



UNITED STATES ARMY

Meloccas  
Mar. 2 - '45

Dear Mather:

I got about 3 letters today from you. In all I got twelve (12) today. Remember I said I'd probably get a wad when I got some mail, and did I get a wad, ha.

I hope Dad's cold isn't too bad. He never took any care of himself. I am OK.

I got a letter from Cloh. She said she was going to open a Beauty Salon, in Greeneville or Kingsport. She hadn't made up her mind as yet.

How's Bob and Podge making out? I hope Bob's sweaters hold out, ha.

Did Pete Stansberry and Dad have any "cuss fights" this time? ha. Rem. Dr. Brown.

I guess Bob likes those funerals as much as I did. I don't see why they take the kids.



UNITED STATES ARMY

Reese seemed to be more fond of Peba than the rest. "White Eye" seems to be a joker. I never cared for him <sup>W.F.</sup> especially.

My letters seem to be getting there pretty fast. I hope you haven't been worrying about me, but I know you do. I hope your cold is better, take care of yourself.

No doubt Edyth and Conrad would make a romantic pair. ha. Edyth is a sort of odd person. I guess you can't blame her, what with Willie and Fanny as parents.

I guess Worley is ~~overworked~~ over worked ~~with~~ his driving and cattle feeding.

Take care of that cold. Did Dad close the hog lot and how did you come out with the calf you were watering? ha.

By - Bill





Meluccas  
Nov. 9 - 45

Hello "Mom". UNITED STATES ARMY

I hope all of your colds are better. I am OK.

We are having more rain here. It's been raining all day. They are having a movie tonight, but it's so rainy I don't think I'll go.

I guess the "Pros" have about played out. Bryan was always a little slow about doing anything. Rob't hasn't been worth a f-t in a long time.

I'm glad you got the "Jo's" many. This one is the "real" stuff. I got it from a Chinaman. I am sending it in this letter. I hope you get it.

No doubt, "Borgi", was glad to get the candy. Is it hard to get good candy at home? The candy we get isn't so good.



UNITED STATES ARMY

"Bot" will really be a "dude" when he gets his watch.

"Dean" said, he really made good grades. Must be "smart" huh?

Wayland told me he was going into the army with Wayne. I guess they are pretty homesick by now.

I guess "Tom" really has troubles. Curley is the one who should have gone. That would give Ester a rest, ha.

That "Jessie" must be a case. No doubt she will be a great actress. Does she ever talk to anyone?

I got a lot more letters to write. The letters come in bunches and I really get behind.

I saw in the "son" that Gale Mays was a P.O.W. in Germany. - By - Bill



UNITED STATES ARMY

Moluccas  
Mar. 11 - 45  
Sun.

Hello Mother:

I am O.K. It's pretty warm and looks as if it might rain. It rained practically all day yesterday. I spent most of yesterday sleeping.

H.R. seems to have done rather well with his farm sale. Jay Weems has to many irons in the fire. I don't suppose he ever will do any good.

You said Aunt Dess was looking better and so did Clah. She (Clah) said Aunt Dess had changed Doctors.

Wonder what is wrong with C.H. Harrison? He is kind of a queer bird anyway.

Wayne was getting rather liberal with H.C.'s gas wasn't he. Why couldn't he ask





UNITED STATES ARMY

someone for the stuff? I'm glad you aren't mad at him but he should know better than to do things like that.

How's Berger doing? How the weather gotten so he can make it to school and did he get the watch? Marilyn said that since "Will" got his gun from Dad, that he was the "Lone Ranger" ha. Helen says he is terribly mean.

There isn't much to write about from here. I got two "Readers Digests" recently and a wad of the "Lone".

It's started to rain a little now. (something new for this "joint". I guess you can't have everything I hope your colds are better. Tell 'em all hello

By Bill

Maluccas

Mar. 16 - 45

Fri.

Ai Mother,

I'm still doing OK. I hope everyone is well at home.

How's Robt doing with his fancy shoes? I guess he is pretty much of a "dode" ha.

I guess Helen really enjoyed "Widdys" company on the bus. (W.M.'s) She wrote me something about it. I think he wanted to buy her ticket and had only four (4) cents left. huh?

I guess the "Boys" are in the infantry now. I heard something about all the 18 yr olds were getting the infantry.



I have sort of gotten behind  
with my writing. I got letters  
from you, Helen, Marilyn and  
Aunt Clyde yesterday. Maybe  
I'll get caught up some time. I  
hope.

How are the cattle doing  
now? They should stop testing  
out soon. Are you still out  
of the hog business?

I hope things are going good  
with you. Have you learned to  
drive yet and has Dean tried  
to learn. I guess she is to  
busy reading and sleeping. ha

We had a stage show,  
night before last. Mexican  
Hay ride. It wasn't very good.  
The movie tonight is Hollywood  
Canteen. I guess I'll go.

Best of luck.

By Bill.



Moluccas  
Mar. 21-1945

Dear Mother.

How are things? I am O.K.  
We are still having our share  
of rain it seems. It is rather  
cool at present. I should be able  
to sleep good tonight, as if I  
ever have any trouble ha.

I finally got those shirts.  
They were long enough in  
gettin' here. hot? They fit  
abright.

Helen sent some pictures  
of "Bob" and "Podge". Podge sure  
look like a "Teddy Bear". Bob  
looks tall, no doubt he will  
be. ha. He has grown quite  
a bit hasn't he?

I hope Dode cold is  
better and yours too naturally



I guess Wayne was lucky to  
get the Navy. I saw or heard  
that all the young fellows that  
were taken by the army got  
the Infantry. I personally think  
the Navy gets a better deal.  
Yeah, Wayne sent me a  
picture of his dog, naturally I  
couldn't tell much about his  
Colony.

No doubt you will become  
very rich, with "Curly" doing  
the farming. I guess you have  
to take what you can get, but  
I think "Bob" would do more  
work ha. So Anderson gets  
pains every so often. ha. Some  
people just naturally are jokers.

I was glad to hear that  
you all hadn't had too much  
difficulty with the sheep. Rufe  
must be a "Dead Eye Dick"  
as far as dogs are concerned. ha



How is "Sprout" doing by now?  
I hope he has gotten over his  
nervousness. Ha. No doubt there are  
a lot of "Nervous Nellies", around  
there.

How is Gerald doing by now?  
I wrote and told her about "a  
Tree Grows in Brooklyn". I said  
I didn't plan to read it but I did.  
It wasn't too good.

The movie tonight is "Dark  
Waters", Merle Oberon & Tranchot  
Lore. I have seen it before and  
I didn't think so much of it, so  
I didn't go tonight. I was behind  
with my writing anyway.

I guess this is it for now  
Bye and take it easy

- Bill

Moluccas

Mar. 23-'45

Dear Mother.

I got three letters from you today and one from Helen.

I got the picture of "Bob" & "Podge" O.K. Helen had already sent one of them, thanks the same anyway. (I also got the picture of Mrs Young).

No doubt the Leauges all had to get a larger hat size. ha. They could always "put on the dog", more or less.

Bobby seems to have lots of colds, that goes with winter I guess. I haven't had one in quite some time (knock on wood) ha.

It looks as if we are



going to have to quit raising  
cattle. I never heard of anything  
like it. Did you? (Bangs I mean)

I hope the shoe situation  
isn't too bad. I have troubles  
too. I am short on fatigue  
pants. I ~~turned~~<sup>turned</sup> in two pairs  
about five (5) months ago and  
still no pants. (can't get my  
size).

How was the movie (The  
Bell Tolls one)? I have been  
wanting to see it but so  
far haven't. I don't think  
it has been here.

Helen told me about getting  
"Bob" some pills. I guess he  
will get rid of his cold in  
a hurry. ha.

I'm glad to hear you  
are finally getting some farm

work done. How is "Curly" doing?  
Killing himself no doubt! ha.

They are having a play  
here tonight. I never liked  
plays at home and I don't  
like 'em any better here so  
I didn't go.

I haven't heard from Wayne  
yet. I think I'll wait until  
he writes. He owes me a  
letter anyway. (or at least I  
wrote last I ha.

If I need anything I'll  
ask for it. I seem to be  
doing O.K. at present.

I hope the colds are  
better. Tell all of 'em hello

By, Bill



Maluccas  
Mar. 28 - '45

Dear Mather,

I am doing o.k. How is everyone at home? Have the colds improved? I hope so.

You mentioned the meat shortage. I saw where some of the Senators, said there was lots of cattle on the hoof and blamed the O.P.A. for the shortage. They seem to bungle a lot of things.

We get enough meat here I guess. The fresh meat is mostly beef. We get a bit of canned meats though.

I hope the weather has cleared by now. How is "Curley" making out?

Lyman said He (Lyman) had been dipping for V. George.

I saw that movie you mentioned "Laura". It was pretty good. Helen said (The Bell Falls) wasn't so good. The last movie we had was an old one. I had seen it long ago, "The Constant Nymph".

It will soon be Easter and I hope you have a very happy one. I got a card (Easter) from "Susie" today.

It's started to rain again. That is about all it does here.

Helen says Eloah seems to be doing pretty good (so far) with her shoppe. Well something (sometime) should work alright (even for Eloah) ha.

I hope Dad, Dean, Bob and you are OK.

By Bill



Malveaux  
Mar. 31 - '45  
Lost one

Dear Mother,

Hope you and the family  
are fine. I am o.k. Hows Berger  
and Podge? Tell him I got his  
letter and enjoyed it very much.

I got eight letters today. I  
wish the stuff wouldn't come  
in "gobs" like it does.

I got a letter from Mays  
today but so far haven't heard  
from Justin's yet.

Hows Dad and the so called  
"Renters" making out? They all  
must be a bunch of good for  
nothings. He always seemed  
to easy on 'em but I guess  
you have to sort of let 'em  
have their way now

Does Bob still feed the calves? No doubt he has lots of help. That would be a pretty large job for him.

I hope Dessie Maude is recovering alright. I was sorry to hear she was so bad. Are they still "at outs" with you?

Tomorrow is Easter. I guess all the kids will be down. It is usually a pretty big day, new hats, frocks etc. Oh yes! another big day coming up soon. Give up? 76<sup>th</sup> num. ha, gettin' old.

I still have my old watch. I'm glad you got the money OK. It was the only real Jop. money I've seen around. So I was pretty pleased with myself in being able to get it. I guess its worth around two or three dollars in our money.



How was the movie "Thunderhead"?  
I was reading the story (serial form)  
when I came into the army. You  
sent me the last copy, when I  
was at Berkeley, Texas. The  
book was pretty good.

You know! I have almost  
taken up one of your habits  
since coming into the army. Yeh!  
it's drinking coffee. I hope the  
war don't last much longer or  
I will probably end up being  
a "Coffee Friend" ha. or like  
Ray Bobb at least. I guess  
there are lots worse habits  
than that, huh?

Well Best of Luck

Bye for now

John B. King  
or Bill