a stomach attack and partially due to my being very busy. My attack was due I think to, too much corn, I am well over it now. On the morning of the 31st after being up sick nearly all night I was called to Jap Hq for a conference with the C.O. Ref. Welfare. He discussed with me amounts and the number of Officers in each grade to contribute result; Col & Lt Col 50.00 ¥, Maj 40.00 ¥, Capt 15.00 ¥. We collected our 18,000 ¥ though it was hard work getting all the Captains to sign the authority for deduction by 7:00 P.M. Sept 1st, when they were paid 408 in all. On Sept 1st we were called to furnish a detail of 6 line Officers, 20 Med Officers, 2 Chap, 48 Med En, 336 En or Civ, 200 of them left today at 11:00 A.M. including 1 special Med Officer not inc. in the original draft. The remainder will leave at 7:00 A.M. Sept 3. All classes as Permanent Disability. We are very low in Enlisted now only in key positions in Messes and Clerks. Officers perform all other duties Runners, Cut wood, Carry rations, Police and Sanitary Details. Although or patient strength has increased our Hosp has been cut 8 Officers & 12 En Med Corps. Chap Taylor from special prisoner to Hosp. 4 remaining Lt Col Mack, Capt Aton, Civ Threat & Rogers. We are no longer allowed to furnish them with tobacco or books. I have read the report of investigation by our J.A.G. Maj P. Koster. It is too voluminous to make a part of this record. Lieut Huffcut was certainly inside of the limits set by the Japs. Lieut Tasuino Imp. Jap Army was in temporary Command of the camp. Witnesses Lt Col W. R. Craig M.C. USA Corp, Rufus H. Turnbow 18018186, 60 CAC Rm. S.c., Raymond F. Hoffman U.S. Navy, 1st Sgt Louis M. Hix Btry "H" 59th CAC U.S.A., Mst Sgt Joe G. Collier 48 Mat Sq Air Corp, Maj Wm A. Gay C.E. U.S. Army.

Sept 6th On Sept 3rd we received from Bilibed 98 Officers and men a large percentage of which were sent to the Hospital. There were 8 British soldier among them, captured in the Singapore campaign. They are in pretty bad shape. 44 days on shipboard. Poor food and little water. Ration increased fish for all from 20 to 39 Gr. Workers 20 Gr Extra. It will be a wonderful help if we get it. We are out of sugar and sugar substitute. It is hard without something sweet no matter how little. I was fortunate to get some extra money, enable me to get a few duck eggs. I had 2 for supper. They were 400 ¥ ea. for what I had to pay for the money they cost me \$4.00 for the 2. What is money when your life depends of a little extra food. Good News. France & Belgium are free. Holland invaded. We hope each day for action here.

Sept 7th God in his mercy has allowed the Special Prisoners to be released. There were only (4) four left Col Mack, Capt Aton, Civ Threat & Rogers. They were all admitted to the Hosp. Threat was the sickest with Diahrea. I believe that the Japs were anxious of their health. Six grand letters, one from you my Love, 3 from Bill, 1 Rosalie, and 1 from Uncle Harry so nice of him. I see Warren is a member of the firm hot dry days. Our extra fish can be noticed although only a spoon full.

cut 7 mt

Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

Sept 9th Our elation over the extra fish ration was short lived. It lasted 2 days only things much the same. The people here evidently not mislead by Jap propoganda realize that the script will soon have no value and refuse to deal with it. Practically nothing has come in the Commissary and one of our vendors reports that she cannot get bull carts to haul what little she can buy. Only 2 sacks of beans have come in this month. A few peanuts at 50.00 ϕ a ganta and 300 duck eggs at 4.00 ϕ each is about all I have been able to procure for the sick.

Sept 11th Dividens were collected this A.M. On my going without shoes for this was the day selected by the Jap C.O. for the staff and the Camp Overhead to go to the farm. We lined up were counted out and waited for about 45 min until the Maj arrived. He gave us a speech about everyone in the world today. Had to work or starve, and that we must work hard. Beecher and Div C.O. and Adj were withdrawn and we marched to an old corn field where some of us cut storks while the remainder pulled the stubble and the weeds. I did well no fatigue no blisters only minor cuts from cogon grass. After we got in we found that Beecher et. all were taken on a grand tour. Their bare feet nearly killing them. Officers placed on welfare as they are all paid are required to pay for what they receive up to $\frac{1}{2}$ the pay of the Company grade (ϕ 35.00 Pay) what we really give them is a priority on food at a reduced price, so little comes in especially beans that they all go to Welfare. I collected 433.00 ϕ and tried to deposit this with the Japs to the credit of the fund but it was too much for them to understand. So we gave up trying and will collect and use the money and not put it thru the book.

Sept 15th Another death, one of the patients in the Dysentery Area died. He developed Pneumonia yesterday and although we had plenty of Sulphur he did not react.

The Japs are digging in last night until after dark and today the office force has been working on fox holes. At each corner of the compound and at each guard house they have or are building huge redouts, I believe for no good purpose as there will not in my opinion be but little fighting here, even if we the P of W are here during the campaign. Of course we are getting in close I believe. The Japs have a right to feel nervous. A nice letter (25 words) from Bill. I feel fine sleeping better and believe am gaining a little. Our fish ration for workers is back.

Sept 16th Our wedding anniversary, 18 years. All too short except the last three which without you my dearest have seemed without end. But there is always that hope that soon it will all be over and we can be united again. You are always in my thoughts day again and again, as I once said to My Mother. The best and most wonderful thing that ever happened to me was Judy McCoy. My hopes are high dearest Providence provided me with a letter from my love. Your # 31 Nov 18th and the news is good. We have occupied the last 2 Jap Bases. Moving our forces to within less than 500 miles next year. For sure I love you.

Est
7m7

Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

Sept 20th Another detail called late the night of the 16th 2 Chap, 10 Drs, 30 Med Corps enlisted. They left by truck early Mon 18th. Little has transpired days follow days with little change. I had 2 wonderful letters from you today. A long one # 11 April 21-43. Dearest Mine how proud I am of you. Your cheerful letters so interesting, about our place which we love, never a word of complaint. It is terribly hard not knowing if I am alive or dead. It is different here. We have a constant fight against disease, lack of food and the all present menace of the Japs. Yours is harder to endure than mine my Darling and you are doing it splendidly.

Sept 21st My Darling long remembered will be today for this morning from the east over the mountains came our Navy Planes. The first flight of about 35 single engine bombers escorted by fighters flying high came into view at about 9:00-30. The bombers in beautiful formation. The fighters covering them on all sides from a greater altitude. Of course there was much speculation, but as they passed over just south of us and we could distinctly hear the fighters clear their guns. I was sure they were ours flight followed flight mostly south of us, still many were not convinced until as one flight returning eastward dropped four fighters to strafe the air field near camp. There was one unfortunate Jap in the air near the field or he took off as the fighter came in. He did not last long. He was shot down right over Camp crashed and burned on the edge of the farm. This afternoon they came again I believe in the five flights. I saw there were over 300 as one flight returned. 2 fighters dropped out swung over us and fired their guns in salute. Our men behaved beautifully. No cheers just big grins. The Japs were a bit stampeded, doubled the guard and called in all work details except wood cutters. What a day!!

Sept 22 Our Navy Aviators came again this morning at 7:30 A.M. flying high over the mountains in formation. They strafed and bombed (small bomb's) the field near here. Sometimes I have felt a little ashamed of the way we took cover in the early days of this war, but my heart glows with pride at our conduct as compared with these Japs. When the Field was hit we were all watching and continued to do so. Jap Hq 100 yds away was cleared in 10 sec. The Guard in the Guard House all went to ground. One Jap tried to get his tin hat on with poor success. He finally threw it away in disgust and jumped in a fox hole which was full of water. Col Say successfully lured on of our hosts chickens thru the fence in 4 sec. He was in the bag in 4 hrs in us Chicken Soup, Boiled Chicken, Corn Bread and the regular fish and rice. I am really full. We await impatiently News of the Raid we have been witnessing.

Sept 23 The scope for the first day was received late last night. The Japs took a bad beating 110 planes shot down, 95 on ground, 11 ships sunk, 26 probables we lost 15 planes. 1st day only. Ration cut 100 Gr rice, 50 % of cooking fat. 50 extra gr. of corn in lieu thereof.

Diary of Lieut Col. Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

Sept 26th The totals for the raid have been made public 2nd day better than the first. High hopes of Delivery here as the Japs have lost so much shipping. The wood detail has been discontinued. The Japs will according to them supply the firewood for the Camp. Good indication?

Sept 27. 2 letter from My love # 33 & 39. Len is in Europe I gather. Long conference with Beecher as to Jap Capabilities and plans to meet them. I believe we have left no stone unturned. Ito & Hitage interpreters left today to go near Manila our G-2, Los Banos, where our late C.O. and Adj are. We expect that all but seriously ill will be sent there from Bilibid.

Oct 3rd I dreamed of letters from my love last night, and awakened to find 3 from her beside my plate. Wonderful messages of love and cheer, your courage and devotion darling know no end. Our commissary expenditures are limited this month to P80,000 - Not to include welfare. The Jap wood detail that came in at 5:00 P.M. today as I was awaiting supper. 26 men with rifles, 16 men with axes and the Philippines are their allies in a war against us??

Last Sunday (1st Oct) 2 trucks arrived just prior to supper from them were unloaded, 64 white men, no shoes, practically no clothes, unshaven dirty, and unmistakably many sick. They were accompanied by an Officer and a det of Japs who had left here 2 or 3 days ago. They were checked and counted and turned us for shelter and food. 18 Dutch & 46 British P of W. They were as far as the Japs knew the survivors of 1200 who left Singapore about 3 months ago. We got blankets, mess gear, blue dentims & shoes for them from Lt Yamaji. I passed the hat and got cigarettes and soap for them that night. In the AM in response to a call I was swamped with Soap, Razors, Tooth Brush, Combs, Towel, Handkerchief etc. The response was terrific and our new Comrade were overcome with gratitude. Briefly their story as told by Lieut Zunnevelo, Dutch E. Indian Army is as follows. After the fall of the Indies he and other Dutch & British P of W were sent by boat & marching to Thailand (Siam) to build a railroad connecting Burma with French Indo-China of 45000 - about 25,000 died of Cholera after the completion of the road. They were returned via Singapore where they were put on a boat (1200) 1000 B. 200 D. and started north. They were 8 weeks enroute to Manila. They lay in the harbor. There for about a month during which time about 90 British and 4 Dutch died. Fresh water was scarce, 2 meals a day (rice) with about 20-40 Gr of dried fish once a week. During this period the ship moved many times to small bays and other places in Manila Bay. As part of a large(?) convey they left on Sept 20th on the morning of the 21st off the Zamboales coast somewhere between Subic Bay and Iba. The Lieut was on the after well deck. He heard and saw planes but believing them Jap paid no attention and did not realize that they were Allied until M.G. bullets began to hit the ship. Two bombs hit near misses near the stern one Starboard one Port. The next hit the engine room and the next one of the 2 forward hatches where the British were. He went

Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

below got his life belt and started his men top side when he arrived on deck. The boat was only a foot out of water and had been hit by a third bomb. He stepped into the water and the ship went down before he had swum 10 yds. He was in the water 4 1/2 hrs and estimates they were 4 km from shore. He saw 3 cargo & one destroyer go down. Others he believed sunk but did not see them. He saw Jap destroyer pick up Jap survivors and leave P of W in the water. On one life raft were 2 P of W - 2 Japs & a pig. The destroyer picked up the Japs & pig. When they got to shore the Jap beach defense made no effort to help them thru the surf. They were put in a house, told that all the American planes had been shot down, no one was allowed outside. He heard planes all the next day. They were fed by Filipinos. 2 meals a day stew with meat & rice and later at his request vegetables were added. They were there 10 days. Cigarettes, clothes & food were supplied by natives only. They told him if he had come at night they would have hidden them all. Lt Zonneveld estimates that from 300-325 got to shore.

Oct 5th I awakened this morning to find your # 40 Mar. and enclosed was My Judy. Oh Darling you cannot know the joy your picture brought and so like my fondest memories. Sock saddle shoes, skirt & sweater even the cigarette and the way you hold it. You look so well My Love no change My Judy. Two weeks today and our aviators have not returned and with each passing day the question if they do not soon come again. Will the Japs send us to Japan? I am going to try and duplicate all of my important papers so if we do go I can plot them with these notes which will be buried, assuring your getting them if I should not return.

*Canned Milk

Oct 6th Caloric value of the ration as figured by our medical Hq Regular Ration 1760 - Workers - 892. Additional for Sick in Hosp. 46. Additional Seriously ill in Hosp 140*

Oct 7th Lieut Yamaji is leaving in the A.M. for Japan. A real loss. Purchased for welfare today IK sausage 50.00 P, 6 eggs 33.00 P, a few bananas @ 60.00 P a 100. The rice ration has been increased 50 grams (See entry Sept 23 CS)

Oct 8th Many Happy Returns of the Day My Darling Judy. God bless and keep you. You have brought to me only happiness and I love you with all my heart. To say that I am proud of you is just the limitation placed by our language. In you there is that rare combination of being always My Sweetheart and a fine and devoted Mother to our boys. If by some unlucky chance I fail to return from this adventure I hope you will keep our place in Howard. Our Boys I know will under your loving care, grow into fine Honorable Gentlemen. God fearing and with a love and devotion to their country I confidently expect to tell you all. This and lots more in not to long a time but I am writing this just in case you have been in my thoughts all day and I dreamed of you after lunch. Your picture is a great joy.

Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

Oct 9th At 8:00 P.M. last night a detail was called 250 E. men-160 line Officers & 2 Chap. $\frac{1}{2}$ of it left at 9:00 today. The remainder to leave on the 10th same time. Many are downcast. Believe we will all be shipped out to Japan at once. I do not believe so I still have hope of being here "Come the Yanks"

Oct 13th Friday Lucky day we have news of a big raid on Formosa. Our planes may be here soon. I figure that if the Yanks do not come by Monday or Tuesday we will leave Wed or Thursday.

Oct 15th My Darling today may well be the day that marks the turning point in this War for us. Could well be that it may send me into your arms fully a year sooner for the Yanks were here again. We did not see so many clouds were low but since early this morning when we saw our Planes we have heard from time to time the deed throated roar of many American Planes. Yesterday the Japs gave out the figure of those to stay; 17 Officers & men to work for the Japs, 400 patients in the Hosp, Med Off and Corps Men to care for them.

Med Off and Corps Men to go to Bilibid to care for the sick there. All the rest of us to leave. 700 scheduled to go at 2:00 A.M. in the morning (Monday 16th) the remaining to follow the last to leave. The Staff and the odds and ends were scheduled for Tuesday at 7:00 A.M. All heavy baggage was inspected at 1:00. The packs of the 700 due to leave at 2:00 were come over. A terrible job. I had come here to write a few pages to you as I had arranged to leave these notes with the Hosp to be sent to you upon recapture. I remembered something I had to do and delayed my writing and before I returned word came from Japanese Hq. All outgoing details cancelled. What it means we can only guess. But we are still here. 3 hrs later Change 190 Field and Company Officers to leave at 6:00 AM 16th not me.

Oct 16th Very little sleep. I have taken command of Div # 1. Its CO left this A.M. Most of my friends left this AM and there are 250 called for tomorrow at 5:30 AM. Their baggage was inspected at 1:30 today. News is good I still believe that we may never leave for Japan. Our planes were over again today.

Oct 17 Detail left but late. At about 7:00 to 7:30 our planes appeared again. This time we could see them quite plainly about 35 single engine bombers escorted by fighters. Beautiful formation absolutely no opposition, we saw several such flights one of which swung north and east and bombed some target on the road between us and the mountains which border on the sea. A group of Jap Staff Officers came into camp this A.M. followed by a truck (6 x 2) with guards. They went to the nearby air field. Quite a lot of troop movement on the road by camp considering that it only goes to a small bay W of here. I expect to leave for Manila Friday or Saturday. But if this attacks continues I still believe that we will not be sent to Japan. A detail of 250 scheduled to leave at 6:00 A.M. Another 4:00 A.M. Rising.

ex 7m7

Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

Oct 18th Detail left as per schedule. I was up at 4:00. Our boys were over again today. Before the detail left they started coming from the cloud bank covering the mountains to the east. From then on all day long the air vibrated with the roar of their motors interspersed with detonation of bombs. It is by far the heaviest raid so far. Even the little field close by was both strafed and bombed. The later this P.M. when I was asleep. Our hopes are high. Another letter Dearest and one from Buck S. I love you so you are so brave, so fine.

Our Planes are over now.

Cabanatuan P. I.
Thursday Oct 19th

My Darling Judy,

Our days here are about to come to a close. Our last detail that was scheduled to leave tomorrow was called and left at 10:30 A.M. There are but 93 of us left and I suppose we will go tomorrow. This will leave 401 patients, 8 Drs. and some Med Corp E.M. in the Hosp, 16 disabled Officers and about 200 disabled Soldier Sailors & Civ plus 17 well men to run the light plant, pumps, trucks etc. All of those who have left in the last two weeks are in Bilibid enroute to Japan. But as it appears that a general attack is on, I doubt if they or us will ever leave.

Please above all do not worry about me. My health all thru has been excellent, no Malaria, no Dysentery. At present I am a little thin but have been putting on weight for the last three weeks. From now on out, if it is in Bilibid or to Japan the food is going to be very thin. But I have quite enough vitamins to get by O.K.

As to my financial status all of my pay is due from Dec 1st 1941 less my allotment to you and Ins. And $\frac{1}{2}$ a ration (Soldiers) per day from Jan 1-42 to April 9th 42. Pay from the Japs has been in Occupation Script which has no value. I have given checks in camp. Four (4) @ \$200. Please see that they are covered as they may be cleared from here before I get home.

This record is 1st for You and secondly to refresh my memory in case I am called upon to testify after the war. So be careful to whom you tell its contents either wholly or in part except the propaganda which I have enclosed.

About the place I know you have done wonders, but in planing for the future there are some things that should be put in this spring, for it will take a year or so before they bear. Asparagus & the Berries (Rasberries etc) I thought they could be N of the House and W of the old orchard (80).

Diary of Lieut Col Arthur L. Shreve, cont'd

I have enclosed some sketches for you. Give each of our grand lads a big hug & kiss for me. Tell them about my doing here and that I will be home soon.

I live only for the days that are to come when I can hold you in my arms again and tell you how much I love you.

I believe as soon as the war is over we can see our way to go right to "Our Decision" and stay sending our boys to the High School at Alexandria and then to College at Maryland or Johns Hopkins. until those Happy days My Dearest Judy Mine "Au Revoir".

I love you,

ARTHUR

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

Ruth H. Essary
RUTH H. ESSARY
Capt Wac

EF
7/17