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UNITED STATES ARMY

Philippines
May 9, 1945

Dear L. F. H.,

I've been receiving the letters regularly lately, and I've noticed that there seems to be very little correspondence from the Philippines. I have an idea that most of the fellows have been pretty busy up to now, but since we have the islands pretty well under control now maybe you'll start hearing from some of them.

I met one of my old school-mates from home a few days back. It was Fletcher Kent, who is in an air corps outfit not far from me. We enjoyed renewing our friendship, and talking about the old home town. Boy, how we both would really like to be there now.

Here's something that might be of interest to you. Last night at 10:00 P.M. (9:00 A.M. your time) [redacted]

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practically my entire company was standing around the radio, waiting for the President's confirmation of the surrender of the German forces. During the address everyone was so quiet one could have heard a pin drop. After the President finished his message the boys drifted away, or else gathered in quiet little groups. There was no shouting for joy, or celebrating of any kind. I heard several prayerful remarks of "Thank God, that's over." You see, we realize over here that the road to home from over here is still a long and hard one. There's a lot of fighting to be done yet, and we hope that the people there at home will realize it, because only through their help and cooperation will we be able to carry this through to a final and glorious victory over the Japs.

You've had a lot to say about

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the weather there of home lately. Just thought I might mention that we are having spring weather (tropical style) over here, too. Quite often the thermometer runs up to 138° and 140° during the mid-day. That is rather warm. Our dry season is on now too, and it rained tonight for the first time in four weeks, almost a record.

I might mention that since I arrived here I've earned the Asiatic-Pacific Theatre ribbon, with one bronze star for the New Guinea campaign, and also the Philippines Liberation ribbon with one bronze star.

That's all for now. Keep those letters coming. They are swell.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Brown

Sgt. Robert W. Brown
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c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, Calif.

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