

Mansion House
~~MALACANAN PALACE~~
~~Raqueño.~~
~~MANILA~~

August 29, 1917.

My dear Avery:-

I have been intending to write you for months, but lots of good intentions go glimmering here as well as elsewhere. We have had two interesting letters from you since you were called into service. I congratulate you most heartily on getting into it right at the beginning, for I know it was exactly what you wanted to do. Of course the separation from

Ulanov and the boys will be tough if you should be sent across the water, but it's all part of the game.

Have you heard of our Philippine plans? We're not at all sure that Uncle Sam will accept, but we're counting on it anyway. Immediately upon the declaration of war by the U.S., 25,000 Filipino troops were offered for foreign service, under the same conditions that the National Guard of the various states is taken into the National

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Army. If the plan goes through Governor-General Harrison is expected to be the commander. Plans are for about 35% of white company officers and a larger percentage of white field officers. The Gov. Gen. has promised me a good commission. You know the qualities of the Filipino soldiers. They are first-class fighting men if led right and trained right. I think the chance is worth waiting for, especially as I am held here till Gov. Harrison's plans are determined upon. If the ~~Phil.~~ Phil. National Guard shouldn't be used, I'll then

Try for the Officers' Reserve Corps. If I take the exam. here where a good many officers know me I think I'll stand a good chance of getting in. But my best hope is with the Filipino troops. They are holding an officers' training class in Manila now. Have secured the detail of regular Army officers for instructors and are making good progress. I have attended as many of the lectures as I could, but am held pretty close at the office, where I have a continuous and full sized job.

MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

Ten days ago I had the bad
taste to get sick, and have
come up to Baguio to wear
it off. It's our first visit
here since early in ~~1914~~
1912. We are staying at the
Mansion House, the Goosen's
official residence, which
is kept in running order
the year round but is
usually unoccupied except
for the little time the Gen.
happens to be here. It's a
beautiful big house on
a hilltop, near the Country
Club where there is a good
golf course, and I expect
to have a really first-

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class time when I get into
running order. The trouble
is bronchitis. I've had three
doses of it in the past year
that were serious enough to
put me on my back for
a few days. Am afraid
I'm beginning to wear
out the tropical climate.

Clara is in good shape
now. The trip to Japan
did her a lot of good. She
is busy studying telegraphy
and first aid in the Army
Classes, & making Red
Cross bandages.

This is getting long-
winded, so will close.
The best of luck to you,

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brother, and my love
to Eleanor and the boys
if they are with you when
you get this. Maybe I'll
see you soon, maybe
not.

Sincerely,

H. W. B. S. K. S.

H. L. Hershey
MALACANAN PALACE
MANILA



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Capt. Avery B. Wright,
Officer in C. M. & R. Co.,
Charge ~~Fort M. Pherson,~~
~~Point of Embarkation, Georgia,~~
~~Fort M. Pherson, N.Y.~~ U.S.A.

