

S.S. ALCEE FORTIER  
ARMED GUARD  
C/O FLEET POST OFFICE  
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

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Baseball 39

January 31, 1945

Dear Doctor Allen:

In port for a short stay so this is just a line to say, "Hello".

When in Lawrence sometime ago I did want to have more of a conversation with you instead of our few words of exchange. I did my best trying to find you stopping at your office and home but to no avail. After visiting with Mike for a short while after the Kiwanis dinner I failed to see you leave. Just want you to know that I was disappointed as I was looking forward to our visit. Returning to New Orleans after my leave I was assigned my ship and have been at sea every since with little time in port.

Since coming aboard this vessel a lot of water has gone under my feet. Have visited many foreign ports which was an experience to see but have seen entirely too much water which I wouldn't say is enjoyable. Not being able to mention the port I can tell you that I have been to India. It is beyond comparison the worst country I have ever visited. When the good Lord laid it out He surely must of had an off day. Some of the sights you see hardly would be believable unless one witnessed it himself. People by the millions, diseased, undernourished, and exploited, mill around the country everywhere. Much has been written about their customs, mores, and religious beliefs, by more qualified men than myself so I'll not venture into detail in this regard. I am only thankful that we departed from the country before contracting some form of deadly tropical diseases. Before returning to the states we will have circled the world covering more than twenty-five thousand miles.

Our mail is having a great deal of trouble catching up with us as we move so hurriedly from port to port. So far we have only had one mail call so I am at least for the latest local and sporting news. I have received your monthly News Letter on numerous occasions and like many of the others express appreciation for such welcoming news.

Doctor, hope this letter finds you in the best of spirit and health- please remember me to all the boys in the athletic department. Wishing you luck in the coming basketball season- may you continue to be ever victorious.

Respectfully yours,

*Jim Bukaty*