

Sept 26 -  
[1945]

Rt Rev Mgr Dorrance Foley  
Chancery Office  
Dubuque Iowa  
Dear Monsignor,

In my last letter I left you under the impression that I would be out of the army soon. I'm afraid I will have to change that. I have been shoved around from one HQ to another for the past month four in Okinawa and four now in Manila with another move tomorrow back to Okinawa.

Just a lot of unnecessary work - paper & otherwise. It looks to me that there are a lot of high-ranking officers anxious to keep their rank & stay in the army with the occupying forces in Japan, Korea & China. I just can't see the necessity of keeping so many soldiers tied up in this hell hole.

This last remark in spite of the fact that Manila is called the "Pearl" of the Far East. It is now just a heap of ruins. What the Japs did not do, the Americans did. Even the Philippines did their share of pilloage and loot, so much so that there is no Manila except a few torn up streets. I don't believe there are a half dozen buildings standing and even these show the ravages of war. The population is what a mess. Poverty is amazing - children about 5-7 up & running around at 5 am looking for something to eat - cleaning up garbage cans. Too many are