

*War Relief*

1st Ind.

HEM-42

War Dept., A.G.O. Dec. 20, 1918

To Mr. Geo. L. Baker, :  
Mayor's Office, :  
Portland, Oregon. :  
:

When a state of order has been restored overseas and the military situation there has improved to such an extent as to justify the withdrawal of American troops, the War Department will adopt the most effective and speedy means to hasten the return of all soldiers to their families at the earliest practicable date, and in the meantime, owing to the immense amount of detail attached to the process of demobilization, the War Department must decline to entertain individual requests for the discharge or return to the United States of soldiers now overseas,

P. C. Harris,  
The Adjutant General.



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ARMY AND NAVY  
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION  
"WITH THE COLORS"



Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> 1918

Major Geo. L. Baker:  
Portland, Ore.

Dear Sir:

This letter is written to you in behalf of the boys of the U. S. S. West Virginia. The crew are mostly boys from all over Oregon, 22 of them coming from Portland.

In talking over our source of pleasure and entertainment aboard ship, we find we are short a Victrola. The boys, as you know don't get very much pay, and the recent liberty loan has left us in debt to a certain extent. The boys of this crew alone have subscribed close to \$5,000. <sup>00</sup> in bonds.

As the ship was built in Portland and a large part of the crew coming from towns in Oregon, we feel sure that someone's patriotism



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will respond to a request from some  
of the boys from home for a Victrola,  
for the boys. It is a long and  
monotonous trip around to New York,  
not saying anything about going  
"Over There" and back.

Hoping you will do all  
in your power for the boys in getting  
a Victrola for the N.Y. & S. West Pyska  
I remain

Yours truly  
J. W. Williams  
and Crew of N.Y. & S. West Pyska