

**NAME:** Manuel

**RANK:** Not Available

**ORGANIZATION:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Filipino Battalion

**OVERSEAS WARTIME SERVICE:** Asiatic-Pacific Theater of Operations

- The following excerpt is directly from an original wartime letter written by Manuel. This is the only letter from Manuel in the site curator's possession.
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- No controversial material has been omitted from the following excerpt. No grammatical or spelling errors have been corrected.

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**Manuel, a Filipino American soldier, writes a friend in the United States:**

“2<sup>nd</sup> July 44

Today is Sun. and another week and another month gone, but still floating along. All kinds of services going on deck and in the officers lounge...

...Not much to say except the fact that I feel fine. Sometimes I get the bunk fatigue but only temporary. Feel pretty filthy for a Sun. but didn't have to dress up at all for the service. Didn't even have to comb my hair as I don't have any left to fool with after my second super short haircut...

...Have you seen a horse fly? I haven't either but I have seen fish fly – thousands of them over the waves. And speaking of waves. I think I've seen enough for a life time. I mean ocean waves of course.

It's only one o'clock and I'm hungry already – quite long before the second meal at five. So I'll go back to my bunk and sleep it out. Good day – be sure and keep the good health always...

Manuel”

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- Manuel made it through the Second World War and passed away in his 90s.
  - **For visual context, this link connects to an original wartime newsreel in the public domain that covers Manuel's type of organization (viewer discretion advised):**  
<https://archive.org/details/ARC-38917>
  - **For additional detail, this link connects to the Wikipedia article that covers Manuel's wartime organization, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Filipino Battalion (reader discretion advised):**  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1st\\_Filipino\\_Infantry\\_Regiment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1st_Filipino_Infantry_Regiment)