

Ray Barbrick, Y2c  
U.S.S. LST 744  
% Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, California

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Care of Fleet Post Office

4 September 1944

Dear Miss McGlynn:

I've finally taken time to answer some of your correspondence. I just received your V-mail letter dated August 18, 1944. I'm glad to hear that you received my card from Panama. I failed to put an address on it at that time for security reasons.

All your letters, although they had an incorrect address, reached me. I imagine you got that Pittsburgh address from Bob O'Neil because I told him that was where I was going when I left Norfolk, [Virginia] Incidentally, I haven't heard from him since I left Norfolk.

Italy and France seem to be meeting places for quite a few former [Salem Teachers College] students. I sure hope all of them will some day meet again in the good old United States.

2 B

"Since leaving Cuba and then Panama, I've traveled quiet some distance. The Panama Canal is really a job the United States can be proud of. Right now I'm at an Island, in the Southwest Pacific, just recently taken from the Japanese. After talking to some of the soldiers who have come aboard the ship, I understand that every now and then a Jap is caught in the jungles here."

→ Over

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I haven't set foot on dry land for some 50 days. We have no liberty down here and any-way there are no towns to visit. The only people are the sailors,

soldiers and natives. I've come to the conclusion that the only thing that makes Sunday different from any other day is because of religion. I haven't been to church since I left the States and I don't think I'll be able to go until I get back which will be quite some time.

## 2 B continued

"It is very warm down here and it rains almost every day. The heavy rains wash loads of mud down from the hills. The men stationed here tell us that at times water and mud just flow right through their tents. Not very appealing is it?"

## End

I crossed the Equator and was initiated into the Royal Order of King Neptunes Rex. In other words all sailors who cross the Equator are initiated and from a pollywog you become as shellback.

I think it would be a good idea to give us a little information on the replacements at [Salem Teachers College] Especially to those of us who didn't get our degrees. We may go back some day.

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"Well I don't know how long we are going to be here before we haul in the anchor again. They can take their time deciding where we shall go because I'm pretty sure our next trip will be none too pleasant. I've got my fingers crossed."

It's about time for me to turn in so until another time I'll say good-bye.

Sincerely,  
Ray Barbarick

P.S. My address was Fleet Post Office New York, but at present it is Fleet Post Office San Francisco.

P.S. You'll be going back to school shortly. I'll bet you can hardly wait.