

J.C. Hall
ward C-4

U.S. Naval Hospital
Corona, Calif.



FREE



Sister Thomas James
~~St. Charles High School~~

~~R.R. 2~~

Mt. St. Joseph ~~Lafayette~~

Maple Mount Ky.

U.S. Naval Hosp.
Corona, Calif.
May 30, 1943

Dear Sister Tomas Jamas;

I just recieved your letter from my brother and will give you all the information about Fredrick Peatre that I know.

I knew him well as we were in the same division and I stood watches with him from the time we left New York. I believe he was one of my best shipmates.

As he was sight-setter and I had the ammunition supply, I was just below where he was the night of the battle. So, all I can tell you is what I was told.

later. A fellow named
Moran was right by
him when we recieved
a direct hit in the
turret. As the turret
was then on fire, Fred
told Moran "Lets get out
of here." They both
wore phone headsets and
had some trouble getting
them off and then had
to go thru the fire to
get out but I was with
Moran in the Hospital
and he was only burned
on the exposed area of
his body, his hands and
face. I dont believe his
clothing ever got a fire and
he was doing fine the last
time I saw him. 95

didn't know if Fred was
burned badly or not as they
went in different directions
after leaving the turret.

The following day Fredrick
died on Guadalupe and
was identified by another
boy from the ship named
Wedburg. He said Fred's
body was blue and
looked as tho he might
have died from drowning.

I haven't seen anyone
that saw him between
the time he left the
turret and the next
day on Guadalupe.

I realize how you
must feel about the
loss of your brother and
you certainly have my

sincere sympathy. Its terrible
to lose our loved ones in
such a way and we should
never allow these savages
to again become powerful
enough to cause another
war like this.

I dont really know but
I hope and believe that
Fred was unconscious during
most of his suffering. He
was the next day when
the doctors were trying to
save him.

I dont know where
Moran and Gedburg are
at present but if you
wish you might locate them
thru either our Capt. or the
navy dept.

I believe Fred would want
me to tell you to try
not to worry

Sincerely yours
J. C. Hall