

Sept-11-1944
"SOUTHERN
FRANCE"
-Monday-



UNITED STATES ARMY

Dearest Mom + Dad,

I'd like to tell you what I did Sunday night-but I can't for some time yet. maybe not till I come home. I had a swell time and I don't mean maybe- Mom the whole story is about these French girls- beautiful, they really are- it's a long story though so I'll have to let it go for some time yet, it's one good time I won't forget in some time- girls, girls, and I mean nice girls.

Today was like any other day- quiet- got up at the same time, 7:30 AM, eat chow, pulled a little guard, after guard I took all my blankets outside to dry- we always have a pretty heavy dew- wrote one letter and it was time for chow again. In the afternoon I took a little nap which didn't last long because we had to fall out (stry formation) it was a lecture on V.D.- it's old stuff but some guys never learn- till of course it's too late. After the lecture I washed my face, made up my bed, and went to chow- 5:00 P.M. in the evening I played catch with a football and also a baseball- our Bty is playing a game of baseball ~~with~~ with a colored outfit- so far the score is 4-3- favor us- these colored men sure are a laugh, they don't care about anything and are always laughing. Our mail came in and I got two letters, one from Joan and the other from Sheila Mahoney, (Clair's sister)

I still have four or five letters to answer

right, I better get at them or they will keep piling
up. I'm getting a little tired of answering letters
but as long as they write to me I'll write
back. Kind hearted of me, isn't it? The game
is over and we won again, 4-3 - very
good game. We are getting passes now to
a very nice town. I believe believe the name
is Nice - when my pass comes up and if
I go I'll tell you all about it in my letter, it
suppose to be a swell town. The dew is
starting to fall and since I'm outside writing
this letter I better close for tonight - so
Mom & Dad - sleep tight with all my love to
keep you company. Buona Notte Tutti

Sept-12-1944 - TOES -

Not much of a day, we did the
same thing except we did play a
game of football in the evening, we
won 12-0. Oh so we did have a rifle
inspection - and I got caught with my
pants down. My rifle is always clean, or
always was till they pulled the inspection
and found the barrel dirty - to top that
I didn't have a shave - Boy my heart
dropped right down to the bottom of my
feet. When the captain was through looking
us over he said that everyone with
dirty rifles would not get passes - I
thought that goes my pass, but what
ever happen I don't know because I did
get a pass for tomorrow to the
town of Nice - which is suppose to
be a wonderful place - I'll tell you
about that when I get back - I
sure was lucky to get that pass,
I was more surprised, then the rest
of the fellows - and they were surprised
It was the first time they ever found



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my rifle ^{is} dirty, there was some rust on it too - I had quarts of oil on the rifle, but this heavy dew goes right through all of it - it was washed up to tap it off. Well I'm going to bed

because we leave at 8:00 A.M. and it's a long way to Nice. Goodnight everyone sleep tight and I'll be back tomorrow night with all the latest news -

Sept-13-1944 - -Wed-

What a time I had - wonderful! I'll start from the beginning and tell the whole story - hang on it's pretty good.

We got in town about 11:30 A.M. and off we went to see the sights - meaning the beautiful girls. That's what we wanted to find, ~~was~~ a couple of nice girls, but we'll get to that later on. The town itself is swell, it's ~~the same~~ as near as being in the States I've been yet - the stores are the same - plenty of everything - they have ten cent stores like the ones we have at home, the same in every way except the name. The rest of the buildings are very nice and clean looking - the streets are clean, the women are swell dresser, the girls dress as good as the ones at home, if not better - and friendly. Wow!

After looking the town over we thought it was time to meet some girls - and we did, one right after the other.

We went into a ice cream store (pretty good ice cream) and sat with some girls bought them ice cream and talked & stalked, some of them can speak a little English

we got along swell with them. We left there a while later and went to a show, swell show's even though they did speak in French. We had a time in there, the girls came up and ask us to sit with them - they were just being nice - they had their folks with them - darn it -

After the show we went back to get some more ice cream and of course to talk to the girls - well we did meet two more - filled them up on ice cream and talked about everything - these two couldn't speak english but they could speak Italian, so every thing was fine - she was a blond with blue eyes - beautiful, if I may say so. They were both swell girls, but this one had all the baks - her name was Valda - Italian, blond with blue eyes - 100 lbs - 5'2" - what a figure. WOW - 24 years old (never know it) still don't believe it. We took the two of them home - kissed them goodby - I got her address and she got ours - said she would write which will be alright with us. We tried to take them some place to eat - they couldn't go I said couldn't because they had to get home to eat, their's nothing in the whole town to eat - if you do find something to eat you wouldn't have enough money to pay for it. After taking these two girls home in a buggy, you know the kind a horse pulls - we went about four miles which cost us 250 francs or 5 bucks - it was worth every cent of it - swell girls, we went looking for a couple more - & found them



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It was getting dark when we met them, (which was good), one of them could speak English, she had four & a half years of it, they were both very pretty. she said "what do you want with us", in very nice English which made us very happy to know she could speak it, the other couldn't speak it at all she came from Spain, the other came from Paris, Well anyway we asked them if they would go to the show with us, they said yes and away we went - we didn't pay any attention to the picture - which wasn't very good anyway, we talked about everything. It was getting close to our time of leaving Nice. so we had to leave in the middle of the picture, we walked them home (as you know me Mom - and my friend was as bad) we kissed them goodbye - lovely - wonderful - oh these French girls. They said to come back, we said we sure would if we could, we kissed them again for the last time and took off for the truck - sure hated to leave. we got their address and if the chance does ever come for us to go to Nice again - we sure will look them up - & how. We had a swell time ~~time~~ in town, best I've had since I left home. The girls all wanted gum - giving them gum was one sure way of meeting them - the girls we met were very pretty and what figures, MANOH-MAN - I've could stand their and watch those shoes go up and down the street all day. We got back in camp about 12:00 P.M. It was

the first pass I had in France and I sure
had a good time - I didn't take one picture,
what a sap I was - well Mom it was the
best time I've had so far - swell people
~~and~~ beautiful women - very friendly and
very nice and clean town. Well so much
for that - be back tomorrow night - sure,
wish I could get a three day pass - Oh boy!
3 Sept - 14 - 1944 - - THUR -

Boy how I wish today was yesterday,
yesterday it was girls and more girls,
today it was boys and more soldier's boys.
We did have a pretty full day today. I
was tired and hungry this morning when
I got up, sure was glad I didn't miss chow
I had pancakes and coffee - after chow I had
to straighten out all my stuff for a inspection
in the afternoon. I wrote letters till noon
chow, had a small chow came back to
finish my letter - I wrote one to Clara &
Joan + Alene. At two o'clock we had a hike
came back at 4:30 P.M., I didn't take this
hike because so many men had to stay
in the Btry to man the guns in case
we had a raid, so while the boys were
out on a hike I was washing my clothes,
and some job it was too all my
clothes are clean now which I'm very
glad of - I don't like to wash clothes but
it has to be done - I get home we'll
send all our clothes to the laundry to be
washed, and how, I just finished my
clothes when the Btry came back from
the hike, at 5:00 P.M. we had chow again,
later in the evening we played catch
with a football, while two of our other
btrys played baseball - I don't know who
won, don't care unless it's our Btry that's
playing. I pulled my one hour on the gun,
when I was through a bunch of us



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guy's were playing a lot of rough and tough games - just fooling around to pass some time away - we did that till it got dark. I looked on our guard list and found out I'm

on guard, 11^{PM} - till 12: PM. Boy I'd like to go to office again and have as good a time as I had before - it was swell. It's dark outside now and it's 9:30 P.M. can't go to bed because I go on guard in a short time. Well sweet I guess that's all for tonight - I'm on a detail tomorrow - tell you what I did tomorrow night - I'm on H.P. the next day - it's all comes at one time - maybe I'm just too good a man to let lay around Oh yeah - Buona Notte Tut & God bless you.

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Wasting paper & ink - shame

Well now another day is over with, didn't do any thing very interesting, I was latrine orderly today and tomorrow I'm on guard, I thought it was H.P. but I was wrong. I didn't do any thing in the morning except clean the latrine, in the afternoon we played football with a colored outfit, we won again 30-0, I feel pretty stiff now, those colored boys were pretty darn big but we won anyway - good game. We were suppose to play another game tonight, but the other team didn't show up - we beat them before - 30-0, I guess they were afraid to come back again.

It's dark outside now and nothing to do but go to bed and sleep, like every other night. I'm not on guard tonight so I should get a good

night sleep, I do have to go on Ptry guard at eight in the morning. We didn't get any mail tonight but I bet we get some soon - I hope. Well Mom I guess that's all their is to say for tonight, maybe I'll have more to say tomorrow night, I sure hope so. Say hello to all, sleep tight sweet - lots of love always -

SEPT-16-1944 - SAT -

I was on Ptry guard all day so I couldn't do much of anything. I got up the same time eat chow and went on guard at 8:00 AM, got off guard at 10:00 A.M. wrote some letters and at 12:00 I eat chow again. At 2:00 P.M. I went back on guard, kind of glad I was on guard today because we had a hike - at 2:00 P.M. I went on guard and they went on a hike, I guess I'll have to take the next one - things get monotonous around during the evening - no showie to see, no place to go - in fact their just isn't anything to do. We had two ball games today we lost one and won the other - so that's not so bad. I didn't get any mail tonight but I'm sure hoping I get some tomorrow night, I sure like to get letters but hate to answer them. Well Mom how is everything around home today - just swell I bet. I haven't anymore to say so goodnight and sleep tight with all my love to keep you company - tell Pop not to work too hard.

SEPT-17-1944 - SUN -

Well my guard was up at 8 o'clock this morning, after chow I washed and shaved to be ready for church at 9:30 A.M. When we got back from church I wrote a letter to Elaine's sister, Ethelma, it was noon by the time I finished the letter, after mailing the letter and eating chow we played a game of baseball among ourselves, just a nice friendly game - it rained



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most of the afternoon but not hard enough to stop the game. At 3:00 P.M. the game ended and I took a nap till chow time, when chow was over we waited for the mail, but again there wasn't but five or six letters. When 6:00 P.M. rolled around we played a good rough and tough ~~game~~ game of soccer football with our "C" Bty - we won again 18-6, it was a very good game, a little rough but lots of fun - all the guys are good sports, that's what counts in any game. The game ended 15 minutes to eight, it's now 8:30 P.M. and very dark outside. I go on gun guard in the morning 5-6 - and that is the end of another day, week and letter, tomorrow night will start another week and letter. I think these letters are best because I can say more and make the letters longer and maybe more interesting.

My candle is about burned out and it's the only light we have when it gets dark - send me some candles if you can Mom. I guess I told you that I didn't get paid again - none of us have - I don't really care because I know I'll always get it, if we get paid next month I should get better than \$50, and all of it will go home - I don't need it so why keep it. I had two letters from our Angie last week, she is fine and so is everyone else, she said her house is looking swell, Angie is really making her dream come true - now for the swimming pool and tennis court - H A H A - I

hope she gets every bit of it & more -
Well sweetheart how are you & Dad
making out, is every thing going along
alright? everyone feeling fine? How's
the work - not too hard I hope, if
it is take it easy - leave the hard
work for some one younger - let it
pile up and I'll take care of it all
when I come home. How's my old horse
"Doc" coming along, and little white - tell
me about every thing - it's all new to
me and I'd like to hear it. Tell P.O.P
I said to take it easy. I love you
two people and I want you to take
it easy. You're the best Mom & Dad a
guy could ask for - when I got you
two for a Mom & Dad I got the best of
the crap - and a swell bunch of
sister's and brother's too - what more
could a guy ask for when he has
a family like I have - no one can
say us Vicelli's don't stick together
through fire and high water - Hooray
for all of us - me too -

Well everyone be good, take care
of every thing, say hello to all for
me - and keep on writing always.
A new letter starts tomorrow
night -

Buona Notte tutu

Love & Kisses

By the

Love millions

Your Loving Son

XXXX - Julie - XXXX