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August 14, 1943.

Mrs. Jimmie Hembree,  
Margaret, Texas.

Dear Mrs. Hembree:

I hasten to tell you that we have nothing authentic, and it is mere rumor based on T. P. Jr.'s possible missing in action. Dr. Taylor of the Zoology Department, who is a Pi K.A., saw Kelsey Matthews, another Pi. K. A. in Kansas City, and from Mr. Matthews came the word that he had heard that T. P. was missing in action.

I called Dr. Taylor and he suggested for verification that we should perhaps write home. Knowing that Margaret, Texas, was T. P.'s home town, I wrote the principal of the high school, feeling sure that he would put the letter in the proper hands.

Since your mother received a letter written July 25th it is thinkable to me that the rumor is false. We certainly hope so. T. P. was one of our most popular men here at the University of Kansas. He had no enemies yet he stood forthright for things that were right. He did not compromise yet he fought no one over the principles he firmly believed in. He was quiet, sincere and definitely forceful. He was one of the most friendly men that I ever met, yet when he stood for a point nothing could budge him. To me personally I do not believe that ill has come to him.

I was merely writing to inquire as to whether you or your mother had received any word from the War Department. These were mere rumors among his Pi K. A. fraternity Brothers and I was trying to verify the truth.

Give my kindest regards to your good mother and tell her that we pray that T. P. is safe. I will appreciate any word from you if and when you hear.

With best wishes to you both, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,  
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH