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Letter from Fr. Leonard Amrhein to Catherine Amrhein, Al, and Tom.

Fr. Leonard Amrhein C.P.

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南京陵天王總堂緘

Mrs. Catherine Amshin,
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SHENCHOW, HUNAN, CHINA.

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How is everybody at home? I received a letter from Bernadette. She said Al is thinking of going into business and that Catharine doesn't work for Sankey's any more. They are two items of news that I haven't heard before. Tell me more about them. Also I would like Al to tell me about the L.D.T's. I wish Al all the luck and success in the world in his business.

I received Mom's and Tom's Christmas Greetings a couple days ago. Thanks a lot. I also have a big stack of letters from different ones at home to be answered. Please tell everybody to have patience. I shall answer them all.

The mail just started coming through. I am still receiving September mail. In normal times it takes four to six week. But times aren't quite normal over here yet.

Some time ago Tom asked about sending money. Well, send it in check form. Any kind of checks. We send them to our procurator in Shanghai and he takes care of them.

I don't think there is anything else that I wanted to write about. Oh yes, Two of our Fathers left for home a few weeks ago. One, Fr. Basil, is from Pittsburgh or thereabouts. He promised to stop in to see you. Tell him you heard he was the champion "dart thrower" over here. He'll know what I am referring to.

Well, so long everybody. Best regards and my address to all.

Happy Birthdays Tom & al!

Leonard

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CATHOLIC MISSION

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SHENCHOW, HUNAN, CHINA.

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Jan. 20, 1946

Dear Mom, Al and Tom,

It has been a very long time since you heard from me. But it is not that I have forgotten about you. This because I am very busy. I have enough correspondence to get off to keep a secretary busy.

What am I doing? Not much, that's the funny part of it. I am temporary chaplain for our hospital and I have to get a sermon ready for every Sunday. That's all. But it sure keeps me out of trouble. I spend most of my time preparing the sermon.

The hospital work is wonderful. It is a very con-
 soling feeling to baptize a person just before he dies. You know
 he has a straight through ticket. No stopovers. I enjoy them.
 My first baptism - in my whole life - was a little baby
 girl. I named her Catherine after you, Mom. She is now
 up hanging out the stars. I'll tell you more about her.
~~Her~~ pagan father brought her in. The sister called me and
 told me the baby was going to die. He didn't ask any questions.
 The father held the baby and I just poured a little water on its
 forehead. The father doesn't know to this day how lucky he is.

I do not know where I shall be sent or whether
 I shall remain here. I hope to hear soon. Fr. William was
 told today that he is to remain here as superintendent of
 our schools. Fr. Venard and I are waiting for our appointments.
 I let you know as soon as I hear something definite.