

5-6-42

4

Dear only one,
well, I traded you for
seventy five assorted citizens,
good, bad and indifferent. We
stayed at the army until
7:30 and then left on the train
for Indianapolis. Our actual
physical examination lasted until
2:00 and we just sat around
until train time. I've missed
you so much already. It doesn't
seem possible that I can't come
home to you when I want to.

Got a furlough of ten days,
will be home either Thursday
or Friday. Made friends with
pretty nearly all the fellows,
and the sergeant who was
in charge of induction was
very friendly, we talked all
the way up here and he
gave me some pointers.

Finally found out who
Ted Mills is, became friendly
with a fellow named Ed. Jones

who goes with Nancy Miles,
he occupies the bed next
to mine. We dine together
quite often, so far I have
only one criticism of the
army. Tonight at dinner, my
finger bowl was filled with
water that was a trifle too
cool, but one must learn
to cope with nature in the
taw.

I'm tired hence so I
won't write much more,
up very early this morning,
kept moving all day, and
got typhoid + small-pox shots
a little while ago. Don't
write, I'll see you Friday or
maybe Thursday.

Yours
David

5-7-42

Dear Jayne,

Was assigned to Classification and Assignment Division this morning, didn't know what to expect, so have just finished mopping the floors of the building and emptying the waste baskets. I'm a real mopper-upper. Having finished my task, there is nothing else to do, but am not allowed to return to barracks. Have read Liberty and St. Evg. Post and saluted every officer in the place, and am now using one of the Gott. typewriter ribbons in a good cause.

My habits are changing quickly. Go to bed around 9.00, and get up around 5:00. This morning I woke up at 4:00 and couldn't go back to sleep, isn't that a heck of a note. This will be good training for farming, cause, it's very simple to get up early. It's merely a matter of stimulation, in this case the stimulation consists of peeling potatoes if you don't, so you do.

The latest report is that our furlough will not be given until Saturday afternoon, so will be in Sat. evg. Must wear my uniform at all times, army regulations, so be prepared. I do not look distinguished in my uniform, yet on the other hand, there are some places where it does fit. Remember the dinky hat I wanted to buy and you wouldn't let me, well, they are part of the regular army issue. Naturally, they didn't have one big enough for me, so I have to wait. We got a lot of clothes. Two summer uniforms. two winter uniforms, overcoat, raincoat 2 jackets, 2 suits of fatigue clothes, lingerie, and two lovely pair of silk pajamas, white-~~whi-~~ with an interwoven crimson pattern, neat and really not gaudy. Haw-Haw.

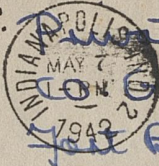
Some of the fellows are already leaving for (someplace in the world), military secret, and I imagine if I didn't have a furlough coming, I'd be leaving too.

It's about time to eat, so on to the steak and french fries, with lettuce and tomato salad, etc. and be seeing you Sat. Aft.

Love

7-11

From:



Postage paid by David Belatin
DEFENSE SAVINGS
BONDS AND STAMPS

Post Benjamin Harrison, Ind.

To:

Mrs. David Belatin
2108 Baringer # 20
Louisville, Ky.

1

5-21-42

Jayne dear,

Been sort of in a daze since I got back. All my friends are gone to various parts of the country. The camp is short handed and there's been enough to keep everyone busy. First day back I drew K.P. duty, was in the kitchen 12 hrs. straight with a few pauses that refresh. Then last night I got guard duty. Four hours in the dark, but the weather was nice, finally got to

bed at 3:00 a.m., peculiarly
am not at all tired.

I waltzed thru guard
duty singing popular
songs, and didn't get
one complaint from
the fence posts.

I'm really used
to the food now, and
when I get home
you'll have to slop
things up a little to
keep me happy.

Here it comes,
just got my shipping
tag 8:00 p.m. tonight
but they don't tell you
where you're going, so
you may not hear from
me for a couple of days.

2

Well, think I'll go up and see Sergeant Risinger, don't have anything to do for a couple of hours.

Say hello to everyone and call Mother & tell her I'll write when I get to my permanent station in a day or two.

By the way, last night before going on guard duty, I was sitting in the orderly room & chinning with the sergeant about the war, when the company

commander, cpt. Ireland
walked in, he joined
the discussion. I'd
just read a military
analysis of the Kharkov
Push, Krasnohrad
movement, and the
cpt. asked me where
I'd read it. I got the
paper, & he clipped
the article, thanking
me for calling it to
his attention. Then
he told us about his
views of the war.

He's very pessimistic,
thinks we'll win, but
thinks it will take
upwards of two years,
due to lack of
bases of operation

- 3 -

and shipping, also, he said, today the army of U.S. is no larger than 1,600,000 men ready for active duty or potentially trainable. The only possibility he sees for the war ending in less than two yrs is that air warfare will be able to absolutely destroy large areas, and this is unlikely.

Well honey, be good, I'll send you my address as soon as I can, better write to

me or I'll wear your
picture out, I miss
you.

Love
David

2
5-27-42

Dear Jayne,

It was swell, getting two letters at the same time. I won't write Mother separately this time, but please tell her that I enjoyed and appreciated her letter. Well, to begin with, my foot gave way Monday, nothing to be alarmed about, but I couldn't march real well, so I went on sick call.

The infirmary doctor sent me to the camp hospital. The ft. who examined me was an Iowa graduate, and he

examined my foot real well, then X-Rays were taken and I'm to report Thursday for further treatment, in the meantime, no marching or other strenuous duties. So, I've been assigned to the supply service. The supply sergeant, fellow named Conway, and a real fine guy likes the way I do things, and he immediately requested that I be assigned permanently as his Corporal, and from every indication, I'll get the job. That means that I'll probably be here a long time, perhaps

- 2 -

for the duration. This is not yet a certainty, but highly probable.

In the meantime, it looks like I may be transferred to limited service because of my foot. That would mean that I'd have no chance for a commission, therefore, this job I'm trying to get is the next best thing. Let me know what you think about all this.

Well honey, in the meantime nothing interesting has happened. My duties are clerical during

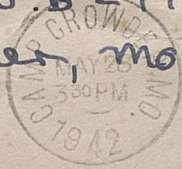
the afternoon, in the
morning starting
~~tomorrow~~ we go to
basic training school,
learn to use gas masks,
rifle, pitch a tent, pack
a kit, etc..

well, there's a good
barker in the barracks,
so here goes honey, I'm
gonna get scalped, send
you a picture if I can
get hold of a camera.

Nothing more to write
feeling swell, ~~to~~ miss
you honey, send to
mother love, honey
love, love
love
David

Private David Boletini, U.S. Army
27th Bu, Co. B - T1538
Camp Crowder, Mo.

Free



Mrs. David Boletini
285 S. Ashland
Lexington, Ky.

2

Advantage
mountain

May 28, 1942

Hey honey,

Looks like our letters keep crossing in the mails. Got your letter, but there is only one delivery a day and the new mail clerk is not yet used to his duties. Sometimes our outgoing mail is delayed because it goes from here to Joplin, Mo. + is re-mailed from there.

Went to the hospital again today + got a treatment for my foot. It's a cylinder of hot water, agitated by a stream of air under high pressure + sort of massages the foot, felt good too, it's

called the whirlpool massage.

I guess I answered most of your questions in the last letter. Have inquired about living out of Banacks and it's O.K. after 4 months here, but you must have special permission. I'll start asking around soon as I find out where I stand.

I love you.

Last night came into Sgt. Conroy's room to ask a question, and stuck around a while. He began to sing, has a very nice high baritone voice, naturally I joined in, we picked up a tenor, mouth organ and

- 2 -

banjo and really had some fun. Stayed up till ten and that's late.

Sunday the chief of Staff of the Signal Corps will be here and there's a dig review. I don't have to march in it, I'm on non marching duty until my foot heals.

This morning we started basic school.

1st period, explained deploying under air attack, active + passive types of resistance to air attack etc., second period, military courtesy + recognition of insignia,

when to salute, 3rd period
camouflage, when needed,
how to construct it.

Things are taught too
slowly, but the subjects
are interesting. Tomorrow
we get rifles issued,
spend 4 hrs. on the
range learning about
them. Well, one more
thing - "boobie" aint
nice, change it to
boopsie, please. Thanks.

Say hello to
everyone,

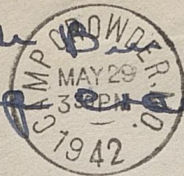
I might
have
David

Hope dad's feeling
better.

Private David Bolotin - U.S. Army

27th ~~B~~ Co. B. - 71538

Camp ~~Andrew~~, Mo.



Free

Mrs. David Bolotin

285 S. Ashland

Lexington, Ky.

3

5-30-42

Dear Boopsie,

pardon the paper, laid my towel on it, had some fun just now. Fellow was popping off so we put the gloves on. Yocks like he does most of his fighting with his mouth. I laced into him pretty good, and now we're fine friends.

well, about my army career, I think I'm going to get that supply job. The Sergeant I was telling you about, Charles Conroy really went to bat for me. He was

supposed to get a furlough soon, but the 1st Lieutenant told him that he couldn't leave unless he left an experienced man in charge of company supplies. So Sgt. Causay said he'd take a chance on me. By the way, the above is not hearsay, I overheard the conversation. So I guess I'll be a supply man for a long while. Foot's feeling good now, ^{but} I don't have to do any marching yet. See, wish I could see you, in a few weeks maybe I can get a three day pass and we can meet somewhere

- 2 -

in between Mo. & Ky.
I'll write you ahead of
time if there's any
chance, I miss you
so much honey.

I'm reading a book
on company supply
control, so I'd better
get on it soon and
master it, there are a
long group of intricate
forms & I have to be
familiar with the whole
system in a few days.
I don't want to cause
the Sgt. to lose his
furlough.

This morning me

were on the rifle
range and here's
something funny. I
tried shooting with
the gun at my right
shoulder and I did
fine. Believe I'll get to
be a good marksman,
let you know how
it comes out.

Fellow just came
in named Morris
Kelfand from Cincinnati,
brought me some
chocolate ice cream,
so guess I'll eat it
and go to bed. ^{after reading} Say
hello to mother & dad
for me. Goodnight
daring — Love, David
call mom + give her the ^{news}
tell her I got her letter, will later

For David Belatin - U.S. Army
CO. B, 27th Bn, T 1538
Camp Crowder, MO.



Free

Mrs. David Belatin
285 S. Oakland
Lexington, Ky.

4

6-2-42

Dear Jayne,

Something interesting
this morning, we had
our final exam in Gas
defense, use of the mask.
Went into a chamber
filled with tear gas,
put our mask on after
we got in the room,
and stayed for 20 minutes.
I got enough of it before
putting my mask on to
irritate my eyes, and
have been crying all
morning, boo hoo.

Just now feeling better.

Guess there isn't

much more right now.

The days seem long now, matters are getting routine. In a few days I'll start reading.

Before doing anything or telling you my status, I'll have to wait about a week. I'll explain everything fully as ~~much~~ soon as I find out.

Goodbye honey.

Love
David

6-7-42

Dearest Fayne,

See, I keep sending letters to the wrong place. I got the idea from Mother's letter that you all would be home Monday or Tuesday, but Betty's letter says it won't be until next week.

Honey, if you aren't feeling better, and want me to come to New Rochelle please call me at once. I think an emergency furlough might be arranged.

Got the nicest letter from Dad. He gave me all the news and said that Babe Meyers was here in camp, also Ray Watson. I tried to find both of them, but haven't succeeded so far, Watson has just been transferred, and this'll sound funny, but I can't recall Babe's first name, so can't find him either. Then too I'm not too anxious to look him up, 'cause he might want to get Chummy and Sid Kieby, and since our interests are probably different, don't believe it would work out so well.

I can't seem to quit
worrying about you, or get any
assurance. If I call you, can you
come to the phone? Please have
Betty write and tell me exactly
how everything is. I hate to be
a worry wart, but I love you so
much that I keep imagining things.
If only we could be together for
even a few days, I'd feel better.

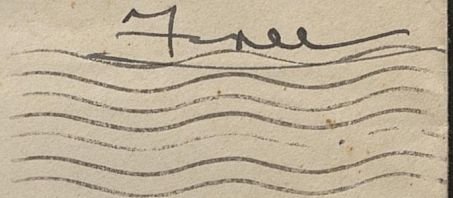
~~Bob~~ please write Robert
Winston and tell him that ① his
job hates dodging bullets and ②
why doesn't he go to O.C.S. and
get a commission, then he
wouldn't have to be a pee-pee
leader.

Well, as they say in the
army, I've got to get 'on the ball'
have 56 men leaving today, have
to clear their records thru personnel,
then tonight at 2:00 A.M. we have
48 men coming in. Have to give them
a little speech, (one more of my duties)
then check their clothing & put the
little fellows to bed, just hope
that 70% of them are literate, and
I'm not kidding. 'Bye now honey
I love you
Dave,

AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO

Cpl. David Belatin
CO B - 27th Bu

CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI



Mrs. David Belatin
c/o Louis Rosett
35 Brookdale ave.
New Rochelle, N.Y.

2



CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

6-2-42

Dear Oopse,

Went up to the PX to get my cleaning and bought some pretty new writing paper, so I'll initiate it by writing to the girl I love best, that's you.

My experiences have all become repetitions, so writing is like composing a novel or symphony.

Was talking to the commanding officer today and think I have the supply job cinched. As far as officers training, I can't get into school until my foot heels, and according to the doctor whose treating me, that

will be a long time. So,
that's that. What you said
about supply personnel being
sent to tactical units at the
front is very true, 15 are
being sent from here this
month; but in my case,
I won't be sent until the
tactical needs.

From what I've been
able to learn around here,
we are preparing to land
a great force of men in
Africa at extreme South-
western ports. That is
why Madagascar was taken,
to protect the supply
lines of such a force.
The reason Africa was
chosen is that the
allies expect further
defeats in South Russia
and India and this
American African force,



CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

would work north to prevent Germany and Japan from establishing lines of communication, for if they were ever able to establish such lines, the war would go on indefinitely.

also, gas warfare is expected soon & defense against gas attacks is stressed in all camps today.

practiced at the rifle range today & I believe that your spouse is going to be a better than average rifleman - we won't shoot for score for a while,

let you know how
I do. It's right oopsie
be a good girl.

Love

David

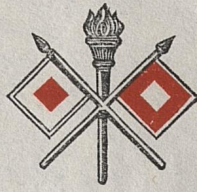
Put. David Belatin
O-B - 27th Br
Camp Crowder



Mrs. David Belatin
2855. Ashland
Lexington, Ky.

1

Stationery
gas by
ft. 1/2



CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

Sunday
June 17, 1942

Jayne dear,

Sure enjoyed talking to you Sunday, I was cut off as you were saying something, Hope it wasn't important.

Let two days slip by without writing. That's always been my failing, I think about you so often that I forget to write.

Called you from Fayetteville, Ark. thought you might wonder about that, here's how.

There's a sergeant in Co. D - 27th Bn. who is a good friend of my sidekick Sergeant Conroy.

His mother runs a rooming house in Fayetteville.

So Sunday Charlie and I and Jack + his wife

went to Fayetteville to eat
Sunday dinner. I got there
early, called you as soon
as we did. Tried to call
you last night, but the
phones are so busy ^{here} that
I didn't get to one until
10:30. Then no one
answered. Well, we ate
a good chicken dinner,
went swimming in the
early afternoon, visited
for a while in the
parlor of the boarding house.
The boarders are students
at the Univ. of Arkansas.
School was out Saturday
and they were all happy.
They had a phonograph
and we danced for a
while. Then started
for camp, got here
rather early and here
I am, writing to my cousin



CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

pretty tired honey, think
I'll turn in.

Sure am anxious
to see you, but it's going
to be difficult. In the
first place I have to answer
bed checks at 11 o'clock
every night, including
Sunday. So that means
you'll have to come to
Joplin, ^{Mo} Neosho, ^{Mo} & ~~Leathage~~ ^{Mo}
I'll be able to get out after
Reville, take the bus
and meet you around 7:30
in the morning. Then
we can be together until
9:30 at night, that is, of
course, if I'm not on
special detail Sunday.

If you do get a special
detail and have visitors,
they usually excuse you
from it. ^{if you get someone to take your place} So, that's the
situation for the next
three weeks. After that I
hope to get a pass that
will give me from
Saturday Retreat to
Monday Reveille. This
camp is one of the strictest
in the country. Some damn
fool named Gen. Kumboldt was
in charge here until a
short while ago, & he was
a leader of the Kansas
prohibitionist party, very
strict. He formulated these
policies, damn him well
9, right again - Love you,

David

June 8, 1942

Sweetheart,

I held my other letter because I got some rather startling news and was waiting to confirm it.

I am on the shipping list for this coming week end, that means I may be transferred to any part of the country at a moments notice after that date.

also I found out that I am listed for Specialists training in radio in a civilian school.

The company supply is still trying to keep

me here, but they said that
in the Signal company ^{if}
man ~~was~~ qualifies for
specialist training ^{it.}
is almost impossible to
get him for another
division of the company
or of the service; that
includes air corp, since
specialists are scarce.

poor, I'm disgusted.

There's no telling where
I'll go. I'm getting tired
of moving around, and
I want to see you
soon. Chances are I'll
be sent even further
away than I am now,
I'll keep you posted.

You can continue to
write me at this
address until I get a
new one, as they forward

- 2 -

mail pretty promptly.

I'aint right. damnit.

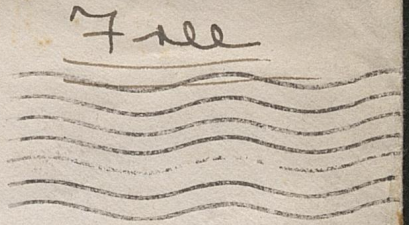
well, copsisie, I'll write
to you this week and
call or wire you as soon
as I get transferred.

I love you

David

P.S. Tell mom I got her
cookies and Thanks. If

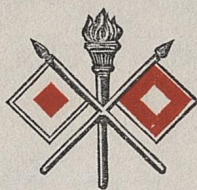
Private David Belatin
CO B - 24th Bu
Camp Crowder, Mo.



Mrs. David Belatin
285 S. Ashland
Lexington, Ky.

3

Sat.
card
N.Y.
11



CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

6-10-42

Jayne sweet,

Got your letter today,
and from the sound of it,
I guess you hadn't gotten
my last two letters. I was
talking to the mail clerk
yesterday and he said
that when he takes our
outgoing letters to the
postoffice, there are
hundreds of pouches there,
and sometimes they are
delayed as much as two
days. Then too, there
is no way to send my
letters special, or even
air-mail. I don't remember
one day that I didn't
get a letter from you,
so the incoming mail is
fine, as a matter of fact
I love it, and really look
forward to mail call.

well, now for the news. First of all, I have to appear before the medical board in order to confirm my limited service status. They are holding me here until the board meets. That will probably be this week-end. After I appear before the board, I'm subject to shipment to my new post on immediate notice, so I am more or less confined to camp until the situation clears up, I'll probably leave here Friday or Saturday. I don't know where I'll go. I told you all about the type of service in my last letter. My only hope is that I'll go somewhere close to you, 'cause that's where I want to be.

Under existing conditions, I think that it would be impractical



CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

for you to ⁻²⁻come here this week-end. First of all I may not be here + secondly, I may get shipped out at any time and must be on call at all times.

If anyone asks you who runs the army, the answer is "plans and training" division, and they're tough and nasty.

Nothing else has really been going on.

Sgt Conway is trying hard to keep me here, but he's had no success, even the lieutenant of the co. has called the personnel office, but "plans + training" refuses to release me.

Having a company ping pong tournament tonight

so if I win, you'll be
company champ — I take
that back, you know I
can beat you. — sometimes.

well, bestest wife
I hope I can see you
real soon. Maybe I'll
~~get~~ get a break and
be transferred near you

I love you

David

pt. David Bolatin
co B - 27th Bu
Camp Crowder, Mo.

Free



Mrs. David Bolatin
285 S. Ashland
Lexington, Ky.

4



CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

5
6-11-42

Dear 'til' woman,

I'm still waiting, really
don't know where I stand,
just have to hang around.

Just thinking today,
we've been married for
10 1/2 months and I've learned
to love you more every
day that we've been
married. After this war's
over, if everything's all
right I'm not going to
let you out of my sight.

In fact we can forget
about those separate
vacations. I've getting
all the separation I'll need
for a lifetime right now.

All the fellows in
the barracks have been
transferred to other
barracks in camp, and a
new bunch is coming

in tonight. I'm helping the
sergeant straighten them
out, issuing supplies etc.

We took some pictures
Monday and as soon as
they're developed, I'll send
you some. You take
some too, the ones I have
^{of you} are pretty nearly worn
out. Well here comes a
gang of new fellows so
I'll have to get to work.

Love
David

pt. David ...
CO B - 27th Bn.
Camp Crowder, Mo.



Free
~~~~~  
~~~~~  
~~~~~  
~~~~~

Mrs. David Balatin
285 S. Oakland
Lexington, Ky.

5



CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

6-12-42

Jayne dear,

Have a free moment, consolidated two steps in laundry procedure and so I've got time to write during the day. You supposed to make out a bi-weekly form on everyone who sends out laundry. Instead of doing that, I made out a roster of all men in the company ^{at the 1st of the month} and divided the paper into five columns after their name. If ~~if~~ they send laundry I check their name, if not I leave it blank, so that saves me from typing a complete list twice a week, you out to see the names - here's some samples Kozabizyak, Czgnak - phew, they're

polish boys from Chicago.

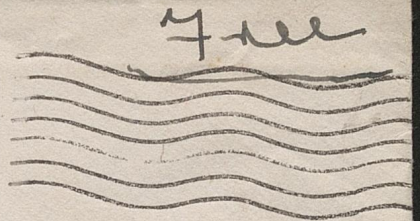
We're getting another lunch in tonight. This annies growing fast. Get em' train em, ship em to tactical units in double quick time.

Dr. at the Co. Infirmary is too busy to take me to the Board Meeting today, so I guess I'll be here one more day. It's sure exasperating. Can't even go to town to have the crystal on my watch fixed, broke it the other day. Still have my teeth, fooled you didn't I. I'm getting used to it. Pictures weren't ready today send you some as soon as possible. Say hello to everyone.

Love x x x x x

David

Priv. David Belatin
CO B - 27th Bu
Camp Crowder, Mo.



Mrs. David Belatin
285 S. Ashland
Lexington, Ky.

6



CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

6-13-42

Jayne dear;

Whatcha been doin
 oppsie, I've been an ^{letter} orphan
 for three days, guess I'm
 getting paid back for
 skipping a couple of days.

Camp's kind of gloomy.
 The Co. Commander restricted
 everyone to the Co. area
 over Sunday, and the
 boys are hussing. Doesn't
 matter much to me, I've
 got no place to go, and
 besides I've got to hang
 around awaiting notice.

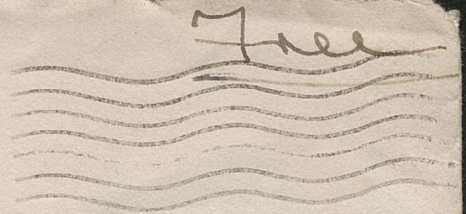
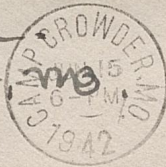
There's a couple of
 Indians in our barracks
 now, very dark, quite
 dusky, skin almost like
 a negroes, but they seem
 like nice boys in a
 primitive sort of way.

Honey, how about
sending me my big picture
of you, if it isn't too much
trouble. Be sure it's well
wrapped as the parcels
are handled roughly.
No rush, just so it gets
here in the next few
days, it might help a
little. I'm getting very
lonesome, miss you more
than ever.

well, nothing more
now. my foot's feeling
pretty good, limp is
hardly noticeable, treatments
are helping.

I love you
David

Private David Balatin
CO. B - 27th Bu
Camp Crowder



Mrs. David Balatin
285 S. Oakland
Lexington, Ky.

7



CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

6-16-42

8

Jayne dear,

Got two of your letters today. We've got a new mail clerk that's a little careless and they were in the wrong Co. compartment.

I'm still waiting for a board examination. I've been to the hospital three times and each time something has happened, our Co. Dr. is late, or the board is late or something. But today I'm pretty sure of getting examined.

You spoke of sending money home in your last letter, and it's a good idea when we get our pay raise, of course, depending on where I'm

stationed + what my
expenses are. In the meantime
\$12.50 a week is being deposited
to our acct, from the store
and \$25.00 per month from ^{outside}
income. I will try to
send \$25.00 per month from
my pay here, that's about
\$100.00 per month

Now this is just a
passing comment, not intended
to be taken seriously, but
when I read your last letter,
I mean the part about sending
money home, it sort of
struck an unresponsive chord.
I thought you trusted my
judgement enough to let
me decide about a matter
of that kind rather than
mention it. Please don't
take the above seriously,
it was just a reaction and
I thought it'd be better
to get it off my chest.

working pretty hard
in the supply room.
receiving equipment and



- 2 -
CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

keeping records.

It's really cold out here. Two blankets and a quilt last night and I still wasn't warm.

It's a penetrating damp chill, been raining for a week. The boys from Okla. & Texas are really cold.

The Lt. of this Co. tried once more to get me for supply cpl, but plans and training just won't release me.

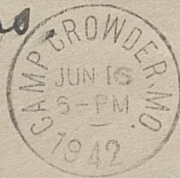
You know I told you I was supposed to leave last Fri., well the other three fellows who did leave went to Florida, and I'd have been there if the Dr. hadn't held

me here. There's no telling
where the next group
will be sent, or when.

Not much more news.
and it's eating time so
I'll close

Love
David

put David Belatin U.S. Army
CO B - 27th Bu
Camp Crowder, MO



Free

Mrs. David Belatin
285 S. Ashland
Lexington, Ky.

8



CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

6-17-42

Jayne Sweet,

Hope you're safe and sound in New York and didn't get train sick or anything.

Have had a cold for a while, but finally, have gotten over it, didn't tell you about it while I had it 'cause you weren't here to kiss it and make it well.

was over at the hospital today and was interviewed by Chief of Medical Service. They've placed me on Limited Service for a three month period, then to be re-examined & if not healed, to be continued on Limited Service until healed, so, I'm going to talk to the Lt. today & see if I can find out something, but it's hard to pin anyone down in

the army. They always
have to call someone
else, or sumpin. I'll hold
this letter until after I
talk to the lieutenant, maybe
he can tell me something.

Life is insufferably
dull here. Same routine
every day, and no one to
come home to at night.
It wouldn't be so bad if
we could live together.

I can't do anything about it
until this mess is settled.

See I can't even inject
any local color into this
letter, there hasn't been any.
Hope to get a pass for
Sunday. If I do we're going
swimming at Noel, Ark. in
the Ozarks, that'll be a
welcome change. Well, I'll
wait until I talk to the
gt. and then finish
this letter.

The boys isn't in yet,
so I'll continue with



CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

whatever happens to come to mind. Can't seem to find anything good to read. Read some of Mark Twain's essays, not as effective as his story telling, but all right.

Well, there goes the lieutenant. Guess I won't see him today.

Give my regards to Betty & calm the bride down as much as possible. Write everything about your visit, I'll get a second hand thrill out of it. I love you

Found pictures one of Sgt. Courroy. put. moris in his a tagalong & ~~put~~ your personal private private.

Pvt. David Belatin, U.S. Army
 Co. B - 27th Bu
 Camp Crowder, Mo.



Free

Mrs. David Belatin
 % Louis A Rosett
 35 Brookdale ave.
 New Rochelle, N.Y.

9

Dave

Arnold
hair

Ma

Dave

6-20-42

Jayne dear,

Received two letters yesterday and one today. The mail started delivering mail on Sunday. Had some fun last night. Fellow named Ed. Solomon, used to work for M.G.M. came up to the room. He was fooling around with sketches and he dashed ^{off} the enclosed ~~in~~ in 2 minutes. He folded it & used it as an insulator against Strawberry Ice Cream, but I retrieved it after he left. He says he'll draw up something nice, one of these days. Thought you might find it interesting. He didn't finish the cars, you can draw those in.

Sorry you were in a mood before you left for New York. Guess my letter helped depress you. I'm sorry, I didn't mean to be critical. You know, come to think of it, I'll have to read your letters more carefully, perhaps they

say things that you don't mean
them to say. For example, in
today's letter you speak of our
friendship, companionship & love
being taken away suddenly. That surely
isn't what you mean. This
temporary separation has nothing
to do with those things, for they
are put together well enough to
last. Remember honey, when I
receive your letters, that's the
high point of the day for me, and
I read them carefully.
Oh heck, let's forget the whole
thing, I love you very much and
you can ~~cut~~ ~~the~~ devil out
of me in your letters, just
so you remind me that you
my hottest gal near the end of
the letter.

More news, the doctor wants
to hold me here for 90 days.
I told the lieutenant about it,
so he's trying to get me as a
supply clerk again, but is still

- 2 -

having difficulty, he's calling
the captain now, but can't get him.

I'm becoming resigned to this
sort of thing. Don't give a damn
what they do with me or
where they send me or when.
I've got a long time to spend in
the army, & there's no use getting
impatient or anxious. If anything
happens to change the present
set up, I'll let you know at once.

By the way, don't think I
know the day of Jean's wedding.
If it's already happened, "give
her my best wishes", if it hasn't
happened, tell her it's not too
late to back out. If she insists
on going thru with it, "give her
my best wishes".

My aunt sent me a nice
box of cookies, so I'm gonna write
her now. I wrote Dada a letter
for Father's day. Sort of hard
to write, but I hope it sounded

all right.

Have a real nice time.
Say hello to Betty.

Love
David

P.S. Ed Saloman just came back
in and I told him I'd
written you a letter that
wasn't nice, so he drew
the enclosed scene of your
anger & my sorrow.





TAD
TAY

10
Pvt. David Balatin U.S. Army
CO. B-24th Bu.
Camp Crowder, Mo



Mrs David Balatin
c/o Louis Rosett
35 Brookdale Ave
New Rochelle, N.Y.



VIA AIR MAIL

Special Delivery.

CAMP CROWDER
MISSOURI



6-24-42

Dear Pepie,

Enclosed find my first stumbling step upward - upward + onward 'Excelsior', pictorialized by my friend Ed Solomon, M.G.M.'s gift to the army, also I was able to salvage the official order, good for our scrap book.

Well, I aint gonna be an officer for a while. No limited service men may go to officers candidate school, but spoke to the commanding officer + he said that I could go to O.C.S. anytime after being taken off of limited

- 2 -

service as I had
qualified all the way
around.

See, glad to hear
you're having a nice
time. Guess my last
letter didn't reach you
before the wedding.
I'd have wired congratulations
if I'd known when &
where. ~~I'd have~~ ^{pleased}
that you married a
nice fellow, -- one
more reference to the
wedding -- how much
champagne did you
consume? one can't be
too careful with these
fellows from the big
city looking nearby.
You won't believe

- 3 -

this, but, I've been working pretty hard. There are a lot of men coming in and out of this company and that causes a lot of bookwork and makes keeping the roster up to date quite difficult. Plus squad duties, so my times pretty well filled, sometimes I'm almost too busy to feel the void that you not being here causes, but never quite that busy.

Boopsie, I think I can get off July 11th. That's far enough in advance so that you can plan to come out

- 4 -

here. If you want to,
let me know at once, so
that I can make
arrangements for you
to stay at the guest
house here at camp.

You can stay a week if
you like and I can
be with you Saturday
and Sunday and every
evening after 6:00.

If you can come home,
let me know right away
so that I can make
reservations. Come by
train, car, scooter
or plane, but come if
it's possible. I miss you
Every bit of my love,

David

Al. David Beletir
Co. B - 27th Bn.
Camp Crowder, Mo.



Free
~~~~~  
~~~~~  
~~~~~

Am mailing  
your neglect  
& some papers  
to-day Love

Mrs. David Beletir  
285 S. Ashland  
Lexington, Ky.

11



SILVER



BUT IF I HIT HIM  
HELL GET IN  
TROUBLE!

6-25-42

my own sweet,

The enclosed picture represents me from Saturday ~~6 o'clock~~ <sup>6 o'clock</sup> to Sunday ~~6 o'clock~~ <sup>6 o'clock</sup>. I got the night shift as Corporal of the guard. I don't have to walk a post, but am responsible for guarding an area. I'm supposed to post the guards and if they can't handle a situation, they call me. Was figuring on going swimming at noon, Sat. Sunday, but guess I'll be too tired.

Enjoyed your letters from New York, entered into the spirit of the parties, and almost but not quite imagined that

indefinitely, and if the present Russian campaign is unsuccessful, ~~the~~ the war will end in the middle of summer of 43! I think an American African campaign is a likely prospect for the fall of this year.

Oh, let's forget the war. Hope you didn't stay in N.Y. longer than a week, or you'll think I've been neglecting my little woman. Figsured that my med. letter might miss you in N.Y. since our mail service is so slow.

I'm quite demoralized. My special artist is getting shipped out next

week, so no more caricatures unless a new source can be located. He's a nice boy too, and we've become pretty friendly.

Next week I'll send you a snapshot of Sgt. Conroy and me if it comes out all right.

The army sure thinks a lot of the public & very little of the soldier. On the 4th of July there's an all day Renew & no one can get a pass. That's a little rough on the fellows.

Today we took a physical inventory of all company property. pretty hard counting. 1967 tent pins, 370 Hawesacks

Goodnight darling.  
Sure do enjoy your  
picture.

Love  
Daniel

and so on, <sup>5-</sup> for into  
the night; it came out  
all right. There was less  
than a \$10.00 shortage  
in non-expendable  
equipment. The lieutenant  
is a pretty nice fellow,  
but it's hard to take orders  
from him, I guess it won't  
bother me so much after  
I get used to it. maybe  
it'll be good for me.

well cepsie it's gotten  
late, the writer this  
letter very slowly, and  
in between sentences  
the visualized me and  
you together, our  
being apart is awfully  
tough. It doesn't seem  
possible that I can't  
see my little woman.

the war news has  
been quite discouraging,  
but in my opinion,  
everything has been  
placed before the public  
presumptively for a  
purpose. The public has  
been ~~elaborate~~ <sup>to the war effort</sup> the last  
few months & rumors  
of victory by Mas were  
circulating. All the experts  
knew that Germany had  
one more big power  
drive left in her, and  
its result would determine  
the length of the war.  
If the drive is successful,  
the war can last almost

I was in on things. Don't  
see everything, 'cause when  
this is all over we'll  
going to see 'em together

The war news has  
been quite discouraging,  
but in my opinion,  
everything has been  
placed before the public  
presumptively for a  
purpose. The public has  
been ~~elaborate~~ <sup>to the war effort</sup> the last  
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one more big power  
drive left in her, and  
its result would determine  
the length of the war.  
If the drive is successful,  
the war can last almost



I love you  
I love you  
I love you  
I love you  
I love you  
I love you

Repetitions, aren't ?

Dear Oppie,

6-27-42

Here I am in the guardhouse, out in an honorable capacity. I've already posted my second shift and have to <sup>(supposed to)</sup> stay awake until they are properly relieved, I shall be around 2:00 in the morning. I only made one mistake. Being as we're in the same family, I'll tell you about it. I ain't so good at map reading, so I posted one guard going north at the motor storage grounds, and he should have gone south, so, I was lucky and no officer came into the area on the early shift. Guess your husband had better learn how to read maps.

The evening and night have been very calm, you see, according to General order #9. The privates of the guard will call the corporal of the guard in any case not covered by instructions, so if they get into any trouble, they call the cpl. of the guard, no calls this evening, very unusual for a Saturday night. Brake

the crystal of my watch, and it's now undergoing a big repair job. 47 cents to be exact.

Starting July 1, you will get a check from the Gov't for \$22.00 every month, then Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> the magnificent sum of \$140.00 will arrive en masse or \$28.00 per month payable Nov. 1. In October, you will receive \$50.00 + that arrives every month. See, I'm a good provider. Then too, after 2 years as corporal for 4 months, I'll get the pay increase that goes with the rank, that's \$16.00 per month more, or \$66.00. Big deal, \$16.50 a week, Oh boy. Hurray.

I was so sorry to hear that my baby had a touch of grippe, from the tone of Betty's letter, it sounded as if you were feeling pretty good, and planned to take in all the shows. Please write me if you aren't feeling better so I can at least call you. That's about all I can do nowadays, except

- 3 -

tell you how much I love you,  
I'd much rather show you than  
tell you. please get well. quick  
money so you can come out  
here on Saturday the 11th. I'm  
looking forward ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> ~~it~~ <sup>it</sup> ~~with~~ <sup>with</sup> ~~you~~ <sup>you</sup>  
to that day, 'cause then I can  
see you and listen to you  
and love you and hold you  
close.

Well did I just tell a  
guy off. He's been bothering  
me all evening, 15T with one  
thing and then another, all  
feolish. So he started to tell  
me a story about some damn  
feel thing and I stopped him and  
said: quote, "Listen, I'm waiting  
a letter to my wife. I am  
absolutely & completely disinterested  
in your story, go away and  
lose yourself." So he called me  
a toughie and left. It's going  
to be very difficult to return  
to a diplomatic way of action

after this is over. The habit of brusqueness & honesty of opinion expressed pronto and with vigor is hard to break.

Ho, another interruption this time one I didn't mind. Fellow named Majda, came from Poland five years ago, just received a check from Sinclair Oil Refining Co. for \$176.00<sup>dollars</sup> and asked me to help him with a letter.

~~He~~ He was quite appreciative and told me so in German, and Polish. Beautiful & Dabza Minimo or something like that. Nice fellow, smart too, he's an engineer.

There's an expression used quite freely out here that you might find amusing 'ie.' - "You ain't just a-woofin' it." Haven't been able to find exactly what it means, ~~but~~ sounds screwy, doesn't it.

This is the first uncomfortable place I've been in the army. It's hot as blazes out & there are 55 men <sup>sleeping</sup> in a room 35' by 60' so you can

imagine what a stench pot this is. I'm not going to try to sleep tonight. I think I'll stay in the officer of the day room. There are fewer insects here and the smell is more nearly neutral, plus the fact that the Sergeant of the Guard is a pretty good egg.

There's a big battle going on over your husband between plans + Training + My commanding officer. We went to see Colonel Daily + raised heck 'cause p. + J. wouldn't take me off the shipment list. So the issue hasn't been decided, but it's entirely possible that I'll get assigned here + remain here for a while. as usual, it's a slow process + has to go thru many channels; However now that Colonel Daily knows about it, there's some chance.

The water marks on the paper are from ice water, we've got a pitcher and it helps keep

us non-coms awake + below  
the burning up point.

Another incident. Cpl. Bechtel  
was taking his shift out + one  
man was missing, so he took  
a reserve out instead. After they'd  
gone to mount guard I found the  
fellow asleep in the latrine.  
Sitting on the john + dead to the  
world. So I sent him out to  
release the reserve so he won't  
receive company punishment for  
not being at his post. That's a  
serious offense in time of war.

Another incident. Heard some  
scratching on the door + found  
a real cute dog outside. Margrel  
pup but real cute. Been playing  
with him for a while + he'll  
give me his paw, must belong  
to somebody 'cause he's been  
trained, 'sides he hasn't see me  
& he's been here over an hour.

well world's very bestest  
dearest, sweetest, loveliest, darlingest

~~honestest~~ ~~best~~ wife, got to ~~take my~~ <sup>pick up my</sup>  
lunch ~~at~~ pretty soon, so think  
I'll get a few mins of sleep.

Got mother's letter, will write  
soon. I love you.

David

One more thing. She still  
got my tooth. Ha. -

XVXXXXXXVXXVXXVXXV

↑

childish, but it makes  
me feel good to X kiss  
you.



Cpl. David Belatin  
CO B - 27th Br.  
Camp Crowder, Mo.



Free



Mrs. David Belatin  
285 S. Ashland  
Lexington, Ky.

12



CAMP CROWDER  
MISSOURI

1

Dearest Jayne,

'Tis subterfuge. I'm charge of quarters tonight and I have to look businesslike, therefore the typewriter. I learned of your illness in a double dose, got a letter from Mother and Betty at the same time. Thank goodness you're feeling better. It feels so dammed awful, there's nothing I can do to help my baby get well, except write and hope. Tried to call yesterday evening and today and gave up in disgust. Was on the phone exactly three hours, and no results. There's always a waiting line at the phones, and there's such a tangle of calls that it's almost impossible to get one through. So I did the next best thing and wired.

Really have a full evening ahead. Being charge of Quarters means the following. You take charge at 5:30. Put everyone to work that is receiving company punishment, then beginning after chow, you sign out everyone who wants passes. Tonight was paynight and everyone wanted passes. Speaking of pay night, the Lieutenant must trust me, as after he counted out the money for the men, he passed it on to me in line to check it and see if the amount was correct. So I handled approximately \$15,000.00 from 4:00 to 6:00, could have spent a nice week end with boopsie oopsie on that amount. Then I rest until 8:30 at which time I turn the street lights on, and make sure all the night lights are on, then I write to the best wife in the world until 9:00. Then make sure that all interior lights are out in the squad rooms. Now presto chango, I am a laundry clekk. Have to check all bundle tags and make up the monthly roster and statement, plus checking each individual bundle to make sure that it is securely wrapped and properly written up. That doesn't sound like much, but it's plenty. Then back to C,Q,ing. I check everyone in at 11:00 that doesn't have an oversight pass. Then I must look in every bed in the squad rooms of each barracks to see if anyone is missing. Also this being pay night, some of the fellows will be brought in drunk. In such a case I try to talk the military police out of pressing charges against the man as the consequences are pretty dire on this post. I think I mentioned once before that the General who was formerly in charge here was a teetotempole or something, and very high in the Kansas Temperance circles, and made some pretty drastic rulings on drunkenness while in uniform, and you always have to be in uniform. Well anyway, after that I can go to bed. That's usually around 11:30, but tonight may be a bit later. Now, once and for all let's you and I settle the question of who wakes up the bugler. It all starts with the guards. They're awake all night. They wake up the CQ at 4:30 A.M. and he wakes up the bugler. In this camp we do not have a bugler, but a buzzer system. I go around and wake up the KP's around 4:30 AM. then at 5:30 wake up everyone else with the buzzer. at 5:45, I buzz them out to breakfast and at 6:30 I buzz them out to school. Does Uzzer Muzzer Loves Buzzer Wuzzer.

I've enjoyed Betty's letters so much, and thought it was so nice of her to see that I heard from you. Please thank her for me, and thank the Rosett's for taking such good care of you. I'll write to them later, as soon as I see you and check the results that the've obtained-Ha, the attitude 'Militaire' creeps in.

Now this beats everything. The fellow that I sent up with the wire for you couldn't get to the phone before Ten O'clock to send it, and that's when the Post exchange closes. So you'll have to think that I'm neglecting you for a couple of days, but I've been thinking of you every minute honey.

My boy friends just came in and brought some coke and candy, and Eddie Solomon is leaving tomorrow so he's drawing a farewell picture for you. He was supposed to send the wire for me, Hope he does better with the sketch. Here he comes with it, It's not bad, and expresses the situation quite well.

Well, Boopsie Oppsie, be a good girl and get well real soon, 'cause I love you.

Guess you better not try to make a trip out here right away, Mother suggested that you come out for our anniversary. That sounds pretty good altho it's such a long way off, almost a month.

Goodnight little wife.

*David.*



Col. David Belatin  
68 - 27th St  
Camp Crowder, Mo.



Free

Mrs. David Belatin  
% Louis Rosett  
35 Brookdale ave.  
New Rochelle, N.Y.

1

CAMP CROWDER  
MISSOURI

7-1-42

Hello Honey,

wish I had a secretary too. But then, on the other hand, my sect might be able to write plainly and you wouldn't have any fun decoding my letters.

Got to bed at 1:30 and up at 4:30, so I'm just hanging on until the day's over and I can hit the hay.

August is so far away, but let's not make any plans until you feel perfectly fit, and then, you'll not be taking any chances, but please get well quickly.

I'm awfully dull today honey, can't seem to write a well ordered sentence or express a thought. Guess I'm pretty tired.

Nothing has happened today except the usual run of affairs, good thing or guess I'd have dropped.

Goodnight sweetheart  
Love Daniel



7-2-42

Dear Little woman,

I've never enjoyed anything as much as I did your letter. If it's any effort at all or causes you discomfort, please don't worry about writing for a while.

Betty's ~~still~~ doing fine. Sure I really would miss hearing from you much more if it wasn't for her letters.

Bronchial pneumonia has an awful sound to it. Sure am glad it's in the past tense. As soon as you're completely recovered, you and me are gonna visit together and you'd better consume plenty of food so that you'll have some sort of insulation. 'Cause I'm going to hug you extra hard and try to make up for every kiss that I've missed so very much.

wrote to you yesterday, but the letter was quite disjointed I'd had 3 hours of sleep the night I was C.O. and worked pretty hard the following

day. I laid it down on my desk, and if I find it before I'm ready to mail this, will send it along.

There was a government inspector in this morning and he rated our outfit excellent. We really had our records in good condition and everything neat as a pin.

Getting an enlargement of a picture of Sgt. Conroy & me., if it comes out all right, will send it to you.

By the way, as soon as you're up & well, will you call Charles' girl friend.

Her name is Ruth Cordes, 578 Vanderbilt ave., Brooklyn phone listed under Wm. Cordes. Al. Conroy just remembered the no., it's Sterling-35739. He's getting a furlough July 14 and will call you when he gets home. Just say hello to Miss Cordes, that'll get it.

I think I'd better get to work,  
the Lieutenant's been in twice  
to ask about something & he's  
seen me writing both times.  
He's liable to get his dander  
up, 'cause I've plenty of work  
that must be finished right  
away. S' by honey.

Love  
Dand

7-3-42

Hello Honey,

well, I guess you're finally at home. I'll bet that good Kentucky air will give you your strength back in no time. You'll be able to rest and relax and have nothing to bother you. I guess my baby wasn't cut out for the turmoil of the big city.

Dont know why I can't keep my nose out of things. The First Sgt. didnt have a man-com to drill the new men the other day, so I asked for the job, and now your husband is teaching the new recruits close order drill. regularly and it's pretty damn hot out on the drill field, but I guess it's good exercise.

Then too I know my way around the hospital so he keeps placing me in charge of <sup>groups of</sup> ~~men~~ who go to the hospital for inoculations etc. So, I'm getting new duties all the time, and

keep ~~the~~ the old ones. Busy little  
bee, and I aint just a-woopin it.

Got the nicest package  
from Fannie Rose + Bigie. Don't  
you think it was nice of them?  
wrote and thanked them right away.

Today there's a post review.  
One of the fellows wanted to go  
out this week-end so I'm  
taking his Saturday + Sunday  
duties. was going to <sup>out</sup> with  
Sgt Conroy + Epl. Daily, but they  
got dates at the last minute, so  
I passed. Guess I'll do some  
reading Sunday. It gets pretty  
damn lousy on Sunday when  
I haven't any duties. The rest  
of the days aint bad. But  
Sunday - ewww.

Well sweetheart, 37 men are  
leaving Sunday, so I've got plenty  
of work to do in clearing them  
from the records. Love..

I love you  
David

AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO

Cpl. David Bolotin

S. O. - 27th Bu.

CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI



Mrs. David Bolotin  
2855. Ashland  
Lexington, Ky.

2



CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

7-8-42

Jayne sweet,

Received your postal card and mother's letter today. Sure did enjoy seeing your handwriting, looked real normal too.

Can't understand why you aren't eating well. You were really doing fine on my cooking. When you visit here I'll cook you some of our favorite dishes, accompanied by our bestest kisses.

The enclosed 10 peso note was given to me by a Mexican boy. It was stolen from the bank of Mexico by Villa, but hadn't been signed yet, so was worthless. It was left in big bales, and finally,

a perfume firm bought it  
to use as advertisements.  
Anyway, that's what the  
fellow told me. It smells  
pretty anyway, don't  
spend it too freely.

Finally spoke to  
Babe Meyers. This is awfully  
thin, but funny as ever.  
Amused me for a whole  
evening. This been here  
for 5 months.

Gilbert Roland lives  
in the barracks next to  
mine. This is a right nice  
fellow, not real handsome,  
but has strong features.

Sgt Courney is going  
on a 15 day furlough  
starting Friday & has  
furlough fever already.  
There'll be even more  
work around for the  
next few weeks than





CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

there has been.

I'm charge of quarters tonight, so looking forward to a sleepless night. Hope nothing important happens, cause I'm going to try to sneak in some sleep.

It's the 8th already. Gee, eat everything in sight and get well. We'll just get to spend our anniversary together. I'm already getting all my books etc, into good shape so I won't be in danger of getting extra duties.

Haven't heard any news that's worth telling about.

Oh yes, we won

The Best softball championship.  
Naturally. I played first  
base, 'cause I'm the  
manager of the team.

Foot's beginning to feel pretty  
good. Still second the  
other day. Still limp a  
little bit though.

Hope mother is  
enjoying her visit, and  
thank her for writing.

Miss Betty's letters  
got used to them.

I'd like to have been  
in on one of the bull-  
sessions you all had  
with Lena. That's all brother.

'Bye dear little wife,  
get sunburnt good so  
we'll match.

I love you

David



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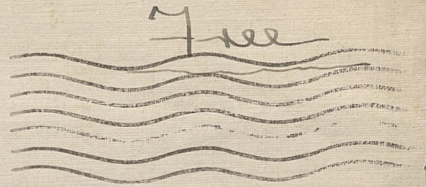
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Key -

3

CAMP CROWDER  
MISSOURI

NEW ROCHELLE  
JUL 13  
7<sup>30</sup> PM  
1942  
N. Y.





CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

7-12-42

Dearest Payne,

Sloomy Sunday. Hot brilliant sunshine, but the air is humid, result sticky day.

Played softball this morning, and sweated with vigor, took some salt tablets, but have about decided that the only way to get rid of that tired feeling is blessed sleep, now, there's something enjoyable to think about.

was thinking about going into town today, but decided against it, there isn't a damn thing to do except bump into other soldiers who haven't a damn thing to do. The U.S.O. takes care of everyone but married men, but, come to think of it, exactly what could they do to amuse M.M's

Guess missing you so much makes me gripe about things, 'cause I've been very busy with all my duties and have been reading a great deal. If they'd take Sunday off the calendar, it wouldn't be so bad.

I just know you're feeling better now, and once you get home and relax, you'll get your strength back quickly.

Draininess has arisen, so a night or good afternoon or something. Didn't write last day or so 'cause things have been in a tussle & had to straighten things up. Just managed to drop into bed at night.

I love you so my sweet  
David.





CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

7-13-42

Dear Cassie,

I must be in a daze.  
Forgot to mail yesterday's  
letter. Went to sleep at 2:00 o'clock  
and never did get up except  
to shower in the evening.  
All the boys thought I'd  
disappeared, but was only in  
my tundle bed. Feeling  
very refreshed today. Sgt.  
Conroy has gone on his  
furlough, so I'm de boss now.

Got your letter today  
and was so glad to hear  
that you're feeling well enough  
to go to the theatre.

I think I'll try to get  
some stamps and mail this  
at the postoffice so you'll  
have it more quickly.

Blad you think so  
much of your ex-nurse. She

must be quite a person, 'cause  
you're so particular.

well, Today's Monday,  
so I've got to make some  
arrangements with the  
laundry, and also see that  
m' boys get clean sheets.

I always manage to get  
out of counting the laundry,  
it's unsanitary and it  
is <sup>T</sup>stinky.

Hope you traveled well  
opsis, please eat as much  
as you're supposed to so  
you'll be chubby when I  
see you.

I have your picture  
on my desk and everyone  
admires it, makes my chest  
go out like a pouter pigeon's  
'cause you're my little wife.

I love you

David

Cpl. David Belatin  
CO B - 24th Bu  
Camp Crowder, Mo

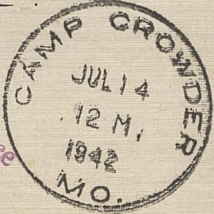


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CAMP CROWDER  
MISSOURI





185

1



Co. B. 27TH SIG. TNG. BN.  
CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

7-16-42

Dear honey,

Dreamt about you last night, funniest dream ever. I had a cap and gown + a long stick, and was teaching and lecturing on how to be a wife. Think I know why I was dreaming. Yesterday evening my new boy friend, Tim Sullivan, got a trucking for watermelon, so we drove into Neosho and bought a 28 lb one, and each ate half, dashie style. He's got an old wreck of a car. It belonged to a cpl. Pender, who was transferred to foreign service, and all his folks live in Fla., so it doesn't pay for them to come + get it, we don't drive over 10 or 12 miles

in it, the only thing that's  
O.K. is the tires, they're  
quite good.

Boopsie, oopsie, I'd like  
to buy a \$100.00 bond. The  
money we have in the  
bank isn't doing much  
good and it wouldn't be  
a bad idea. Let me know  
what you think of it,  
If you approve, I'll write  
a check for it next week,  
and have the bond sent  
to you for safekeeping.

By now you should  
have received \$22.00 for  
funer's pay. as you know,  
the \$28.00 part of the  
allotment won't be sent  
until Nov. then you'll  
receive 6 mo. pay at once  
or \$168.00.

wish you hadn't  
told me that you're  
definitely coming out for





CO. B. 27TH SIG. TNG. BN.  
CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

our anniversary, 'cause now every day seems terribly long, and it's hard to wait.

If you are definitely coming on the 25th, I'd better make reservations at the Hotel in Neosho, so in your next letter, tell me who & when so I can go ahead & make arrangements.

I'm afraid you'll be disappointed with things out here. There's no place to go, and everything is overrun with soldiers, just thought I'd tell you. What we'll do is make a little heaven all our own and stay in it while you're here.

Have been working  
very hard. My pal Sgt.  
Conroy has been getting  
lazy and I've found a lot  
of stuff that should have  
been done months ago, so  
I've gone ahead and taken  
care of things, 'cause I want  
to be sure that all extra  
work is out of the road  
here before the 25th, then  
me and Boopsie can spend  
a lot of time together.

How do you like the  
picture. I was caught  
unawares, was blowing out  
a match when it was  
snapped... The 'Collins'  
announcement was clever,  
sorta, I mean.

Goodnight dear one  
fare  
David,  
Hello to mother + Dad.



CO. B. 27TH SIG. TNG. BN.  
CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

forgot to tell you about  
telephone calls. Firstly,  
this trunk line services  
Ft. Leonard Wood + Camp  
Crowder, plus in between  
towns. It's next to  
impossible to get a call  
through in less than  
three or four hours.  
Plus the fact that  
there's always a line at  
the phone. When I  
tried to call you  
Wed., I waited around  
for an hour + a half +  
finally called the operator  
again + told her it was  
an emergency call, and  
must go through at  
once. She said that

she couldn't <sup>guarantee</sup> handling the  
call until 2:00 A.M. and I  
started calling at 8:00 P.M.  
So I guess I won't be  
able to call, unless I  
figure out some system.

X X X X X.

I love you



CO. B. 27TH SIG. TNG. BN.  
CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

7-17-42

fayre darling,

It's 10:30 already, but there's a little life in the old boy yet, so here goes. worked dogginly hard today. Had to check out two Section 8 Discharges ~~and~~ (mental cases) and it was nerve wracking. They were really broken down specimens.

Some fellows left today for a little ocean journey from this company. I'd been friendly with a couple of them and hated to see them go.

I'm charge of quarters

Saturday night, so I'll be able to write you a nice long letter, oh boy.

Honey, I tried to make reservations at the Guest House, but none are open for three weeks, so as soon as you decide definitely what day you're coming, I'll make hotel reservations in either Neesho, Carthage or Joplin. I don't know which is best, Joplin is rather far from camp - 30 miles, and Neesho is overcrowded, I'll ask about Carthage and see which one of the three is best. Do you realize that it's only eight days to our anniversary? I wish things hadn't happened like they did. We're



CO. B. 27TH SIG. TNG. BN.  
CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI

had so little time together.  
and that tiny bit of time  
passed so quickly. Honey  
please come here just as  
soon as you can. My longing  
to see you has become  
monstrously large and pretty  
near unbearable.

I can get off any evening  
after six, and from  
Saturday night until Monday  
morning while you're here.  
The 1ST Sgt. promised that  
I'd have no extra detail  
while you're here. I'm  
taking everything in double  
doses this week, so I can  
be entirely free while  
you're here.

You spoke of Babe

Meyers. He came over one evening, I think I told you. This an unhappy Buck private, but as funny as ever. I've placed Roy Watson's name in the tracer system, and they'll call me tomorrow and tell me where he is, and I'll get in touch with him. Goodnight, my share of heaven on earth.

~~Don't wait to tell you~~

Every bit of my love.

David



*Cpl. David Belatin* U. S. ARMY

Co. B. 27TH SIG. TNG. BN. S. C. R. T. C.  
CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI



*Mrs. David Belatin  
285 S. Ashland  
Lexington, Ky.*

5

Jayne dear

Sleep is quite wonderful. Being no mean sleeper I am fortunate as there is little else to do. Brought some magazines with me, but between lending them to others and reading them, they've been exhausted. We had beans for breakfast this morning. I ate them and have had a few anxious moments, but believe they'll stay down. Mal de mer is not for me (I hope) the sea is quite an experience for an islander. Its endlessness, its turbulent beauty are sources of wonder, and I can look at it by the hour without

-2-

testing of it. We do not have  
state rooms, but we do  
live in quite a state.  
Companionship is easy to  
find, too damned easy.

It's sprinkling a little  
and don't want to mess this  
up so I'll resume later.

I'd been kind of fretting  
due to inactivity, until today,  
then I started to play a  
game. It requires a lot of  
imagination, but here it is

I'm pretending that  
my physician sent me on  
a sea voyage and prescribed  
absolutely no activity, just  
complete relaxation and rest  
so I look at the sea and  
think just enough so I  
won't bore me and never

move a muscle unless it's  
of paramount importance.  
It's working so far.

Summarizing I guess it's  
really a philosophy of  
acceptance.

My last letter to you  
must have been bitter  
sounding. It was just the  
result of many bad things  
accumulating, sorry I took  
it out on you.

Some of the boys  
got instruments out of the  
Ship's stores, only the  
wind's blowing in the  
wrong direction & can  
hardly hear them and  
from what I can hear,  
it's fortunate.

Bennie Kaplan, at

Malinow, Bob Mallett and a lot of crowdites are with me, small talk can be indulged in at will.

Understand we may get to mail letters soon so I'll ramble to a conclusion.

Being on sick call today, got a boil on my derriere, outside of that feeling fine.

I'll cable you when we arrive at our destination, you know as much about when and where as I do.

please don't be impatient I'll write whenever I can. In your next letter don't forget to

tell me how Dad's horses  
are doing. Just saw an  
old paper in which  
Peace Chance won a race  
at Washington park. How  
does the Colt buy  <sup>Sir Damien</sup> -  
I think out of Flying Steak  
look and the Phant Happ  
~~out~~ <sup>out</sup> Millimeter filly  
shape up. Well that's  
about it for now.

Spend a great deal of  
my time missing you  
and hoping we'll see each  
other soon.

Show this letter to  
mother and of course to  
Dad.

Love  
David

Sgt David Bolatin  
APO # 7958  
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New York City

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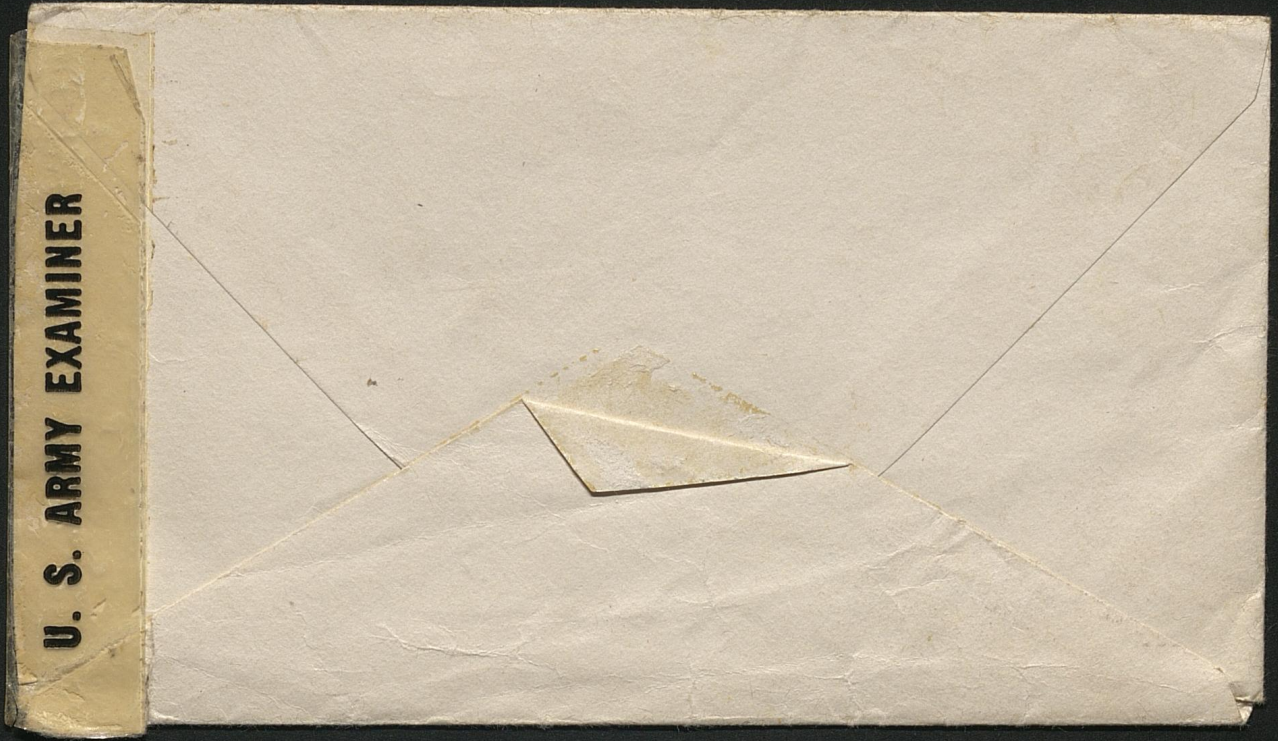
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W. C. Cunniff

11734  
I

**U. S. ARMY EXAMINER**





Friday 2

CONSTANCE S. ROSENBLUM - 2112 EASTERN PARKWAY - LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

Dear "light of my busy life I",  
The night before I set the alarm in my bedside clock for 7:00, but really! there wasn't any point in doing so, as for 3 days now I had anxiously awaited tomorrow, and there would be no need for an alarm to awaken me! I did awaken, & immediately looked outside, as I was facing the window & could hardly help from doing anything else. It was pitch black out, no light, no sun, no nothing, so I imagined it was possibly 5:00. Then I turned my precious self over & raised my big brown eyes to the clock. What? Am I dreaming! No, it couldn't be!!! yes, it was! I sat up with a start, jerked myself, & readily found out I was

awake & sore, aghast, awake! I  
jumped out of bed, grabbed my clothes,  
crashed into the bathroom, threw my  
clothes on, splinkled some water here  
& there on my face, brushed my teeth  
out clean (!!!), and galloped but  
galloped, out to the kitchen. Louise  
asked me why I was getting up at  
midnight, and I said, "Dad if you  
realize Jayne & Dave will be here  
this morning!" I gobbled some grub  
rushed back, again brushed my teeth,  
put my coat on, & scammed out of  
the house. God! it was 7:30 &  
maybe they're already there! I  
stumbled, broke my leg, crushed my  
ribs, fractured my skull, but nothing  
could keep me away from seein' them!  
through wind & storm, through rain &  
sleet - ever onward! A true Pioneer  
at heart! Finally I arrived at Aunt

Kin's, I clapped up the back steps & stealthily knocked on the door. After waiting what seemed an eternity, Aunt Kin dreamily opened the gate, and I rushed past her & practically bowling the poor woman over! "Where are they? Where, where, where? My darling cousin & her super precious husband, where are they?" She blankly gazed upon Connie Venus Rosenblum & said, short & sweet like, "Why, they haven't arrived yet?" Well, my chest fell downward quickly, my breath was taken away, my mouth drooled open, my eyes bulged out, & my heart broke into a myriad of pieces! "Not here, why they're got to be," but obviously, they weren't! So she went back to

red & I opened my exercise, but far  
was it from me to keep my mind on  
just add values! "Threading with  
her own hand - Oh, why don't they  
come. She came to assist and spoke -  
"where are they?" Thus went my befuddled  
mind. I looked at the clock and it  
was 8:00 - oh hurry, Jayne, I can't  
they enter than 8:30! Then I tried to  
study my vocab, but all I could see  
was J-A-Y-N-E - Jayne; D-A-V-I-D  
David! 8:15 - oh god! Tempus fugit,  
but how I wish it didn't! The subjunctive  
in French is simple, but when you  
have St. Louis trains rushing in, soldiers  
hurryng about, and 2 people, one man,  
an extremely handsome one too, and one  
girl, also comely, getting off this  
train it becomes very vague and  
complex. 8:30 - hell! There are  
Jae & Janey, I've got to go! Oh, Aunt  
Kin, tell 'em hello, and tell 'em

I waited as long as possible, & till  
'em goodbye! With that I weakly  
went down her steps, and upon  
reaching the bottom, burst out in  
tears! (You think I'm kidding!)  
I went to J. M. Atherton for Gies,  
but my heart was elsewhere. Sure,  
the navigation acts were awful, but  
what the hell do I care about that  
trivial thing, when Jayne & Dave are  
here & I can't see 'em. Yes, Miss  
Hersow, it's an ablativus of means, but  
I wish I had the means to see Jayne  
& Dave. I know what, I can get out  
last 3 periods, 'cause they're not important,  
& then I could see 'em. No, mother  
would never let me, & it's too late now  
anyway. Ah, it's 2:30 - "hello,

mother, "did you see Jayne & Dave?"  
Where were they, how long is Dave's  
leave, how long were you with them  
etc, etc!!! "I went to the dressmaker's,  
but all of a sudden something 'popped' &  
things began rolling & etc more! "What's  
wrong, Constance?" "Oh, nothing, mother!"  
but indeed I knew what was wrong!  
"Mother, can I phone Jayne?" "In  
Lexington?" "Yes." "Of course, you  
can!"!!! All my hopes, all my dream-  
jiff — they're gone. Anyhow, I  
want you to know I got up at 6:50,  
& did my damndest to see you, but  
circumstances beyond my control prevented  
it. I thought about you, & do try to  
come here soon again, so I can see my  
"bestest,"

Am in love — with  
Sergie Segal, 19, got his ring, Jr., at  
U. of D. & pre-law, in Army Reserves,  
expects to be called by March at the

CONSTANCE S. ROSENBLUM - 2112 EASTERN PARKWAY - LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

latest, and is marvellous with a  
capital "M." He's very brilliant, won  
provincial medal, pitcher for soft ball  
team, & also a good one! (Pitches  
everything good!!!) Oh, he's marvellous,  
or have I said that before? He asked  
me Sat. night if I'd ever thought  
about getting married before he went  
away & I said many times! Mrs.  
Herbert Lee Segel I saw! Can't  
you see me now — what's more  
likely — can't you see daddy? See, he'd  
blow a fuse!! That's given' to be  
some night when he leaves. Oh, well,  
I always was a bit tired of being  
a good girl! (I remember a closed case  
& lights out except for the bed lights  
one fatiguing Sun. night last march!)

got A on my 1000 word theme,  
the big part of Eng. 7. Mine was  
3000 words. However, on Josef Stalin.  
Only 4 girls got A, & I was one & also got  
highest grade in Hist. test - 95! Jesus,  
I!!! ya' know what - I have to  
take 3 tests in specified subjects plus  
the Sch. Apt. test for Melloley, so I  
choose French & Hist, & you have to  
take Eng. Do you think I chose the  
right ones? I was filling out a paper  
for Melloley the other night & I had  
to say what I wanted to take my  
Freshman year. You're supposed to  
choose out of these 3 groups, & most  
of the good ones aren't open to  
Freshman. I finally decided upon  
Eng. Comp. (required), Hygiene (required  
also), Psychology (that's what I



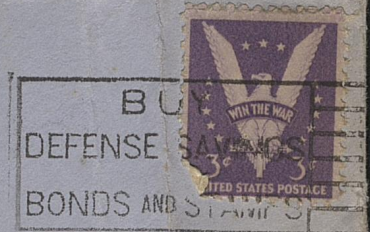
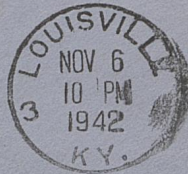
want to major in, but only  
freshman with exceptional records can  
take it in the freshman year, so  
that lets me out, but I put it down  
anyhow.) , Spanish, English  
Literature of the Renaissance Period,  
Medieval History, & French if I  
can't take Psychology. Do you think  
these were the right selection? Please  
advise?! I heard from Wheaton &  
Wellesley, but not from Gaucher, & I  
was supposed to have an interview  
with a Naomi Riches about a month  
ago, but the woman didn't show  
up, at least my interview was at  
5:30 at the Seelbach, & at that time  
there wasn't any such person  
registered as she. Mother wrote

Her a letter asking her what had happened. I also asking about my Sch. apt. Test. She wrote back that she had been here, but had just gotten in at 5:30. now wouldn't you think she would've phoned us later that day? Really! She also said they never gave the result of the test — now how should I know whether I have to take it over again or not for voucher — Smell it! Some people! I still want to go to Wheaton, but mes parents like Wellesley. I know I can never make it, though, so I don't have to worry. I just hope I can make Wheaton.

No more slop. Be  
grad. Write soon —

Much love,  
" Light of your life "  $\frac{11}{5}$  "

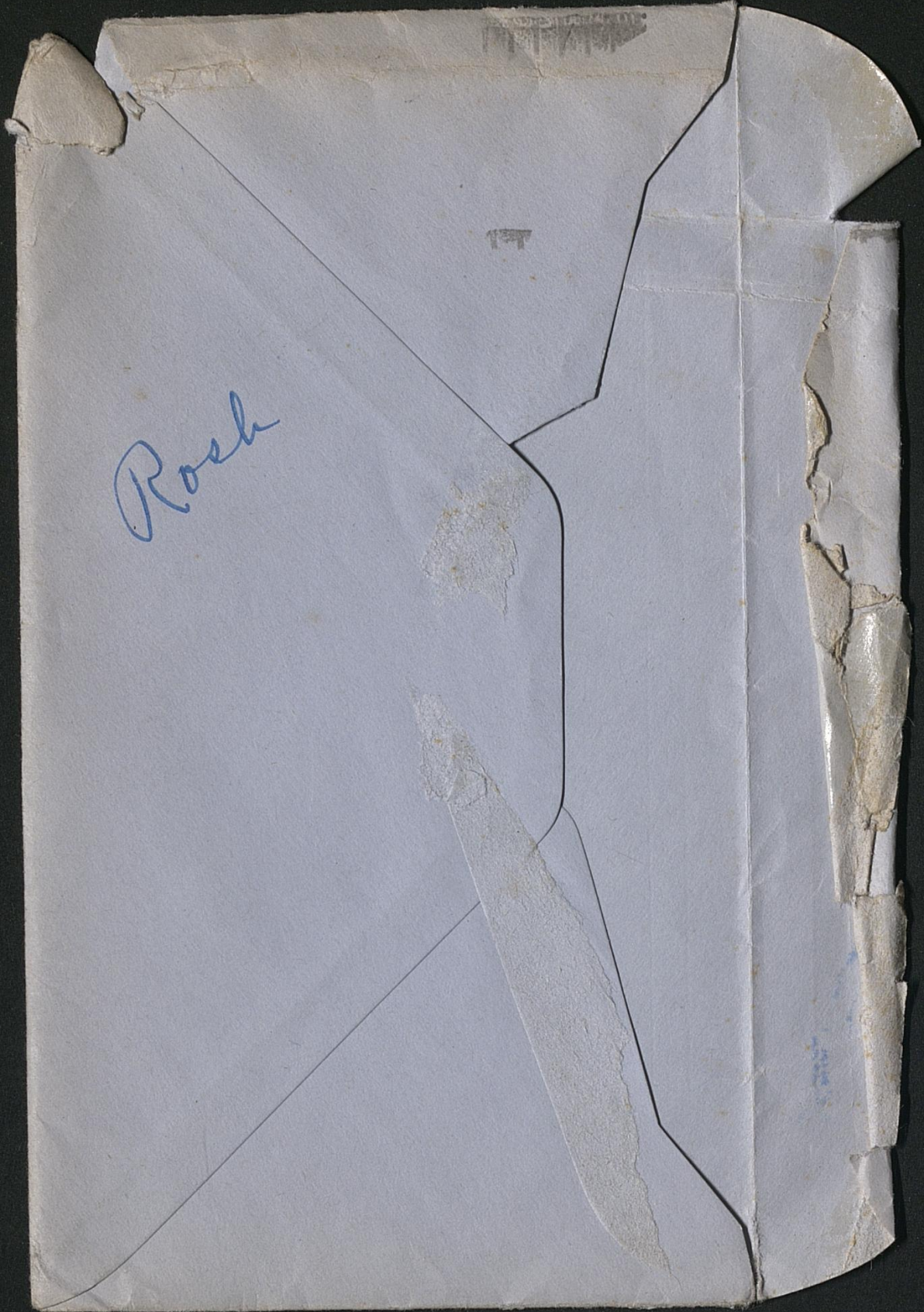
CONSTANCE S. ROSENBLUM - 2112 EASTERN PARKWAY - LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY



Mrs. David Belatin  
285 N. Ashland Ave.,  
Lexington  
Ky.

o/o J. D. Weil

2



Rock

coming along fine, I drove down <sup>(2)</sup>  
town today, and the other  
day, and I drove out to the  
race track, I can back up to,  
you ought to see me come  
out of the garage, that's really  
something, almost knocked the  
Bicknell's garage down once.

School coming along  
just fine, <sup>?</sup> we had a geometry  
test today.

I bet the Kittens, were  
darling, Tom Baer's dog had some  
little puppies, they were so  
cute for words.

Speaking of school, I'm  
in a play in dramatics, I'm  
a maid, called Mollie, I just  
have 24 lines in the play, more  
fun.

At Sunday School, Mrs. Urbach

Tuesday  
Oct. 20, 1942

Dear Jayne & David,

I have the record  
"Dearly Beloved" by Dinah  
Shore it's really solid, I also  
have Manhattan Serenade, by  
Jimmy Dorsey, Glen Miller's  
Serenade in Blue, and  
Southbound with Wonder when  
my Baby's Coming Home on  
back by Connie Boswell.

Saw the picture show  
"Tales of Manhattan," very good,  
Charles Boyer, ah me.

I might visit Betty  
Claire Michler next week and  
mother might have Glos drive  
us up there, if he's still  
here. My driving lessons are

3. Is teaching a whole lot of kids to be in the choir,

Why did the moron (if you've heard this before, don't read it) go from <sup>the</sup> country to the city? —

He heard the country was at war.

Guess who I saw the other night at the Ashland Country Club, none other, t-h-a-n, Mr.

Emment Milward, <sup>he</sup> is awfully handsome, come to think of it. Better be careful, David.

This newly wed wife got mad at her husband and left

him, when she was unpacking she found this note from him, which said, "Dear W. fey, I liked your torso, better than than your torso, that's why your torso, torso." Catch?

I like your room, I'm having yellow draperies put up —

with fringe on to match <sup>Q.</sup> the quilts, and a real soft yellow curtain underneath them.

I went to the Youth

Group dance the other night with André, I meet a whole lot of University of Kentucky, mostly ~~at~~ at them from the Bronx, it's really disgusting, danced with two soldiers, one was about 6 feet 8.

I went to the picture show last Sunday with André last Sunday, saw "My Sister Eileen" was precious, all like show. Then we went to the Canary Cottage, and got a hamburger, then he wanted to walk, so walk we did, over to the temple, Dr. Franzblaw, spoke on Marriage & the Family. Very interesting.

don't pay any attention to him. (6)  
He's getting awfully conceited,  
or has he always been, I  
wouldn't know, you know the  
old saying, "love is blind."  
Best, I bet that  
w-o-n-d-e-r-f-u-l eating  
supper with all those men.  
Wish I were there.

I'm ~~was~~ listening to the  
duck in Gracie Allen w-h-h-h.  
They just played Manhattan  
Serenade I love it.

Guess who's taking Simone  
out, Marvin Binig, isn't that nice,  
he seems to like her a lot, she  
likes him too.

I've won \$5.50 at the  
races, went out with #7 came  
home with \$12.50 not bad eh.

Write soon. Love, Alice.

at danced with  
me at the Youth  
Group dance. I guess I'll let Mad-keep him, or, should  
I? (over)

I went to the Youth (5)  
Group with him last night. <sup>with Andre</sup>

I'm in love again, I  
met the cutest boy over  
there, everyone's wild about  
him, he was the cutest one  
over there, everyone said so,  
and he asked me - sigh, sigh,  
to eat dinner with him, I  
almost fainted. He looks like, oh  
he's wonderful. He's from  
Winchester, goes out to the

University of Ken. is 18 or 19 or  
20. His name is - sigh - Dan Lewis or  
Daniel or Danny. Calls him Dan.

Stuart, I'd like to wig  
his neck, but I still like him,  
you ought to see him in his  
soldiers uniform, he had to  
have a military haircut, looks  
like h---, I mean his hair.  
He chases after all the older girls,  
Anita, and so forth, and they <sup>grr.</sup> (over)

I got the cutest red wool. (A)  
dress yesterday is ~~is~~ red  
wool, with a green stripe  
down center of dress, and  
down sleeves, the stripe has  
big silver snaps down them,  
on sleeves, the sleeves are  
bracelet length, have snaps  
to, square neck. Real cute.

haven't borrowed any  
jewelry yet, but don't get

impatient, I will. Got my  
watch today, it took them  
a month to fix it, I broke  
the springs.

Yours for victory,  
Alyce

Going bowling tomorrow I  
love to, have made about 6  
strikes, in the few games I've  
played.