

New Guinea
March 1, 1945

Dear Edward Arthur:

about the time 3 years ago, Leonard
Malloy and I had finished your
rural Tj Mahal, and I was
just starting to take over the chair
of social science in Eden High School.
This time 2 years ago I was
probably partaking of Scotch whisky
in Helong. This time last
year I was just beginning to
settle down in New Guinea. By
this time last next year, I hope
to have the feeling that within a
couple of months I shall be home.

There is not much to write
about but I don't put into my
letter to Kate. Time goes quietly.
I have been pretty since my C.O.
left. Our farms dump is in
excellent shape - We have built
9 native huts & moved the
hens in there. are issuing

Very little ammo.

I read the accounts of the
Eden State Guard with amusement,
especially the one where they
conducted a tactical problem
which ended in a watermelon
feast. I read the account to
various people & they find it
very amusing.

Kate tells me that the farm
is in good shape and that
you are buying some lambs
which I am glad to hear. Kate
mentioned wishing that a room or
so of the old house on the farm
could be fixed up. I think it
would be a pretty good idea,
especially since Kate goes out
there more than in the past.

We have some good Boxing
Matches here lately. My muscles
are so soft that I don't think

I could last one round for
you, my c.o., and I got acrimony
but it makes us too tired — and
then too, I own Virginia on 30
years old & not the man I
used to be — back when I used
to cuff you around. We have
fought a couple of of pretty good
fights — the last time I knocked
him down once and he cut
my lip. We keep kidding one
another about ^{who can whip,} ~~which~~ mod. — then
and get about half mod. — then
after the bouts we don't mention
Boxing for a couple of months.
How are Virginia and the women
folks making out? Have you seen
Hugh, would you tell his marriage?
What is Tom Burton doing?
Do you ever play Pitch one more?
The war looks encouraging,
However it won't be over until the

last of 1946. There is a long way
to go in China. I hope to
leave for home on rotation from
China, but don't know that I will
ever get there. — I wouldn't
mind spending the remainder
of my time over here in Australia,
it's about the best place I've ever
been

Well Ed this is a dull
letter, but I can't think of much
else to say — I hope the
farm contract will be and I
that I shall be home to look
it over in the not too distant
future.

Your Son,

John

Write — Soon