

May 21, 1943

Dear Mama -

I've got a big 6-page letter from Jewell crying for an answer, but something tells me I owe you one, too - I think I wrote Jewell last, so here goes.

I'm terribly slack with my correspondence since the pool table was added to our recreation hall. I'm just learning the game - I suppose that's why it's so fascinating to me. I still play lots of ping-pong too - I while away too many evenings in the hall when I should be writing letters.

Blauche is the winner - she posted a letter to me at 1:00 PM on the 17th and I received it this afternoon. I think the best previous mark was 5 days - I don't remember, though, where it came from.

The Chaplain is working on plans for a minstrel show - the dialogue is written especially for army shows by the U.S.O. I don't know yet whether I'll participate, but it should be lots of fun.

Harry and I have a few more pictures now - I promised Dorothy some and haven't sent any yet. She asks me about them in every letter. Harry writes to her and said he would give her part of his set, so I'm inclosing two in this one. No. 1 is "me + my buddy" - Harry. No. 2, reading from the left - Harry, S-Sgt Vahalik from Texas, S-Sgt Wirth from Penna - and look, my shoes are shined. I think we'll have some better prints in the future - Harry discovered a small hole in the bellows, and is having it repaired.

How do you like the war news now? Don't you think the end has begun? Elmer Davis says the defense workers back home should wake up - I listen to his broadcasts regularly. I think he does an excellent job of analyzing the situation and puts it very bluntly.

I still haven't received the letter from Johnny that he supposedly wrote me several weeks ago. Perhaps I'll write him again - it could have gotten lost.

You shouldn't try to write too often when you have other things to do. Jewell writes a lot. I wouldn't mind getting one from you every day, but I can't ask for that.

Take good care of yourself -

Lots of love
Bill