

March 16, 1945

Col. Karl F. Baldwin, U.S. Military Attache
APO 924 c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California

Dear Colonel Baldwin:

Your good letter of March 1st reached me a few days ago, I think being received in San Francisco on the 6th.

I enclose clipping regarding Lt. Col. A. H. Buhl, who leaves Lawrence tomorrow for the east coast after having been in Lawrence nearly three years. Dolph's and Marie's friendship for Commander and Mrs. Buhl has been quite comparable to that of Mrs. Simons and myself for you and Mrs. Baldwin. He is certainly a splendid gentleman, a member of a prominent and wealthy family in Detroit, who has been liberal in support of Red Cross and other drives, but otherwise makes no effort to show his wealth or position. They live in the Ellis home immediately across the street from Dolph and Marie.

Regarding Rotary, our membership is keeping full, but there have been numerous changes. You doubtless heard of the recent death of Van Bruner who had long been a member of the club and was well liked by all. He was the manager of the Lawrence Steam Laundry. We have good programs.

I think that Mrs. Aszman has quite thoroughly regained her health. I have seen her on a number of occasions and she looks well.

I think you may know that our grandson, Owen Maloney, has been missing since a mission on January 31st which took him to Moosbierbaum, located about twenty miles west and north of Vienna. He was navigator on the plane, and when last seen, his plane was lagging somewhat and at a lower altitude than the other planes, but still under its own power and apparently under control. Of course, anything may have happened after that, but they were so close to the Hungarian border that we are in great hopes that he landed in territory controlled by the Russians. He may be a prisoner of the Germans or the plane later may have been shot down, but we still have a great deal of hope that we shall hear from him.

I know the great shock it must have been to you when you learned of the sinking of the hospital ship. I think it wise and proper for you still to hope for the best. Some 600 as I understand were not destroyed and your boy might well have been one of them. I wonder if the Japanese leaders are now repenting of their desire to conquer the world. They have certainly lost many soldiers and civilians, more than 1,000 ships, and a vast amount of property. I shall be happy when the war ceases, but I am convinced that we should fight to a definite conclusion.

I sincerely hope that Mrs. Baldwin will be able to join you, and believe that the trip could now be made with a large degree of safety. While you are sixty years old, I think that it is in years only and perhaps in the wonderful well rounded experience that you have had.