

No.

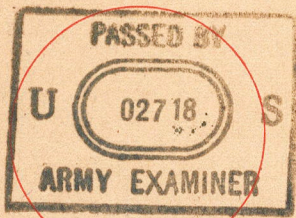


ABB
(CENSOR'S STAMP)

To

Mr F E Hertha
28 Heathdale Rd
Toronto 10 Ont
Canada

From

Pvt Wm H Hertha 16177A1A
(Sender's name)
Med Det 8th Cav APO 201
(Sender's address)
% PM San Francisco Cal
Saturday Dec 23rd 1944
(Date)

(continued)

Letter #31

Yesterday I saw a pitiful sight. After eating chow, the GIs dump their garbage into a can and wash their mess gear. Only this time there was no need for a garbage can. About a dozen hungry children met us as we left the mess hall, and scrambled for the scraps that were left over on our plates. One old man said it was his first drink of coffee in 2 years.

This explains why the Japanese never could conquer the Philippines. The invaders occupied the cities and communication centers. Many Filipinos left their homes and moved into the country. They refused a Jap ultimatum to return and their houses were burned down. The Stars and Stripes still flew among an organized army of guerillas that controlled the hills of the interior. They waited a long time for us. Then one day in the fall of 1944 we returned.

Before the invasion we were all pessimistic and worried. The Philippines had been the key to the defenses of the new Japanese empire. Now we realize that the center of Tokyo's New Order was rotten at the core.

V...-MAIL

Bill.

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INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) Write the entire message plainly on the other side within marginal lines.
- (2) PRINT the name and address in the two panels provided. Addresses to members of the Armed Forces should include rank or rating of the addressee, unit to which attached, and APO or Naval address.
- (3) Fold, seal, and deposit in any post-office letter drop or street letter box.
- (4) Enclosures must not be placed in this envelope and a separate V-Mail letter must be sent if you desire to write more than one sheet.
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☆

GPO

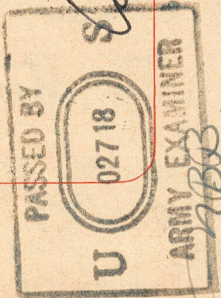
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A & Hecha
 28 Heathdale Rd
 Toronto 10 Ont



Canada

MAIL —...— V

EVER AND THEN FOLD BOTTOM UP AND SEAL
THEIR ENVELOPE SHOULD BE USED



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No. 5