

Army Post & Service Command,  
APO 455, c/o Postmaster,  
San Francisco, Calif.,  
December 29th, 1943.

Dear Jack:

Your letter of November 15th reached me the first part of December. It was good to hear from you, and to know that you had been in Ocala, and had taken a meal with Mabel and the children. It makes me homesick when I think of being away from my family for so long (2 years the 28th of last November) with no prospect of an immediate return. But I don't let myself think about it too much, and as I am very busy at this particular time, I have many things to occupy my time and attention. It will be a happy day when this terrible war is over and the millions of men now away from their homes, may be reunited with their loved ones and families.

Yes, Bob Parker and I have played golf together a number of times; also Cheever Lewis, from Tallahassee. Cheever is not here now, and I have not seen Bob for quite a while. I was assigned a new job about the first of September, and so have been tied down so that it is very difficult for me to get off for an entire afternoon, which it takes to get in a game of golf.

We have had a very nice Christmas season here. I had Christmas dinner with a family who were missionaries in China for many years, but now live here. It was quite an occasion, with two grandchildren present to enjoy the presents which they received and the Christmas tree, etc. On Monday night of this week (27th) I had another turkey dinner with the Lims, a Korean family. Lim was at Emory with me in 1920. He has a lovely wife and two children, a boy 19 and a girl 16. He is pastor of the First Korean Church here. Miss Alice Appenzeller lives with them, and works with the Korean people. She was President, Ehwa School for Girls in Korea for many years. Her brother, Dr. H. D. Appenzeller, is now Pastor of the First Methodist Church here, both very superior people.

E. C. Willson, of the Florida Conference is here now also. Had a visit with him the day he arrived, and am looking forward to seeing him again before long. Hugh Embry was here for a while last summer, but is now somewhere "at sea" as Chaplain on the cruiser "Montpelier". Had a very interesting letter from him about two weeks ago.

Here's hoping that I'll be able to attend the Conference in June, celebrating the centennial of Florida Methodism. I'm not counting on it too much, but there is always a possibility. I'm sure it will be a most interesting occasion.

With every good wish, and with kindest regards to all the "brethren", I am, as ever,

Sincerely yours,



Ch (Capt) Don A. Cooke, 0279518,  
Army Port & Service Command,  
APO 455, c/o Postmaster,  
San Francisco, Calif.



Rev. Jack Anderson, D. D.,  
Trinity Methodist Church,  
Tallahassee, Florida.



*Don A. Cooke*

A P O 455  
c/o Postmaster,  
San Francisco, Cal.,  
December 25, 1943

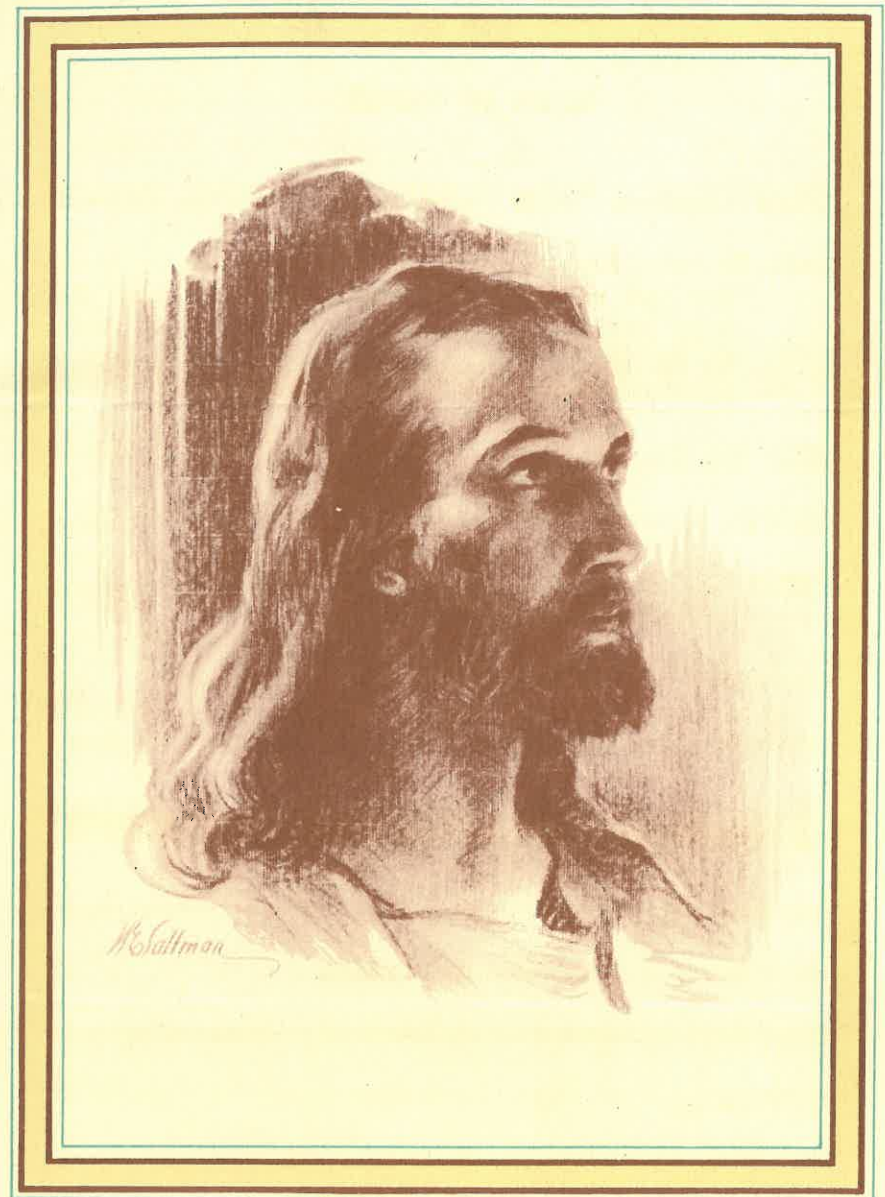
To the Folks at Home:

It will be of interest to you to know that the soldier sending you this program attended our Christmas Service held at this Army Post today. If he had his choice, I am sure that he would rather be with you at this Christmas season. But he is trying to do his part toward the winning of the war, in the place where he has been assigned. Let us hope and pray that by this time next year, we shall be a long way on the road to Victory and a permanent peace.

Sincerely yours,

DON A. COOKE  
Chaplain APC 455

Note: Artist Warner E. Sallman of Chicago has spent much of his time creating religious art subjects. His best known work is "The Son of Man" which is faithfully and accurately reproduced on the first page of this folder. This design in charcoal was drawn in 1924. It is a conception of Christ which has met with increasing popular approval.



Christmas Service  
1943

A P O 455  
1000

Colonel Roy E. Blount  
Captain Don A. Cooke

Commanding Officer  
Chaplain



## ORDER OF SERVICE

ORGAN PRELUDE, "Jesu Bambino,"-----Pvt. Zumbach

### CALL TO WORSHIP:

"For God so loved the world that He gave His Only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life".

HYMN NO. 55, "O Come, All Ye Faithful".

PRAYER: -----Chaplain

SOLO: "O Holy Night."-----Adams  
Miss Evelyn Jennings

RESPONSIVE READING NO. 32.

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 2:1-20,-----Chaplain

SOLO: "Silent Night, Holy Night"----- Joseph Mohr  
Miss Evelyn Jennings

SERMON: "The Meaning of Christmas"-----Chaplain

HYMN NO. 52, "Joy to the World".

BENEDICTION,-----Chaplain

POSTLUDE.

### This is Christmas

The heart of the world kneels once again before the entrancing story of the Nativity. It is The sweetest story ever told, timeless in its setting, universal in its implications.

## Peace

Peace does not mean the end of all our striving, Joy is not the drying of our tears.

Peace is the power that comes to souls arriving, Up to the place where God Himself appears.

Joy is the wine that God is ever pouring  
Into the hearts of men who strive with Him,  
Lighting their eyes for vision and adoring,  
Strengthening their arms for warfare glad and grim.

Bread of his body give us for the fighting,  
Give us to drink his sacred blood for wine,  
While there are wrongs that need us for the  
righting.

While there is struggle fearsome and divine.

Give us for light the sunshine of his sorrow,  
Give us for shelter the shadow of his cross.  
Give us to share the glory of his morrow,  
Gone from our souls the bitterness of loss.

G. A. Stoddard-Kennedy.

## A Prayer

We thank Thee, our Heavenly Father, for the Christmas season, with all its gifts and gladness. We thank Thee for the love in so many hearts that finds expression in good-will, for home-joys and for all the gladness that brightens the weary, war-torn world at this Christmas time. Love us with generous impulses to share our good things with others, and give us faith to believe that the future is in Thy hands. This we ask in Thy name. Amen.