

Baush - somewhere in S. America

\*Sunday-  
3/19/44

Greetings Lady,

These greetings come from a guy what strayed away from the fold and is darn glad to be back once more. No kidding; when I picked up my mail at mail call tonight and glanced at the return addresses per usual, I almost swallowed my upper plate (?) when I noticed your name up in the left hand corner. Just to show that I still retain fond memories of you as my favorite teacher - I'm 50% Irish but this is the Dutch in me talking - I even opened your letter before the girl friends. The result was gratifying - very much so. I have been wondering about a lot of the fellows that graduated between between the years of '36 and '40 and that news-letter you sent helped to clear up quite a bit of the confusement. Being a Western Mass. boy, I kind of lost contact with quite a few of the boys after I left Salem.

That John McLaughlin that you spoke about--I doubt very much whether I will run into him. The only possibility of my running into him is if I take a 5 day leave here in South America and go to the place he is stationed at. You see, I know where he is from the address that you have given me. He is stationed at a spot that is known as a sailor's paradise as far as foriegn duty is concerned. It is without a doubt the most beautiful place in South America.

If you get a chance, will you please drop the following message into Frank Gilmore's next letter. You know, quote and unquote. He might be kind of shocked if he thought the message were coming from you. Here goes -- "Lookit Gil, If I remember correctly, you owe me a letter from a year and a half back. So-o, whenever you get this message, drop whatever your doing, park your carcass, and make with the pen. If not, it gives mayhem the next time we meet". Also include my address please. I know this sounds sort of crude Miss McGlynn, but I'm just trying to get it down to a sort of language the guy should understand.

As for what I'm doing to help win the war; well, I'm taking part in a terrific battle down here. That is the battle of boredom as I heard it phrased the other night. We are kept very busy here, and are treated very well, but the inactivity at times drives you mad. But, as I look at it, I wouldn't have been sent here if I weren't needed here -- so, I'm trying to take it as gracefully as possible. You see, time on your hands gives you time to think, and that is not so good. For a guy who likes to talk, it looks like I am going to do a lot of listening after this is over.

Well, the movies will be going on in a few minutes, so I'll be signing off now. Red Skelton in "Whistling in Brooklyn". Thanks loads for taking care of me.

as ever,  
Henry Baush

Henry Baush S.R. 3/2 - N.A.F. - Supply