

The Feast of St Augustine
Sagami Wan, Tokyo, Japan.

(Mailed on VJ Day)

Dear Monsignor,

Chaplain

Father Brady, The Ponderous Padre of the Mighty Q, reporting: Mission Completed. Destination Reached. And here we are. Close at hand the mysterious and beautiful Fujiyama, That mount of Nippon that plays so large a role in the life of every Japanese, rises against the beautiful blue of the Oriental sky. Almost poetic, huh? To get down to earth...in the distance I can see the lights of trolley cars carrying nightclubbers of Nippon back to their homes after a night of slugging the saki, toasting the emperor and giggling with the Geishas. Boy, but it is a great feeling. We didn't get quite the bang out of the cessation of hostilities that you folks did, we still had a dangerous job to do and it wasn't until we were securely anchored in this bay yesterday and with no Kamakazi or human torpedos in sight that we finally realized that it was over. Now all we have to do is wait for the two Macs to arrive, Mac Arthur and Mc Avoy. That latter globetrotter will no doubt claim another first Mass. But for the record, yesterday I offered Mass on the way in and this morn at 0500 we had another Thnanksgiving Mass right here in the swimming area in front of the Imperial Palace. I can just see McAvoy wading ashore with some corny remark like, "I have returned!" Our only answer is: Where in the Hell have you been?

Both of my brothers, Rog and Bob, have been in the same group with the Q, but of course I didn't get to see them. One doesn't see very much during a 58 day stretch at sea. Rog is now a Lt. and is still with the British Fleet, either those Limey's are dumb or he is growing fond of their grog. Bobby's ship came into the fleet for the purpose of removing casualties and then retired, so I doubt if I will get to see him for some time. I understand that he is very proud of a set of brand new Ensign's bars. He claims that he got them the hard way, but I honestly can't think of anything tougher than four years as a boarder at Loras, BS, meaning Before Stemm.