HEADQUARTERS EASTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FIRST ARMY OFFICE OF THE SURGEON GOVERNORS ISLAND, NEW YORK

December 29, 1942.

Brigadier General Fred W. Rankin, M.C., Office of The Surgeon General, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.

Dear General:

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Please accept my heartiest congratulations on your promotion. I have delayed writing because on my recent visit to Washington you were on the West Coast and not expected back for some time.

Now I have a double reason for writing because on Christmas afternoon we received your Kentucky gift. Both Mrs. Bliss and I were delighted with the Ham and it was certainly thoughtful of you to send it. Please thank Mrs. Rankin for us. We have already tasted it on two or three occasions and it couldn't be better.

Mrs. Bliss joins me in sending every best wish for the New Year to Mrs. Rankin and to you.

Sincerely,

R. W. BLISS,

Colonel, Medical Corps.