

22 October 1945

Dear June & Morgan,

Well, the mail has finally began to roll in in high gear now but I was a little disappointed not getting a clipping of my picture. If you haven't already thrown it away I sure wish you could send it to me.

In this letter I am going to try an answer a few of the questions you asked so here goes. To begin with, I am in the best of health but having only 46 points my morale could be a lot higher. I don't know just how soon I will get out but having 18 months overseas duty and two years without a furlough, it should not be too long. I'm hoping that it will be by Feb. but there is nothing to do but sweat it out. At times I don't feel like I will be able to sweat it out but there's nothing I can do but go on.

The 98th Division is in the first Corp of the 6th Army and I am stationed about two miles from 6th Army Hq. in Nara. About the trip over, we left Pearl Harbor Sept the 6th and made our amphibious landing in Japan on the 27th of Sept. We stayed over in the

Work at Saipan for 3 days, two of which we were allowed to go ashore. Me being the sight seeing type, I managed to beat my way around the island and visit all the points of interest.

My first 3 weeks in Japan was certainly under undesirable living conditions so that will explain my distorted view points in my first few letters. Pain is soon forgotten so it just seems like a bad dream now that I don't even care to think about.

Now for the good side, in town they have several Geisha houses. In case you don't know what a Geisha house is, it's a place where you go for sake and girls to entertain you. I really got a kick out of it as it's really funny to take down me who can't understand you. The girls sing and dance for you and after hearing the music, it is no wonder to me that they lost the war. The houses aren't put together with a dam and you no more than lean against a wall than you go through. So you can imagine what a beating the place takes when some American G.I's get a little sake under their belt. I don't want to mention it now but when I get home don't forget to ask me about the battle of Nara.

Today I went into downtown Osaka for the Army Base show. It was held in one of the theaters in town so it was quite nice. I saw with

you both could see Japan as it is a real education
 in itself. Osaka is about the size of Chicago but
 the B 29's have really done a job on it as well
 as all of these cities. It is a modern town that is,
 it was a modern town, the most I can make of it.
 They don't go in for skyscrapers on account of the
 earthquakes but they cover wide areas and are
 as modern as ours in design. In fact there is one
 part of town that reminds me of Michigan Blvd in
 Chicago. What makes it so funny, is all the little
 Japs drumming around in their wooden shoes cheering us.
 I think they are really amazed at the strength in
 equipment we have. Don't let anyone tell you
 different, we have more and better equipment than
 any country in the world. I just wish you all could
 have seen the convoy that we were in when we hit Japan.
 It was just like a moving picture and God only knows
 how many battleships, aircraft carriers, troop transports
 etc were there. For mile after mile all you could see
 was ships. That was only one landing so when you
 multiply that by all the other landings made in
 different parts of the islands you can see that no
 force on earth could stop us no matter how much
 we would lose. Then to go ashore and see how little
 they had I could hardly believe it. Man for man,
 two of these little Japs won't make one good American
 and if they don't know now, they will before we leave.
 Next week we start on our first assignment,
 it is to disarm a certain section of a town. We have

To go from house to house and search them for
weapons. That should prove very interesting and
no doubt we will have some good stories to tell
out of it. This town is about 100 miles from
here and we travel by train so it will be another
good sightseeing trip. I guess that is what we
will do from now on, just travel from place
to place and disarm them. I never thought I
would end up as an M. P. Boy I am really
glad we are going through as you go crazy sitting
around in one spot.

Well I had better close for now so will
write the first chance I get. Hope you are both
well and write soon. I'm thinking of you all the
time I hope we can be together again soon.

Your brother,
Owen.