

JOE GREGORIE HAS NO RATION WORRIES

WOULD BE WILLING TO TRADE
PLACES WITH SOME CIVILIANS

August, 1945

In a letter dated July 15 at Jugig-lapa (wherever that is) our friend, "G. I." Joe Gregoire says that with the abundance he is enjoying of the things so hard to get back home, he might have trouble getting used to the civilian way of life. But at that, Joe is perfectly willing to take a try at it the first chance he gets.

Joe, who has been in Assam, India, for many months, says "I don't know what is on the menu here today, but last night we had roast beef. It will probably be steak or meat loaf today. I hear potatoes are even hard to get back there. They are here, too—we only have them twice a day and they are not dehydrated, either thank goodness. I guess it will really be rough on us to go home and eat civilian rations. Does anyone want to trade? I'll even go home and eat dehydrated eggs or anything else that bad. Anything worse would be impossible unless it was more dehydrated foods."

Joe has been reading in the Mentor-Democrat about some of the woes the editor has in keeping a supply of his favorite brand of cigarettes. "You must think a lot of a pack of Old Golds," he says. "Gee, the fellows here are so particular they won't use them unless they have to. I don't guess you would either if you got three or four cartons of Camels, Luckies or Pall Malls or Chesterfields a month at sixty cents a carton. What is your ration a month back home.

Joe's not so up-to-date on sports, but he is still a Cub fan of the first water. In this connection he has the following comment:

I hear our good, old Cubs aren't doing quite so well. Yet, just give 'em time. I understand the bums from St. Louis sold Cooper several weeks ago, so maybe they have enough cash for baseballs to stay in the league the rest of the season. What's wrong, doesn't Wrigley donate enough to keep them going any more?"

Concerning his further abode in the far-off hot climate, Joe is uncertain. "Just how long we'll be here I'd hate to guess," Joe says. "There are lots of rumors that sound pretty good. As you know, rumors in the army are cheap and plentiful. "I've gotten to the point where I won't believe anything unless it is in black and white (unless it is to our disadvantage and then it always turns out to be true."

Of the weather he says: "Just how hot it is on a thermometer here, I don't know. In fact, I don't think there is one in the company. If anyone did have one I doubt if he would care about putting it outside, especially where the sun could hit it."