

April 4/43

Dear Mama -

Rec'd your letter two days ago, but didn't get the wire - thanks anyway. I feel just as good, knowing now that you sent it. I even forgot it was my birthday until the day was almost gone.

The photo cases haven't arrived yet, but suppose they will soon. Packages are usually slower than letters. I'll sure be glad to get them. I have lots of pictures now. Dorothy and Bernice have sent several, and I have some snapshots made up here - but only a few are censorable, and I've sent some of them out already. I am enclosing one - not a good one, but it's the only one left. I'll send you more later.

I received my first letter from Johnny about two weeks ago, written Feb. 23. Just a short one, of course. But I was glad to hear from him. Has he ever mentioned furlough? I'd think he would be released for a rest soon - how long has he been in England now?

If ever there is a long stretch between my letters, don't get worried. I am OK - don't think I've ever been in better health. I need to lose some weight though - my "white collar" job cuts my exercise down. I'm afraid to step on the scales - the shock might be too much for me. You can probably notice it in the picture. I don't know where my left arm is, unless the sleeve just "swallowed" it. It's there, anyway. Harry and I are

planning on some much-needed
exercise tomorrow, and we'll probably
take some more pictures. I think
I'll send you a picture of my
best buddy - Harry Hehl, of Chicago.
Then you'll always know who I'm
talking about. He's a swell guy,
and it's his camera doing all the
picture making.

Hope this finds everybody well.
Sorry I haven't written sooner.

Love to all,
Bill