

Thurs. Aug. 9, 1945
Yuzon, P. I.

Dear Mom -

Yesterday we heard the news of the astonishing new atomic bomb. Today we heard of Russia's entrance into the war against Japan. never has morale around here been so high. We are waiting hungrily for news of a Japanese surrender.

For the past two days the talk has been nothing but atomic bomb, atomic bomb. If it's done nothing else for the war effort - the new bomb has taken the soldiers' minds off of the point system. Now with Russia reported marching into Manchuria maps are breaking out like measles.

throughout - the Camp.

I cannot - help
but - share the general
unbounded optimism
throughout - the Area. I'm
inclined, usually towards
pessimism (or realism,
if you like), all the dreams
which have so long seemed
so unreal & far away
are suddenly taking on new
life. I can almost - say
now that - I honestly
believe I'll be home within
- I won't be definite -
soon - - - -

When I read of this
bomb I cannot - help but
shudder at - the immense
power we have at our finger-

tips — the power to wipe
 out cities — eventually
 civilizations — literally with
 the push of a button. I
 wonder if the human race
 — a narrow-minded, bigoted,
 superstitious, faithless lot
 — is capable of controlling this
 energy.

And Russia? now shall
 not only control most of
 Europe — but now Asia.

But today is no time
 for political forebodings or
 for wringing of hands over
 the fate of the human race.
 Today, regardless of the
 eventual consequences is
 a day of promise. Russia
 — not only for the defeat of Jap.

an — but — the promise
of return. A return
to everything that means
anything to us. My
return home. A home
where these dreams die
been dreaming for two &
a half years may come
true. Will come true —

I think all of us these
momentous days have found
time to pray — somewhere
amidst — the speculation
— and I think we're all
praying as I pray now
may God see us
all home soon.
with all my love,
Jack