

December 30, 1941.

General E. M. Watson
Secretary to President Roosevelt
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

My dear General:

My son, Amon Junior, came home for a weeks leave during the holidays. He is a Second Lieutenant in the 27th Field Artillery, First Armored Division, Fort Knox, Ky. Amon graduated from Culver Military Academy when he was eighteen. During his senior year there he was Aide to General Gignilliat. Following this he, of course, took his six weeks training at Fort Knox upon completion of which he received his commission as Second Lieutenant to become effective when he was of age - December 23, 1940.

Meanwhile, Amon had three years at the University of Texas and was called to active duty July 1st. The fact that I had him home together with his sister who is attending school in Bronxville, N. Y., made it one of the nicest Christmases I have had for a long time as we had been fearful that he would not get a leave.

It is refreshing to hear these youngsters discuss the war and without any apprehension or fear. I have offered Amon Junior \$100.00 for every Jap he gets and \$500.00 extra if he gets as many as twenty. I am also hoping that he takes no prisoners.

In discussing the matter, he commented on the fact that the country was fortunate in having President Roosevelt as its Commander-in-Chief and he accordingly wrote the President a letter, which I am sending, herewith. Meanwhile he had some new photographs made during his visit home and I suggested that he send one to the President. He stated, "Dad the President wouldn't have time to be bothered with my picture." My reply was to the effect that the President had four sons in the war himself and that a letter from one of his soldiers expressing his approval and appreciation of the grand job he is doing would not be out of line. So, I am sending you, herewith, both Amon Junior's

letter and photograph.

Naturally, I realize my son is no more important in times like this than the yardman's boy, even though I had hoped to have him eventually step in and carry on my work in the newspaper. Trying times which confront us eliminate all of our dreams and bring us face to face with the cold reality that we have a big job to do now and the future will have to take care of itself. I only wish I could be in the ranks myself.

Ason left this morning at 7:15 by plane to report back at Fort Knox by twelve o'clock tonight.

If the occasion presents itself you might pass the letter and picture along to the President and let him know the boys in the service are on their toes and ready to go.

I hope you and Mrs. Watson have had a good Christmas and although I appreciate the strain and pressure which confronts the Boss and all of you associated with him, I still consider we have much for which to be thankful. "Remember Pearl Harbor" will be our slogan.

Yours sincerely,

AGC.KD