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Chaplain Bergen Birdsall (Capt)
39th Sta. Hosp. #5## APO 264
c/o P.M. San Francisco, Calif.



Commander Jess Edington
Hood River Post:American Legion
Hood River, Oregon

EXAMINED



HEADQUARTERS ARMY GARRISON FORCES
APO 264
Office of the Garrison Chaplain

Commander Jess Edington
Hood River Post American Legion
Hood River, Oregon

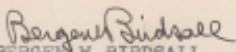
Dear Commander Edington:

The enclosed clipping was cut from the LOS ANGELES TIMES of December 1, 1945, which I have sent me, for my home has been all my life in Los Angeles.

Certainly the TIMES and the AP are in error in reporting the facts in this case. I do not believe in condemning people on the basis of newspaper stories, so would appreciate so much hearing the story officially. Four men have brought the matter to my attention and in each instance I have defended the American Legion, insisting that the Legion considers a soldier to be a soldier, not because of his race, but by his loyalty to our great American cause.

It will be a great personal satisfaction to me to be able to quote your letter to those who are severely criticizing the Legion for an action I am convinced no honest American could possibly take.

I am yours sincerely,


BERGEN W. BIRDSALL
Garrison Chaplain APO 264
Postmaster, San Francisco