

22 HILLIARD STREET  
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS  
11 DECEMBER, 1945

Dear Sue,

Many thanks for your long and interesting letter and it is about time that I attempted to answer it.

Yes, I noticed that you were at home in Greeley, from the postmark on the envelope and better still I noticed that you finally received a promotion. About time!!! Hope that Iris did also.

Saw Billie Block a couple of weeks ago working up at Theater No 6. Billie is fine and the last couple of months have not been so busy for her. Billie finally got promoted and is now a Tec 4. Must go over to see her one night soon & tell her about your letter to me. "The Bells of Saint Mary" came to Devens on Monday and it will be at No 6 tomorrow and Thursday. Haven't seen a complete movie in some while but that is one I shan't miss. It opened in New York last week and I have been watching for it for months.

Here's hoping that all goes well with Mary Manulla and it should because she was an active athletic little body tho she did like to drive around a lot.

It was nice that you could still find one of your bosom friends around on your visit to North Platte, Nebraska. Once friends grow up they are spee ily scattered to the four corners of the country as well as elsewhere. This War has brought couples together who, under everyday living conditions would never have met. Just look at the marriages in your old Company. Girls from the West married men from the East and they, for the most part will live in the place where their husbands live.

So few of your old gang are left.... Florence Biesel Lillian Hall, Dorothy Shore, Frances Muench(I believe) Irene Chapman and a few more are still here. Irene Brooks and Celeste Garrigues left together last month. Another group leaves this week including Myrtle Millicent Moyer and Rita Canzano Bolick. Rita and Gene Bolick were married on Armistice Day in Rita's parish church in Worcester and after the ceremony a nuptial Mass followed. A beautiful way to start married life and so much dif erent from the J P rush affairs.

\* Irene Chapman leaves this week or as soon as orders  
Left today 18<sup>th</sup> Dec.

Dear Sue,

My apologies for this letter. I've delayed somewhat in getting it in the mail. In the interim I have been discharged on points. Got out on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Will write soon again.

are received at Devens stating when the girls can be ~~re-~~ received at their respective Sep Ctrs. Irene will be coming back to Boston to live after her visit home with her Mother and her problem right now is trying to find a place for herself and Phil to live in.

Do you remember Judy Warntz now Judy Tannatt and Helen Kielb now Helen Morse? They are also scheduled to be separated this week.

The absorption of the old Post Hq Co WAC Det by SCU 1160 WDPC WAC Det is imminent as there are or will be only a fistful of girls left. Soon the only one I'll know of the old gang will be Mrs Cheney who is staying in to the end.

Being at home and able to dress as you please without having to think of uniforms is a fine feeling.

It got bitter cold tonight and it will be the coldest of the season to date. Jim "Tiny" Ryan and myself almost froze waiting for a bus down below Fire Station No 1. Cold I don't mind but standing practically still waiting is another matter. We waited over twenty minutes and for a while thought we'd miss the 5:05 train for Cambridge. That gets me home shortly after six. So you see, Sue that outside of wearing a uniform these past five years I have never really been in the Army. So different from the type of service that your brother rendered for his Country. Now all the old gang from the company are coming thru Devens --at least those from the 1st Service Cmd. I have managed to meet a goodly number of them and invariably they tell me not to regret not having been overseas.

Now that the War is over and with it your current schooling I do hope that they'll find it unnecessary to keep you in the Army for any great length of time. You've been away from home for so long --much of it at a great distance that you no doubt are hoping to be home for good soon.

Gradually I am re-reading your letter and trying to answer your queries. As to my standing on the point situation. I have 57 and am now eligible on that score. Also am eligible on age possessing 37 years since 15 May, also have over four years service so that I can get out three ways. If I should get a promotion I might sign up for the duration. However I must make up my mind by the end of the month. Either get out or sign a waiver stating that I am staying in of my own volition. G-2 may hold you for a while Sue but the point situation gets better all the while and soon those 24 points of yours will be high score.

Your brother may know what he is doing but I can't see how re-enlisting for a year will help. It will get him home for a visit and perhaps that is the real reason. I've never

I was promoted to Sgt on Aug 1, 1942 and was lucky to have that much at Fort Devens!

really been away from home so do not know the lonesome pangs and heartaches of homesickness. It will be hard for many who come back to the States on furlough to go back especially if they dislike their present set-up. Let's hope that your brother is pleasantly situated.

Your dining facilities are too far away from there to Co "H" I haven't far to go --about ten yds from ~~my~~ barracks.

Yes, Heidi Howell and her Sam both left from Devens some weeks ago. Went up to say goodbye to her and found her in. Had a nice visit with her and her successor, Lt Margaret Lyons who is a splendid woman. Heidi was very happy about getting out of the Army with Sam. He came back while the War was still on and with the War over they kept him here and demobilized him and Heidi. Always found Heidi and Lt Kathryn Riale very pleasant on my trips to your office with mail and they used to be frequent. While Heidi and Sam were speeding to Fort Dix and happiness a telegram came Saturday morning announcing the death of Heidi's brother Bill. Must have been a terrible shock to the poor child --happiness turned to deep grief overnight. I sent a card of sympathy to her almost two weeks later and received a card of thanks with a little note: "Dear Bernie, Thank you so much for your thoughtful card. Bill meant the world to us, and it is hard to believe that he is gone.

Heidi. "

Always on my visits did I call her Mrs Howell but saying goodbye I said: Goodby, Heidi, and may the good Lord bless you and your Sam with many years of happiness.

Must remember to give you the address,

Mrs Samuel Howell

RFD # 2

WOLFE ROAD

ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA

Lt Hutton, the other company officer told me some time ago that the Howells weren't going to stay at Wolfe Rd for long but any mail will be forwarded. When I get another address I'll send it ~~my~~ to you.

I'm not a typist as you can see but I can type faster than I can write.

Yes, May Levasseur keeps busy with her supply room and a good many nights she works at Theater #6 selling tickets. Last time I saw her she was very well.

Again my thanks for your newsy letter. Do you still hear from Bette Nishimura?

Best wishes as ever,