



Dough

U N I T E D S T A T E S A R M Y

413th Inf. Reg. 104th Div.,
Camp San Luis Obispo,
California..

Oct. 3, 1945

Very Reverend
T.S. McDermott, O.P.,
809 Lexington Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Very Reverend and Dear Father Provincial:

It is still sunny California..haven't had a drop of rain in two months. But even were it to rain it would be called "Oregon mist". Our division seemingly is dying a slow death and each day many of the Timberwolves leave here from camp. This camp is now officially a separation center and men have merely to cross the road, leave the division, receive the necessary papers and then battle for transportation home, be it so distant.

Rumors are many at the time as to future of the low point men but meantime for us it is very busy. Am quite proud of the novena to Our Lady of Fatima which I started some six weeks ago. Have had to send twice to Dominic Dolan for more booklets the attendance is so increasing. The men are attending Mass, daily and Sunday in greater numbers and the confessions are many. Many of the priests have noted the same thing, due undoubtedly to the desire of the many to have all things "cleaned " up before entering that uncertain civilian life. Presently I do not know when my points, 54, will entitle me to return to a civilian status but as long as the Protestant ministers leave the Church will triumph, meaning Father Provincial, last week one of our two Protestant ministers left, 97 points--two children, and as soon as he left the door we measured his office and it is now an oratory for the Blessed Sacrament.

In an Los Angeles newspaper last week Archbishop Cushing of Boston was given space as advocating the return to school of the discharged soldiers and he was especially concerned about the application of government tuition money for the candidate for the priesthood..I used his words and thoughts about education in my sermon last week. Also yesterday had to speak to five hundred men soon to leave the Army about the return to school. Be assured I mentioned a very special Catholic college--Providence. Found that our P.C. Catalogue has the most precise outline of the purpose of a college and the chapter on, "The Plan of Undergraduate Study" is excellent..used both of these in offering the men help in drawing up a course of studies for themselves.

I am grateful for your letters, and asking your blessing,
I remain, Obediently yours,

Fr. Paul Dougherty