

Captain S.P. Keelings
NAVY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Naval Operations

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Sister Thomas James
Ursuline Sisters
St. Charles School
Route 2
Lebanon, Kentucky

In reply refer to Initials
and No.

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

May 17, 1943

Dear Sister:

I am sending you a copy of a letter addressed to Lieutenant Gehring, Ch(C), USN, who is a Chaplain Priest and was on Guadalcanal Island the day your brother died. I hope that he will be able to answer the question that I ~~asked~~ in the letter to him.

quoted

Your brother was sent to a hospital on Guadalcanal. I think there are several of them so cannot be sure as to which one he was taken.

You asked for the name of some one that was close to your brother when he was wounded. J. C. Hall, Boatswain's Mate, 1C, was close to your brother when he was wounded, and may be able to give you some of the details. I do not know Hall's address but suggest you write to his brother, C.E. Hall, 3007 Vickery Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas, and perhaps he will be able to give you an address to which you can write.

If there is any other information you would like to have, I will do my best to get it for you.

Very sincerely yours,



S. P. JENKINS
Captain, U.S.Navy

Sister Thomas James
Ursuline Sisters
St. Charles School
Route 2
Lebanon, Kentucky

Enc.

May 17, 1943

Dear Chaplain:

I have received a letter from the sister of Frederick Obrect Peake, who was one of my men in the ATLANTA and was wounded the night of November 13, off Guadalcanal. He was sent ashore during the forenoon of the thirteenth and died in the hospital some time during that day. My records show that he was buried in the 1st Marine Division Cemetery, Row 62, Grave No. 1.

I will quote from his sister's letter.

"We, as Catholics, are very anxious about his last hours. We know there was no Catholic Chaplain on the ATLANTA, but we would feel much better if we could hear that he had the assistance of a priest when he reached the hospital at Guadalcanal. Is there any possible way of getting that information?"

If you can supply this information, will you please write direct to Peake's sister -- address as follows:

Sister Thomas James
Ursuline Sisters
St. Charles School
Route 2
Lebanon, Kentucky

I know that she will be very thankful for any information you give her.

Very truly yours,

S. P. JENKINS

Captain, U.S.Navy
Former Commander USS ATLANTA

Lt. Frederick Gehring, Ch(C), U.S.Navy
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Navy No. 131
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San Francisco, California