

21 April 1945

Dear Bill

I wrote a letter way back when, and I found out that I had lost your address. I've asked several persons and now I finally have it.

I reckon by now that you know that I am now training at Camp Wolters, Texas in the regular army, as expected in the infantry. I've already had 8 weeks of basic and am now just waiting for my delay-in-route and then overseas. I reckon we will be in the occupation army since they are not sending us to the Pacific. At the time of this writing the war isn't over but if this letter takes a month to reach you I believe Germany will be well ~~get~~ ready to surrender unconditionally.

Now that you have had a taste of what Europe is like, you might tell me what things are like over there. I'll

probably be over there real soon now that I have completed half of my cycle. I wouldn't doubt that we may start training for the occupational army and drop some of this combat training we are receiving. We have had most of the fundamentals of combat and that will be all that is necessary if we are just going to occupy the aggressor nations. What do you think? Do you think we will ever get to the Pacific? I doubt it.

What has been ~~be~~ holding your interest lately? Are you now making acquaintances among the Frenchman people like you made with some of the French? It must be interesting to see for yourself the people of other nations to watch their customs and manners. It really opens your mind and heart too. Let me down some of your exciting experiences you have while on some of your short excursions you have on

while on a pass. I'll bet you will never regret going to France and ?? if it weren't for the war.

How's your brother coming along? Is he back up in the front lines. The best of ~~his~~ health to him.

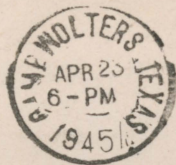
Amazing isn't it Bill, that they made me a squad leader here among a barracks full of hakiyins. My two years of R.O.T.C. at the Uni of Calif. finally came in handy. This ranking is only temporary, in fact I wonder if it means anything at all. What do you think? Will it help me get my stripes later on when I come to combat? How much power does it have behind it? In many ways I'm glad that I have been able to be one because it keeps me going, which in turn, helps to occupy my wandering mind as well as help me get stripes.

In closing I hope you are in the best of health enjoying the late spring weather in Europe. Be seeing you soon.

Your Pal
Asa

After 5 days, return to

Pvt Asa Lujie 39938005
Co. H 53rd Inf. Ing. Bn
TOPAZ, UTAH
Camp Wolters, Texas.



Pro

Cpl William T. Iino-39087156
Co. H. Hq. Det

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