

Sunday Night
11 March 45
Italy

Dear Mama, Dad & all,

Your letter of 28 February arrived today and it was certainly a surprise to hear of Mrs. Mauney's death. Please extend my sympathies to Mr. Mauney. I too really feel sorry for Mr. Mauney and have they found out just what happened to her? Old death plays a funny game over there just as he does over here. One day you might meet a guy and he might not be around the next time you go back. I'm a pretty lucky person over here but I'll really be a happy guy when they stop this fighting. There's always a chance of a shell having "To whom it may concern" written on it & I don't believe in taking chances when it's not necessary. I get just like I said I'd do get scared. You can't find one that won't get scared.

You were right about the way it goes over here and my longest job lasted three nights. Let me tell you it really gets dark over here in these hills but I have some equipment that can tangle with the best of them when it comes to crowding the road. I

like for you to see what I have to work with.
It's wonderful.

No doubt Lu is back at work now & she said she was getting a box ready to mail to me. I wrote her to send me my shoulder patches, combs & some other things like light bulbs that can't be had over here for love nor money. The combat pants haven't arrived as yet, Dad, and I'm sorry you went to so much trouble for nothing. Maybe they'll come around soon - let's hope so. The Saturday Evening Post that Lu is sending me comes in pretty regularly and the Record & News-Enterprise pops up most any time. The Observer hasn't arrived as yet and I really appreciate the things all of you have done for me.

The next big news we are waiting for is the crossing of the Oder by the Russians. News of peace is what everyone is looking for but it's hard to see it in a matter of days or even weeks. Japan produces a puzzle but I believe the yellow streak down her back will really stand out once Germany falls.

Today I received a letter from Lu that was mailed on the 3rd of March. It looks as if Italy isn't the only place that has wonderful weather right now.

I have written G.C. to see what they have in store for people like me when this thing is over. If the franchise comes through they can take away all promise since you know where I want to work.

Bernice says that Mama has lost weight. How about that, Mama? Maybe you and Mary have some kind of system. As for me, I haven't changed one ounce but I won't get back home so I can eat without my head being buried in a can.

Speak to all of you and write when you can find time. I'm feeling fine and am still hoping this war will end soon.

Love,
Bill