

4-10-45

Dear Ken,

Thanks a million for your  
and your wife's kind hospitality.

Too bad I couldn't find  
anything good there. Washington  
was just as bad, though the  
Veterans Administration gave me  
some encouragement. The engineers  
there are working under tension  
because of lack of help - they need  
many engineers. I went there <sup>and</sup>  
talked to the ~~the~~ assistant chief.

He wanted me, but to make sure  
that nothing goes haywire later  
he wants to find out whether the  
other engineers would accept me as  
Co-workers. If they do & he is willing  
to take me in on what I demand!

They are awfully busy - they  
have to enlarge the present hospital,  
3 or 4 times.

However, this engineer says



it takes time to find out and as soon as he finds out he would let me know. How soon, who knows?

Therefore I packed and came to Cincinnati. Here I saw the Army Engineers' civilian personnel and he is interested in hiring me.

The engineer I talked to was very nice fellow and wanted to check me before hiring me. And it takes about a week. Also he didn't have an opening to what I wanted. But under the circumstances I thought it might be better to have him get going, so I said I'd take it.

In the meantime I'm walking the side walk again. It sure is a tough job.

I'll let you know as soon as I land one here. Until then —

Thanks again for your kind hospitality and please give my best regards to Sally.

Sincerely,  
Ernie.



AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE

SOCIAL-INDUSTRIAL SECTION

MAIN OFFICE  
20 SOUTH TWELFTH STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PA.



CINCINNATI RELOCATION HOSTEL  
2820 WINSLOW AVENUE  
TELEPHONE WOODBURN 9300

CINCINNATI 6, OHIO

4-14-45

Dear Kan,

Started to work yesterday, Friday 13<sup>th</sup>,  
in the Civil Engineers & Surveyors office as a  
draftsman. Pay is fair. It so happened that  
this firm was the one that offered me the job last  
new year. They hadn't hired anybody. Today  
one man came to the office and talked to the boss  
about asking for the draftsman job. The boss  
said "you are one day late. I just hired one  
yesterday." At New York I was late. Here I was  
fortunate, maybe. I took this job because  
the boss said, "There is no string tied to taking  
this job. If you want to quit you can quit  
anytime you want." In the meantime I can look  
around for a better job, if there is any.

You know, Kan, this city gives me a different  
feeling because I don't see soldiers nor sailors -  
only about two in the whole city. Of course if I go  
to the U.S. Army Engineers office there are many, but  
on the streets practically none. However the city  
as a whole, as you said, is very conservative.



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The Veterans Administration in Washington is badly in need of civil engineers in the office to design expansion of hospitals all over the country. The chief engineer wanted to hire me but, he said he has to check with the provost marshal. So there you are again. It takes time. The Cincinnati U. S. Army <sup>Engineer's</sup> Office wants water works engineer and I just fit in right. But the engineer says we have to check with the provost marshal. So again it takes time. That's the reason I took this civil engineers' offer <sup>and</sup> started to work on the lucky day. Lately the housing problem became very tough, though there are many good houses for sale <sup>and</sup> for immediate occupation. But where is the de re mi? This hostel is a great big house and charges only 1<sup>00</sup> a day for those who have no jobs and 1<sup>50</sup> a day for working people. I am paying 1<sup>50</sup> you know.

Again I thank you ~~for~~ <sup>and</sup> Sally  
for kind hospitality. Write to me soon.  
Sincerely,  
Ernest.



AFTER 5 DAYS, RETURN TO

Ernest Lusk  
2820 Winslow Ave,  
Cincinnati 6, Ohio



Mr. Kan Donato  
16 Union St,  
New Rochelle, N.Y.