

Monday 11 Sept. 1944
France

Dear Mom and Dad -

How are things with our small family this afternoon. I was setting here just a moment ago with nothing to do for a change until I noticed this paper. I looked at it for a moment, then decided that I had better use some of it to drop you a line and let you know that I'm in good health and still going strong. In fact, my appetite has been something awful these last few days. I've eaten anything and everything I could get my hands on. Why I've eaten so much is beyond me because up until a few days ago I didn't eat hardly anything. I must be trying to catch up on lost time.

Today has been a beautiful day. The sun came up this morning with hardly a cloud in the sky and has been shining ever since. The sun has come up nicely the last few days but most of the time the sky became overcast and was usually raining cats and dogs by noon. Today however is one of those type days which would make Dad want to go down to the farm and get under one of those big trees and catch about three or four hours of good "old shut eye". It also fits my specifications for the same thing, but I'll have to wait a while before

being able to join Dad.

Yesterday I went to a small village not far from here took a good shower. The Army has shower units which move up and down the front, and all those who have a little time are able to drop by and scrape a bit of the dirt off. The units are in a long tent with the men lined up outside waiting their turn of three to five minutes under the shower. Never in your life have you seen so many men lined up with nothing on but their birthday clothes. Every once in a while a French girl would unexpectedly wander by, but it didn't seem to phase her in the least, and it definitely didn't hinder the G.I.'s in accomplishing their mission of getting the dirt off.

The next time you write me, tell her that I wished her a happy birthday. I forgot about her birthday until now, but better late than never —

Take care of yourself and tell everyone "Hello" —

Lots of love,

Jack

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