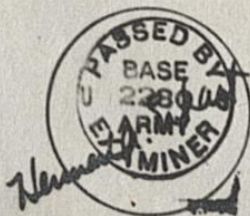


No.



[CENSOR'S STAMP]

To MR. J. M. BARR, PRES.,
 1ST NATIONAL BANK -
 5TH & COURT PL.,
 LOUISVILLE - KENTUCKY

From

MAJ. H. ERHART - 0200409

(Sender's name)

1320TH ENGR'S. APO 957

(Sender's address)

% P.M. SAN FRANCISCO - CAL.

12 APRIL 1944.

(Date)

Dear Mac - Thanks for your timely letter. In a way, it prepared me for the terrible blow of Alex' passing. I can't realize that he is gone - that he won't be there, as always, when we return from this horrible affair that we are all involved in. He was a soldier - the best - & he died with his boots on, just as he wanted, & as surely a casualty of the war as if he had died on a beach-head out here someplace.

It can never be the same without him, that I do know. There was never one like him before & will never be again, in our lives. His passing is an immeasurable loss to me, and to all who really knew him & loved him. It was God's will - and God's will be done -

V - MAIL

As always - Herman.

WAR & NAVY
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HEADQUARTERS NINETY-NINTH DIVISION

Office of the Commanding General

APO 449
Camp Maxey, Texas

22 April 1944

Mr. William Rueter
388 Summer Avenue
Manchester, Massachusetts

My dear Mr. Rueter:

It is a pleasure to inform you that your son, Private William G. Rueter, Jr., has been adjudged one of the outstanding soldiers in his company of 300 men in our Training Regiment.

This Regiment was set up within the Division to provide intensive training for about 3,000 new men, like your son, who came to us from various Army Specialized Training Program units. This was done so that they could be rapidly assimilated into the Division. They will soon complete this training -- well prepared to take their places in the units of the Division to which they have been assigned.

We are proud of the progress of these men, and are particularly pleased with the splendid record of your son. I know you will be gratified to learn that he has been doing outstanding work as a daily habit. It is especially gratifying to me, as the Division Commander, to have him in our Division.

Sincerely,

(signed) Walter E. Lauer
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding

WEL/jww

COPY

Excerpt from ^{Sept} Lewis J. Gorn's letter ^{to his Wife}
of Feb. 20, '45. :

"... Did I write you I saw Henry
Huyburn a couple of days ago? He
was in fine health. He has been
in some pretty hot spots and has
turned in an excellent perform-
ance. There was a story about him
in the local paper - the paper is
censorable and can't be sent
home."

was inscribed from whom
whence it came.

Peter Saltonstall's family and
many of Boss' friends, mothers
and the 84 yr. old friends
of ours took the trouble
to come and the Academy
people were so kind and
co-operative.

Dear "Pete" or "Paig Saltonstall"
passed on in the jungle at
Guam a month after Boss.
Boss was so hoping to
see him in the Palomares
when he was there but
they missed out.

At our private burial, the
colors which were draped
over the casket was folded
so only the stars were
visible and given to Boss'
mother. The bugle sound-
ed (but no firing squad) and
all was over, even the
rain had held up, and
we left for home in groups
feeling all was well. Mother
Nancy was wonderful and

at the Academy Chapel, with
the class mates who were able
to come.

THE TUPELOS
CANTON AVENUE
MILTON MASSACHUSETTS

you may have heard
that Mr. Abell played on the
organ softly, while the
people gathered, choosing
Boss' favorites that were
appropriate and at 3.30 he
played the "Star Spangled
Banner" which his mother
mentioned as he had given
his life for it. As the ser-
vice started, a most ter-
rifying, rolling of thunder
respeck after peal, issued
from the heavens and I
felt as if it was announc-
ing the coming of the good
Lord to assist us all was
well that Boss was in
His keeping. It was awe
inspiring and so different
from anything our might
plan. His Co. and his
Battalion both sent flowers
tied with white ribbon
on which in gold lettering

when people were about. has been ever since. Her younger daughter is with her now, her husband having gone across to England or France. The older one Nancy is in Texas with her Dr. & Lt. Husband and her 4 1/2 mos. son, a darling baby who stood the trip to Texas in auto during a 90° "spell" of weather, without turning a hair nor minding change of water and slept when she should. The dog! who accompanied them did mind the heat and at one stop they forgot the dog and had to go back five miles to get her "re-fueled" the active terrier at Terror. I should think. The baby slept in his carriage with the wheels off or on, if needed.

Nancy writes cheerfully of her new temporary quarters, the living room of which (in a private house) is a room containing a "murphy" not a potato, a bed, that lets down when closet door is opened. The crib is a folding one and Nancy says the living room in daytime, is bed room at night and all four sleep there. Four? I suppose that includes the dog! It's a bit cramped but Nancy always lands on her feet! Mrs. Snod the owner of the delightful house has let Nancy have about four rooms with a separate entrance, including bath, bath room, kitchenette and the use of Mrs. Snod's frigid Air-Bendix washing machine - plate washer telephone & radio with opera records! Mrs. Snod is away in service; Mrs. Snod also has a sixteen year old daughter who simply loves to take care of George the Third so Nancy can be free to go out!