

Aug 3, 1947

Dear Bob:

Please take a good firm grip on something, as I know this letter must be a great shock to you. I have been thinking so much about you ever since I left, but I just hate to write, I did plenty in the past few years.

I just have 8 more days & I will be out of the Army & the rub is the fact that I haven't heard one bit from the V. A. or Army about anything. The ~~only~~ thing that keeps me going is the Army finance, but in 8 days I will not be drawing Capt's pay anymore. I received a notice from the National Life Insurance that I would pay \$15.80 per month. I wrote them & registered the letter & still no answer, so I paid it so the policy would not lapse. I have no idea what my disposition is.

I was looking forward to seeing you when I returned last June, but you were in Chiags. - You can bet I was happy for



you & yet so disappointed because you were not there. Tell me Bob, that the operation was a great success & that you have just looked for the future, & your plans are getting to be reality. I know you will do ok, for I know you have more plair guts than I have & I am doing ok. I have built my porch, Put siding on one side of the house & am now hauling cedar in the one wheel-trailer I built. Not to mention the fact that I have been taking care of a fellow's books. He runs a large hardware store, He has 3 men; His wife & himself in the store which is about 180 ft wide & about 100 ft deep. He handles anything from soup to nuts. He also has a large warehouse. I drive 10 miles there & back every day. I work 6 days a week. It sure seems odd to get up every morning at 7:00 & shave & get to work by 9:00. I don't know if I will continue to work there, for it is a great deal of driving & I don't know how it will be in cold weather.

I have felt fine since the day I left Percy Jones. I have had only about 2 very short & mild numb feelings on the left side of my face. I take only one pill a day now, & in a short



time I will cut out all dope. This civilian life isn't so bad. People who never even knew me, seem to just accept me. They all say, "You must have been in the Army. I really see quite a few people. Remember, I didn't know how I would feel once I took off that Uniform. Well, I know within myself I was of + I feel good + people don't bother me. I really haven't had any but head-aches. The only thing I get once in a great while is a sharp cutting pain at the scars.

Joanne is quite a gal now. I know you wouldn't think she is built very nice now. She has only a little over 3 weeks left. I hope it is a Boy.

Bonnie is quite a gal now + a great deal of fun. Well that is just about all for now.

Please let me know how you are + how the operation was + what they did. I know it must have been tough. Let me know about Barnes, + Skeltor, + Cook, + Andy. You can bet I will answer - But you know I am slow.

Joanne sends you her best wishes + we are still hoping you will be able to make it out here



sometime. I look like I could cross the lake from  
Ludington, Mich to Manitowoc, Wis that made  
a total driving distance of 210 miles. It would  
be a grand trip for you. I hope some day  
that we will be able to make it <sup>down</sup> to Russell  
Kansas.

Write soon & say hello to your Brother &  
Dad + Mom for me if you are at home &  
to the fellow if you are at the hospital. See  
Joe Brennan & say hello for me.

Loads of luck + success,

(Ex Capt.) Ottis