

Dear Members of Bryant Sev. Club,

March 29, 1945

Received your letter of March 14 a few days ago but waited till tonight to answer it because I'm on C. O. & have plenty of time on my hands.

Believe it or not I received a package sent by you to me at my reception center at Fort Devens a couple of weeks ago. In the package at one time were two boxes of chocolate covered cherries. Here's the route the package took - from R. I. to Mass. to Miami to Colorado to Utah & to (military secret) & a long bus ride over here. Regret to say that contents of package was in pretty bad condition but appreciate your thoughts & efforts. About sending packages in the future, it is really not practical in that we can get almost anything at our P. X. & at very reasonable prices. As far as sweets go we don't stand short. I certainly appreciate hearing from you & would enjoy receiving our paper "On The Campus".

I can't say where I am but will tell a deal little about the place. The majority of people here are colored and are referred to as "Gooks". There are a couple of towns

that soldiers visit when they are flushed + have a day off. The main attraction is the USO which is a large building containing a ping pong room, pool room, dance floor, lounge + library + outside horseshoe court + cafeteria. There are also some interesting sights to be seen. The natives homes are built of clay + straw for the most part + Oxen drawn carts are a common sight. The natives as a whole wear no shoes + those that have them seem to prefer not to wear them. In fact I saw 2 small boys walking barefooted with shoes in their hands. It seems it is compulsory to wear shoes while in a class room. Although fruit is supposed to be plentiful here, I eat less fruit here than I did in states. The weather is fine + ideal for swimming. Some Sunday noons a convey takes us to the beach or to on a sightseeing trip. We have a couple of movie houses on the post besides our recreation or day room. Sports such as softball + ping pong + volleyball take up a good deal of our free time. It's nothing like the states here but there are places much worse so at present I'm not complaining. There is a great difference in non com + officers here in comparison to those in the states they treat us privates a million times better + that's without exaggeration. I pity those boys who are only getting a year + a half to complete that accountancy course. It was a bit of a struggle in two. That's enough hog wash as Jerry Barber used to say, for one night.

PS (not necessary to use + mail)

Ernie Pugliese