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274th Port Co
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air mail

Miss Mary Cole
3870 Harney St
Omaha, Neb

1 Jan 46
Leyte

Dear Mary,

I'll write this letter to you with the main purpose of wishing you a very "Happy Birthday." I will also state that your letters have been, shall we say, few and far between. But because this contains your Birthday present and also because I'm no ace when it comes to writing lets let the subject drop. However, in the future lets have more letters from both sides. How about it?

I hope that you and mother enjoyed your trip to Paddy's. I'm glad that you went for Christmas is a very special time of year and Paddy's, to my way of thinking, is just the place to spend it. Next Christmas I should certainly be home and we will make up for the last three that I have been away. I spent a quite

christmas but not such a bad one.
The thing I believe I enjoyed
most was mid-night mass.

How is school coming along?
If I don't get out of this army
pretty soon you will be ahead
of me. I've been doing a lot of
thinking about what I'm going
to do when I do get out. I believe
going back to Santa Clara to
complete law would be one of
the smartest moves I could
make. The government will pay
all my expenses and I'm still
not too old to learn. I followed
the football games last fall
with a lot of enthusiasm.
I was sorry Notre Dame fell to
the bottom at the end of the
season. I see where Santa Clara
has a new coach for next fall.
a man by the name of Larry
Mullins. He's an ex Notre Dame
star. It's going to take us a
little while to climb the ladder
again but if the school still has

the same old spirit that job won't be too rough. It will certainly be swell to get back into the old swing of things 'football games', tries, etc. The whole idea really appeals to me.

Bob Davenport is here on Leyte with me. He was shipped to another island called Cebu, but Cebu shipped him back to Leyte. He hasn't changed a bit. Right now he has some high powered plans of going to China when he receives his discharge. He firmly believes there is a cool million waiting there for him. Sometimes I think he's just plain crazy and then again I don't know.

Jim Ellis is right here in this outfit with me. I don't know if I told you yet or not but Jim and Josie had a little baby girl. Naturally, Jim can hardly wait to

get home. He plans to continue schooling at Stanford. I believe he's going to finish some kind of a business course.

I received a very nice letter from Mooky. No, as yet I haven't answered her. But one of these days I will fool everybody and answer my mail.

I wish you could see this place. But then you can get some idea of it from the pictures St Gunn's sister sent. Of course our Camp Area is very clean. That's the main reason I never leave Camp.

Well Mary, I must close as I go to work early tomorrow. Take good care of mother and yourself and I'll soon be home. When I do get home, we'll take a trip and just enjoy ourselves. Next ~~year~~ ^{fall} we will really have fun.

Love
Bud