

Your Letter From Home

Girl: Are mine the only lips you have ever kissed?

GI: Yes, darling, and the nicest.

—From Air Base Beacon, Alaska.

Sent To You With The Best Wishes Of
The Fort Dodge Grocery Co.
The Fort Dodge National Bank
Veterans of Foreign Wars
The Gates Dry Goods Co.
The Fort Dodge Creamery Co.
The Fort Dodge Serum Co.
The Tobin Packing Co.
The Elks Club of Fort Dodge

Radio Station K V F D

Doctor: You'll have to avoid all forms of excitement.

Pvt. Bucko: What, can't I even look at them on the street?

—From Air Base Beacon, Alaska.

Sponsors of "Your Letter From Home" heard over KVFD daily 12:45 p. m., Monday through Friday.

Vol. 2. No. 32

WRITTEN EVERY FRIDAY

June 1, 1945

✶ **DEAR JOE:** This is Memorial Day. A few minutes ago I left the typewriter and went over to Constantines' corner to watch the parade. It is not a warm day, but it was warm in the sun and felt good as we stood there watching the flags go by. There weren't very many of us watching, there never are in Fort Dodge, and the parade was quiet. The band came first behind the massed colors. **Karl King** told me that as long as he had been in Fort Dodge, and that's a good many years, it has never rained on a Memorial Day parade. It may have rained earlier or later in the day, but never while the parade was on. After the band marched the **Spanish American War** vets. Not many of them. Then the veterans of the **First World War**. And we are getting old. Lots of gray hair and funny stomachs. And after them, the veterans of your war, Joe, those who have been discharged and some home on leave. There was one **WAVE** in the outfit. Then came the various auxiliaries, and the Mothers and Fathers groups, and the Red Cross and the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts. I almost forgot the two home guard groups. They marched just behind the band, the state guard and the civil air patrol. There are a lot of nice looking girls in the civil air patrol. **Capt. Cox** is the commander of the state guard and **II. C. Kirkberg** is the chief of the air patrol. **George Tremain** was up in the front of the Spanish vets and **Bill Bird, Frank Ulish** and **George Scheidel** were up toward the front of the World War Vets No. 1. The parade went on up to the **High School** and those of us on the street turned and went back to whatever we had been doing. **W. P. Clark** is to give the principal address of the day at the High School, and my spies report that he will put in a good healthy plug for a **municipal auditorium** as the most worthwhile memorial that this town could erect for the veterans of World War Number 2. . . . The Civil War vets are gone, only two left in Iowa, two hundred and fifty still living in the entire United States. None in this area. The last one died at Humboldt a short time ago, aged 103. It was a tough old war they fought in. Thirteen thousand from Iowa died in that war, over twice as many Iowans as have died in this global war. . . . Soon you'll be back here, Joe, marching in these parades. You'll be a veteran, your war behind you. I hope each parade may remind you of how idiotically terrible every war is, of how important it is that every one of us work constantly to maintain peace in the world.

✶ **AROUND THE TOWN.** You can't gamble in Fort Dodge right now on punch boards, slot machines, crap tables, or money jars. The chief of police, **E. W. Maricle**, in a five-paragraph statement Monday said such things were against the law and that the complaints he had received "made action imperative." He said he owed it to you to keep Fort Dodge a decent place to come home to. Overnight the slot machines, punch boards, etc., vanished. No illegal devices were seized, no arrests made, no gamblers jailed. . . . **Frank Peterson**, 62, of Manson, fell, or stumbled into the river near the Illinois Central bridge near Highway No. 5 on Wednesday evening. He was drowned. His body has not been recovered yet. . . . The city council is planning to resurface 100 blocks of streets in Fort Dodge this summer. The cost will run around \$100,000. . . . The new water tower will be built by a Des Moines concern. Work will start soon. . . . There are eight teams in the new baseball league—**Manson, Pomeroy, Lohrville, Gowrie, Vincent, Eagle Grove, Farnhamville** and **Fort Dodge**. **George Fox** is manager of the local team. Fourteen games will be played, mostly on Sunday, and then a round robin will be held between the four top teams in Fort Dodge. The first games will be played next Sunday, June 3rd. . . . The new 5,000 KW generator has been delivered to the **Iowa-Illinois Gas and Electric Co.** at Fort Dodge. It was ordered before the war. It took two box cars to bring it here. . . . No garbage is being collected on Memorial Day, no paper is being published. . . . Thirty-three of the boys who graduated from High School last week received their diplomas in absentia. They were already in service. . . . **Jack Stolberg**, who has been bootlegging, was fined \$600 and costs when he pleaded guilty before **Judge John M. Schuapp**. . . . The **Men's Civic Glee Club** had a wonderful chicken dinner picnic at Hydro Electric Park last Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. **Howard Orth** were back from Independence for the occasion. . . . During the army show "Here's Your Infantry" last Saturday evening, four of the participants were injured, one with a bayonet wound, the other from the explosion of a shell which blew sand in his eyes. Two others suffered more or less minor injuries. Over 7,000 people saw the show. . . . No mail is being delivered on Memorial Day. . . . **Cedar Rapids (Roosevelt)** took the state baseball championship at **Manson** last Friday afternoon defeating **East Waterloo** 1 to 0, in a very tough game. **Al Shamberger**, of the **Rough Riders**, pitched a no-hit no-run game. His brother, **George Shamberger**, stole home on a slow pitch to beat **Dick Orth**, of **Waterloo**, who allowed only four scattered hits. It was East's first defeat this season. . . . **Harry Huff** has been re-elected Red Cross county chairman. . . . **President Truman** has appointed **Richard Mitchell** chairman of a committee to investigate a railroad dispute. . . . **Edward Ducea**, of **Duncombe** school, defeated **Edmund Collins**, of **Corpus Christi**, in the finals of the 19th annual marble championship.

✶ **LIBERATED.** Lt. **Oral G. Thompson**, April 29th, from **Moosberg**. . . . Sgt. **R. D. Bollard**, from a Nazi prison camp. . . . Lt. **Frank Sims**, who was shot down over Austria in the spring of 1944. . . . Lt. **Earnard Gillispie** and Sgt. **Eugene Briggs**, now somewhere in France. . . . Sgt. **Vernon Johnston**, who was taken June 22nd, 1944. . . . Lt. **Bob Berry** and Lt. **Don Kehm**. . . . Cpl. **Francis Haglund**, enroute to **Jacksonville, Fla.**. . . . Lt. **Gary Rabiner**, bombardier on a **B-29** who was taken prisoner in **North Africa** in Feb. 1942. . . . Sgt.

August Struhar, who went down over France, Dec. 31, 1943. . . . S/Sgt. **Ivan F. Hunter**, of **Gowrie**, a prisoner since Nov. 10th, 1944. . . . Pfc. **Allison Hill**. He's back home less than thirty days after his liberation. . . . Lt. **Chester Bruce Hanson**, who had been a prisoner since Oct., 1943. . . . Cpl. **Wm. Peed** of **Duncombe**, who was imprisoned at **Moosberg**.

✶ **WAR'S GRIM TOLL.** Pvt. **Donald B. Oleson** has been wounded in the Philippines. . . . Ensign **David Sheehy**, co-pilot and bombardier on a Navy bomber in the South Pacific, is missing in action. . . . Pvt. **Karl Loots** was wounded May 13th on **Okinawa**.

✶ **JUNE, MOON, CROON, TUNE.** **Lorraine Carlson** and Sgt. **Don Buck**, May 24th, in **Fort Dodge**. . . . **Helen Thompson**, of **Badger**, and **Weldon Davis**, ARM, of **Manson**, now at **Norfolk, Va.** No date set. . . . **Miriam Beightol** and **J. E. Sullivan**, of **Dayton, Ohio**, June 23rd, in **Fort Dodge**. . . . **Katherine Stufflebean** and Petty Officer **Oscar J. Egesdal**, of **Eagle Grove**, at **Eagle Grove** recently. . . . **Ruth Bollard** and **Drexel Peterson**, June 3rd, at **Boone**.

✶ **EIGHTY-FIVE OR MORE CLUB.** Sgt. **R. C. Lentz, Jr.**, will soon be home. He is being discharged at **Pueblo, Colo.**. . . . T/5 **George Haire** back from **Belgium**, after having served in **North Africa** and **Sicily**, was discharged while at **Fitzsimmon Hospital**. . . . T/Sgt. **Arthur E. Kolb**, after three years in the **South Pacific**.

✶ **SUNNY ITALY.** T/4 **Douglas Viers** now in the **Po Valley** in **Italy**, has counted up 116 points and thinks it can't be long now. His buddy, **Ray Peed**, is in the hospital for a minor operation. In the last push **Doug's** outfit laid two hundred miles of telephone wire. "In the distance we can see the Alps. They are really beautiful especially when compared with our old enemies, the **Apennines**." Thanks, **Doug**, for the beautiful views of **Lago Maggiore**. . . . Pvt. **John Craft** sends us a fine view of **Bressanone, Italy**, with the building marked in the picture where **John** was quartered with his tank outfit. Thanks, **John**.

✶ **PACIFIC.** Ensign **Charles A. Davis**, writing from away out the a-way, is on a cargo ship that has made **Australia, New Guinea**, **The Dutch East Indies**, "and a few other ports I can't mention." . . . **Robert H. Guffey**, F 1/c, was in on the invasion of **Okinawa**. "It was my second invasion and made the first one seem like a 4th of July celebration. The first one was **Langayan Gulf**." . . . **Eugene J. Conway**, S 1/c, is in **Hawaii**. . . . **Doris Grundon**, Y 3/c, is in the **Hawaiian Islands**. "I love it. The weather is perfect, the scenery is beautiful and I am having some wonderful times." . . . **Adelbert Nichols**, S 1/c, somewhere in the **Pacific** says hello to **Carl L. Olson**, now in **New Guinea**. They were together sometime ago on a beachhead in the **Mariannas**. . . . **C. J. Steib**, S 1/c, has been covering a lot of territory. He was in on the **Philippines** campaign, has been with the fleet to **French Indo China, Formosa, Okinawa, Iwo Jima** and was in on two raids on **Tokyo**. . . . Pfc. **Wm. Jaeschke**, of **Callender**, is in the **Philippines** with the 25th Division, 27th Infantry. . . . Pfc. **Roger G. Walters** is in the **Philippines**, Co. K, 63rd Inf., APO 6. . . . A little poem called the "Spider and the Fly" from **A. L. Kennedy**, EM 3/c, down in the **South Pacific**. Wish we had room to print it. Very funny. Thanks, **A. L.** We'll say hello to **Mrs. Ford** down at **Tobin's**.

✶ **OVER HERE.** **Albert Dayton**, S 2/c, is in the **Stevadore Pool** at **Port Hueneme, Cal.**. . . . A/S **R. L. Andrews** is stationed at **Ames**, **Iowa**. He leaves in four weeks for **Midshipman's school**. . . . Pfc. **Richard Stephan** is on his way to the **Brooklyn Army Base**. "This doubtless will be my last stand as a 'warrior'." . . . Pfc. **Ronald E. Olson** is in to all **Dodgers** at **216 Rowan Building, 458 So. Spring Street, Los Angeles, California**. He saw **Bill Hoop** in **San Francisco** a few weeks ago and **Duane Burke** in **Salt Lake City**. . . . **Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Eslick**, who have been in defense work on the west coast, are moving back to **Lehigh**. . . . Ensign **Bill Dodgen**, who got his wings recently at **Corpus Christi, Texas**, is working on a carrier based fighter now at **Daytona Beach, Fla.**. . . . **Fielden S. Stewart** is out of the **Army** honorably discharged and living at **Stockton, California**. . . . A/C **John Ryberg, Jr.**, is at **Amarillo, Texas**. . . . Sgt. **Jim W. Mailander** is at **Romulus Field, Michigan**. . . . **W. H. Robert Juengel** is honorably discharged from the navy and is now living at **362 Palm Avenue, Akron 1, Ohio**. . . . A/C **Vyron Frye** is at **Amarillo, Texas**, studying to become an engineer. . . . **Glenn A. Christians**, SM 2/c, is at the **Armed Guard Center** in **Brooklyn** and may be home any day. . . . He is now Sgt. **Melvin Inman** and is at **Biggs, Field, El Paso, Texas**. . . . **Johnny Stein**, S 2/c, is at **Bunker Hill Naval Air Station, Peru, Ind.**. . . . 2/Lt. **John Dowd**, who got his wings at **Big Spring, Texas**, in **April**, is looking for **Dodgers** in the neighborhood of **Fort Lauderdale, Palm Beach, Hollywood** or **Miami**. **John** is at radar school in **Boca Raton, Fla.**. . . . Pfc. **Charles R. Peterson** is in **Columbus, Ohio**.

✶ **ENJOYING MOM'S COOKING.** Lt. **Winford Beer**, from **Merced, Calif.**. . . . Sgt. **Tony Chardoulas**, from thirty-seven months in the **Pacific**. . . . **Wayne W. Laler**, PHM 1/c, after three years in the **South Pacific**. . . . Cpl. and Mrs. **Krivolavy**, enroute from **Eagle Pass, Texas**, to **San Marcos, Texas**. . . . Lt. **John Mulholland**, from **England**. . . . **R. H. Nichols**, CMM, from the **South Pacific**. . . . Mrs. **Irene Miller**, honorably discharged after nineteen months in the **WAC's**. . . . T/Sgt. **Robert Taylor**, from **Camp Beale, Calif.**. . . . **Isabelle Ulm**, with the **WAVES**, from **Washington, D. C.**. . . . **Jacob Steib**, S 1/c, from **San Diego**. . . . **Roger J. Brown**, HA 2/c, from **Great Lakes**. . . . **Jerry Hood**, MMM 2/c, from the **Pacific**. . . . Pvt. **Clifford Hahn**, of **Duncombe**, from **Camp Howze, Texas**, enroute to **Ft. Meade, Md.**. . . . Ensign **Don Dillman**, from **Corpus Christi, Texas**, B-29, enroute to **Topeka, Kansas**. . . . Sgt. **James Nolan**, from 28 months in **Iran**. . . . Chief Petty Officer, **Lloyd B. Hollis**, from eighteen months submarine duty in the **Pacific**. . . . A/C **Bobbie Williams**, of **Dayton**, from **Eagle Pass, Texas**. . . . Sgt. **Maurice**

Sanholm, from Italy, where he served as a radio man with the 15th Air Force . . . Lt. Ray Walsh from Camp Gordon, Georgia.

⊕ **HIGH C'S.** Richard Rosien, SM 2/c, is with the armed guard on the S. S. Bernard L. Rodman and is in the same area as Bud Winslow, Dick Johnson and Rev. Harvey. Dick says "Hello" to Harry and Lou Kurtz and to all his friends in the service . . . Carl A. Nelson, S 1/c, is on the USS Doherty (DE 14) . . . Joseph F. Nas-truz, S 1/c, is on the USS Bunker Hill (C V-17) somewhere in the Pacific.

⊕ **SMALL WORLD.** Walter Woodman, EM 3/c, and Dave Barber, EM 1/c, are together on the USS New Hanover, AKA 73. "We have had some experience with those Japs who take the one way ride." . . . Thomas Beadle, F 1/c, and Master Sgt. Marion Heath, somewhere in the Philippines. "Marion invited me to a party his unit sponsored and I must say that I enjoyed myself a lot. Great lads these doughboys." . . . Clayton Bailey, BM 1/c and Ch. Major Phillip J. Dailey, formerly of Sacred Church, in Greenland . . . 1/Lt. Richard Gadbury and 2/Lt. Robert Enfield, with the 15th AAF in Italy. They met sometime ago for the first time in years and found that they had been assigned to the same squadron in the same group. They went through high school together and went to the same church. Dick is a bombardier on a P38 and Bob is a pilot of the same type of ship.

⊕ **Personal Note to Sgt. Joe A. Thode**, who left Fort Dodge in 1943, and is now sweating it out in Italy, with 107 points, anxiously awaiting the day when he'll go back to his wife and the 32 months old son that he has never seen: The roses have been ordered. Hurry home.

⊕ **Although we no longer acknowledge them** in the letter because of lack of space, we play all the requests that you send us on our programs. If you will send the address and if possible the telephone number of the person for whom the request is to be played we will always see that he or she is notified in advance. We also take care of orders for flowers, books, etc., and glad to do it.

⊕ **SERVICE PAPERS AND INSIGNIA.** The Polar Tech from S/Sgt. Carl Julius at Sioux Falls, S. D. Thanks, Carl . . . The Club House News and the Air Base Beacon from Cpl. Tom Dowd, up in Canada. Thanks, Tom. . . The Rosecrans Flyer from Cpl. T. J. Dowd, somewhere in Canada.

⊕ **DAS REICH.** Pfc. Jack Sloan is in Germany with the 42nd Infantry Division attached to the Seventh Army . . . Pfc. Delmor Estlund is somewhere in Germany wondering whether they will sweat it out there or go to the Pacific . . . T/5 Barney Loth says his outfit is a little griped with all the publicity a certain pearl-handled general is getting for winning the battle of the Rhine. "We were in a rear echelon outfit of the first army and beat him across by several hours, more than twenty-four. But now for the sake of esprit de corps we are agreeing temporarily with his press agents." . . . T/4 Chas. Graffunder, now seeing a lot of Germany, says the autobanen highways are "quite the thing." "We need that kind of highway only with better material in them." . . . Sgt. Stanley Long writes that he has walked across a good share of Germany. "It's a beautiful country though we weren't on a sight seeing tour."

⊕ **CZECHOSLOVAKIA.** With the 712th Tank Bn., attached to the 90th Division, Pfc. Richard D. Andrews has ridden through France, Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany and is now in Czechoslovakia.

⊕ **FROM THE FIVE CORNERS OF THE WORLD:** Cpl. Sol Ashkenaze, Germany. "Everything including the shouting is over here in Germany, and my unit has departed from the 3rd Army and is now occupying a small German town of something like 8,000. We are living in a school building—I live in a remodeled classroom with eight other corporals. There is a small gym nearby and also a bathroom with tiled shower and bathrooms. The later is quite a luxury, believe me. I ran into George Davidson the other day after four months of hunting for him, but we just had a few minutes together."

Pfc. George Davidson, Germany. "It hasn't been more than a couple pay calls since I first registered in the 'Good Fellows Get Together' column. Well, I've scored again, standing up. This time it was a decent fellow who volunteered under the civilian nomenclature of Sol Ashkenaze, but like too many others, is just a number in a service record now. We exchanged opinions, sang songs, ducked for apples and matched points. Our collective sum is not as much as a number two can of beans, green, cut. But we're both happy in the service and fearfully await the eventual terrors of civilian life. (The foregoing statement was uttered under duress and should not be construed to represent the opinion of the author.) So long until I run across another who has strayed from the fold."

Sgt. Jack Skophammer, APO 741, New York. "The surrender of Germany is the foremost topic. I am stationed near Marseilles, France, and it was by French radio I first heard the news, which came the 7th of May. May 8th, 9th and 10th were holidays for the French people. A dance was held on each of these evenings, and you have to be in good shape to withstand the vigorous and grueling pace the French set. The short fast steps they take almost make it necessary for you to be a former track man to keep up. But it's wonderful for keeping you in condition, takes place of our P-T program. These dances last all night, and if you are rugged enough to withstand the pace for a whole night and not be a physical wreck, I suggest that the person be awarded the bronze star. The weather is quite hot here and swimming will soon be in order. I rather like it here. Of course, the language is a barrier, but I'm learning it rapidly. I can at least carry on a conversation. I have solved that problem by meeting a college gal who speaks English. I was the first American she had ever spoken to. From her I learned that the French were treated fairly decent by the Germans, but they still hate them and have a disliking for the Italian prisoners who roam around here."

Phil J. Dorweiler, S 1/c (Y), FPO, San Francisco, Calif. "I ran into Cpl. Louie Fiddler, a Marine, and most of all a former Fort Dodger. Louie noticed in YLFH that I was stationed here and he looked me up. Since then he and I have had many get-togethers just talking and discussing the things we used to do. Louie has been around since I saw him—Guadacanal, Guam, and the late Iwo invasion. I have been in the battle of "Farragut" and now I am releasing WAVES for active duty, by being a feather merchant. Louie and I dropped over to see Lt. Jim Dickerson but he was out at the time. We left a note and took a glance at his beautiful wife (former Katie Newman). I understand that there are other Fort Dodgers here on Guam—if so tell them to drop around to the CinCPac Personnel Office and look me up."

Sgt. Ed Coughlon, APO 72, San Francisco, Calif. "During my months overseas I have met some of the boys from Fort Dodge that I knew before enlisting. Among them being Capt. Jack Sulzback, Bob Haire, Thompson, Bud Gormally, Don Campbell, Dick Gilchrist and Bob Ryno. My outfit landed in the Philippines on D-two and saw a lot of action. I was fortunate enough to be stationed aboard a hospital tender. I have carried a lot of casualties but never met anyone I knew. I'm still aboard the hospital tender as a combine radio operator and signalman. You would call my outfit the Armies Navy. Our duty now is to meet all convoys coming from the states or enroute to the states and take off anybody who is too sick to make the trip. I'm hoping to meet someone from Fort Dodge leaning over the rails in the near future." H. E. Brown, F 1/c, FPO, San Francisco, Calif. "I want to thank you again for the most welcome bit of 'home' that follows me wherever I go. I know it is much appreciated by all the boys."

Pfc. Donald J. Samuelson, Somewhere in Germany. "This letter is not going to be very long, but it will let you know that I am still alive, and feeling fine. The deeper I go inside of Germany the prettier it gets. It is just like home. The other day I had my picture taken with a Russian Lt. Colonel. The Russians are really swell people. And they are good fighters, too. Tell everyone hello. I'll write again from Japan." Thanks, Don, for the armband.

Verne D. Skoland, S 1/c, FPO, San Francisco, Calif. "I hope they get our orders mixed up for the next operation and have us make a beachhead in San Francisco. I met a fellow by the name of Frank Livasy, who is from Fort Dodge. He's a Marine. I also met H. R. MacDowell, the plumber from Fort Dodge, in Oahu. He's about due in Fort Dodge after eighteen months of war work at Pearl Harbor. He told me he might come back for another year's work."

Sgt. Norton Risdell, APO 408, New York, New York. "I'm in the maintenance section of a tank company and I think I'll really appreciate working on an automobile after I get back. I used to work for Gralnek's for several years before I came in the army. I received one of those school letters from a boy by the name of Roger Messerly and also wrote him a letter a couple of weeks ago. Our boy and girl both got answers to their letters and my wife tells me they were really thrilled. The little girl also got a 50 cent shell and I imagine she really treasures that."

Carl B. Nelson, CM 2/c, Philippine Islands. "I have seen some homes that were never touched by this war, they still have fluorescent lighting. Their homes have a lot of color, that is the better homes. On the outskirts the people live in thatched roof shacks built up on poles about six feet off the ground. Here they keep their small pig or two and some chickens. Chicken eggs are really high, they sell at the rate of three eggs for two pesos, which is one dollar in our money or about 33 1/3 cents a piece. The black market is terrible, too. Jewelry is sky high and most of the rings are made from coins, so now there is a shortage of coins, which makes it very difficult to get any change if you buy anything. Most of the cafes give out IOU's, it's just a small slip of paper with the amount of change you should receive and good for that amount in trade if you come back. It's not a very satisfactory way of doing business I can assure you!"

S/Sgt. M. L. Wickersheim, Casablanca. "I'm stationed at an Air Transport Command Base. We have stationed here the large passenger ships that fly directly to the states. It's the Skymaster or the army's designation for a C-54. I have been stationed at this airport near Casablanca for over a year. The weather is ideal most of the year. We are not allowed to swim in the ocean, but we do have several good pools built at the beach. Salt water is used in them. Many thanks again for the cards. They are rationed at the PX and we get one deck every two months."

Lt. Bert J. Peterson, Italy. "When you say sunny Italy you aren't kidding (not now). I'm getting so brown and salted that I'm doubting if I'll ever get back to that old poolroom tan I hear about. We're quartered on a beach just a couple of miles below Rimini and only have a short walk to the surf. The Adriatic is very blue and has a very lovely beach line."

Everette E. Rice, Austria. "A great shortage of gasoline was one of Germany's downfalls, and another was unstandard equipment. I saw a German convoy of about thirty trucks and I don't believe that there were two alike. Their equipment is too big and awkward. I think most of the Germans are glad it's over. The weather was just waiting for the cease fire order as we've had swell weather ever since. I've already started on a good tan. You'll have to call out the home guard to set in a road-block on that 'center aisle' cause the traffic is a little too heavy. I'm one of the many that decided to wait 'till after it's all over. Don't forget to save out some for us! I'm still looking for Fort Dodgers and in all my travels I still seem to miss them. I do run into T/5 Abbas Habhab once in awhile. He promoted some champagne last time we met." Thanks, Sgt., for the end of the war edition of "Stars and Stripes." And other swell letters from Cpl. Otto C. Williams, APO 72, San Francisco, Calif. . . Lt. Donald E. Takes, Italy . . . T/5 Ld L. Chinberg, APO 964, San Francisco, Calif. . . T/5 John R. Yates, APO 958, San Francisco, California . . . M. O. Barbee, APO 7, San Francisco, California . . . Ens. Joe W. Dodger, Daytona Beach, Fla. . . Sgt. J. W. Mailander, Romulus Field, Michigan . . . John R. Malloy, S 1/c, FPO, San Francisco, California . . . Cpl. Joseph Hanrahan, APO 781, New York, New York . . . Wayne E. Laird, PhM 3/c, FPO, San Francisco, Calif. . . Cpl. Quentin J. L. Parker, San Francisco, California.

Here it is the first of June as we write the last words of this letter and no real warm weather yet. The crops, however, are coming along well and everything looks beautiful. Eighty per cent of the corn is planted. Fellows coming back say everything looks great, that it's wonderful to be out . . . The Sportman's Shop, on 12th Street, has some new window signs . . . Couch's News Agency, on the corner of 11th and Central, has a beautiful new neon display . . . Down at Kautzky's, Joe is showing his friends an old fowling piece liberated in Bavaria that Joe says must be worth at least \$5,000. It is beautifully made and engraved from one end to the other . . . KVED is starting to transcribe a show for the Army services in the "Let's Go To Town Series." Be listening for it, but not earlier perhaps than July . . . The roto section for "Your Letter From Home" is being printed. It ought to go out in the next two or three weeks . . . And that's all there is. There isn't any more . . . Good luck, fellow.

Your home town correspondent,
Ed Breen.