



WAR DEPARTMENT
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, G-2
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

11 March 1944

Mrs. Alice Bottcher
239 Ransell St.
San Francisco, California

Dear Mrs. Bottcher:

Here in War Department G-2, we are writing the history of the Buna campaign. Your nephew played a heroic role in that campaign. His inspired leadership was one of the major factors in cleaning up the Japs in that locality.

We are interested in obtaining as much information as possible on his activities, particularly during that historic day of 5 December when he led his little group in the famous break-through to the sea. I wonder if you have any letters from Herman which tell about his experiences on that day, or during the rest of the fight for Buna. Perhaps, too, you might be willing to lend us a few personal articles that were written about him. If you cannot have copies made, we could have it done here, and return them to you within a week.

Also, we are interested in what you have to say about him, of a personal nature. His was an outstanding exploit which will long be an inspiration to other American soldiers, and we want to get it down as completely as possible so that he will live in history.

Very sincerely,

Kenneth W. Hechler
1st Lt., Inf.

P.S. Enclosed is a self-addressed envelope and stamp for your convenience. And do you have any information as to where Captain Bottcher is now located? Thank you again--KWH.