

NAME: Clarence

RANK: First Lieutenant

ORGANIZATION: 317th Troop Carrier Group

OVERSEAS WARTIME SERVICE: Asiatic-Pacific Theater of Operations

- The following excerpt is directly from an original wartime letter written by Clarence. This is the only letter from Clarence in the site curator's possession.
- The following excerpt is presented under fair use provisions for educational purposes.
- No controversial material has been omitted from the following excerpt aside from edited profanity for the protection of younger readers. No grammatical or spelling errors have been corrected.

Clarence writes a friend in the United States:

“Philippines

2nd SAT. IN FEB.

(FORGOT DATE)

[1945]

Sorry but have been too busy – and also too d _ _ n blue – to write. Time drags so slowly over here although we’ve gone a long way since this time last year. However my energy is sapped so I just can’t seem to be interested. Right now I have put in for a 30 day temporary duty to the U.S. and though it will mean (should I get it) that I’d have to begin a new tour of duty on my return I’d rather have it for rotation here as far as I can see is still a hazy proposition. Though I’ll soon be on my 27th month there are many who have 37 months and still waiting (if I knew that at 30 to 33 months I’d be rotated I’d wait too) so I’m ready and eager to see the states under any conditions...I’m sure you can understand my attitude afer being isolated so long. After receiving my commission I was only in the states two months and that time was spent in moving and hard work. Therefore I now find it hard to give a d _ _ n about anything to tell the truth. I’m planning on seeing and doing as much as possible in the time allotted me.

...I’m lucky in a way that nothing serious has hit me and though when this thing is over I’m going to need a long rest right now I rather envy them their ailments. Perhaps a few days in a cool climate will cure me but one cannot but long for it and feel discouraged now and then. The end is in sight in Europe and that should speedily affect things over here.

Rained here yesterday so is cooler this morning, thank goodness. Though it means mud everywhere I don’t have those migraine head aches when its cool.

Well, honey, guess that’s about all this morning. Time to shave and eat breakfast so I’d better hurry.

Love to all,

Clarence

P.S. Though I still haven't received my camera try to procure a few rolls of 35 mm. film for me and hold for me until I let you know whether I'm coming home or not."

- Clarence made it through the Second World War and passed away in his 50s.
- **For visual context, this link connects to original wartime footage in the public domain that covers the above time period and Clarence's organization (viewer discretion advised):**
<https://archive.org/details/ADC-3352>
- **For additional detail, this link connects to the Wikipedia article that covers Clarence's wartime organization, the 317th Troop Carrier Group (reader discretion advised):**
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/317th_Troop_Carrier_Group