

"Somewhere", Alaska

December 28, 1942

Dear Mama—

Thanks for the nice long letter and since you wrote in installments I will probably have to do the same thing to get it answered.

I just returned from a movie—a murder mystery. Same old story but interesting— an innocent man is tried on circumstantial evidence and found guilty— two hours before the time for his march to the chair the real murderer is caught— "all's well that ends well"—

I rec'd your pretty card OK— and cards also arrived from Dorothy, Jewell, & Bernice— I naturally place more pride in yours than any others but they were all real nice.

I am glad you told me Dorothy hasn't had any more sick spells— she had never mentioned anything about

it to me - but I suppose she wouldn't, even if she were sick. She wrote me last, the day before she was leaving for Thanksgiving vacation, and I know she was very happy. I think I could have guessed from the tone of the letter that she was going home - too bad she couldn't stay for Christmas too.

I wish I had as many things to write about as you do - my task would be much lighter - I just have to ramble the best I can and, as I put it in somebody's letter, ask God's Blessing on the reader - and the censor! But anyway, there's nothing like trying.

So the old dogs are still getting around - an educated dog - can you imagine! Pal was always pretty quick to learn things that meant more comfort for him - if he were in the Army, he would be called a "chow-leopard" and no doubt he would fill his mess kit in every mess hall for

miles around - furthermore I believe any mess-sergeant would give him special attention if he ever saw the sad look in Pals' eyes - that distinctive expression he uses when asking for chow.

Blanche wrote a nice letter giving me addresses of a lot of the fellows - so far I haven't used any of them, nor even answered her letter. My friends will just have to wait until I can "dig" out. My mail arrives in "bundles", like you got mine.

I'm looking forward to the day I receive these snow pictures - there are some guys here from the north who think it never snows in Tennessee - no amount of elaboration on the subject will convince them - maybe the pictures will.

Thanks for Uncle Henry's address - will write as soon as possible -
Oh yes, I got the little book -

I must write Mr. Judkins too -

Tell Alice to study harder, and that she may look for a letter from me - I will try to hand her a bit of advice. I am sure she'll do OK once she gets accustomed to the new set up.

I'm sorry I didn't do more for your Christmas - I will make it up to you. I loaned a pretty good sum of money to a very good friend who was leaving us - I have no doubt whatever as to his integrity - so I'm not worried.

I think I'll close this letter with a promise to write again in a few days, instead of writing installments - Thanks again for the nice letter - I won't fail you - I'll keep the letters rolling - Keep smiling' - remember - just like the picture -

Love to all,
Bill