

AMBERG, Germany
18 May 1945
Friday

Dear Mother & Dad,

Now it can be told that I am in Amberg, Germany. Censorship restrictions on locations of units and places where we have been have now been lifted. In view of this fact, I am enclosing two listings showing the route of advance covered by the 38th MRU in France and Germany, and my trip to Paris.

Now it can be told that I was through the Argonne Forest and Metz and many other places where Dad spent time during the last war. As you can see from the lists, most of our time was spent at Thionville. I was at Thionville the longest that I have been at any one place in the Army. (Nearly four months).

I left the States from New York City in January 1944. We got on the boat on 17 January and sailed on the 18th. We docked in Cardiff, Wales on my birthday and got off the boat on the 30th. We went from Cardiff, Wales to Cheltenham, Gloucestershire by train. I was in the hospital outside of Cheltenham from Feb. 8th to 18th. On March 20th I went to Bristol, England with nine other men and one Officer for duty with another machine records unit for a period of two weeks. On April 2nd those of us who had been at Bristol and the rest of the unit moved to Marlborough. On June 13th we moved about five or six miles to a camp between Marlborough and Swindon, England, where we stayed until July 20th. (The pictures I sent you from England were taken in Swindon). On July 20th we left Camp Ogbourne St George (outside Swindon) and went to Southampton. We left from the port at Southampton on July 22nd and disembarked on the beach in France on the 25th and 26th of July. I landed in France on the 26th even though most of the unit landed on the night of the 25th. I was with one of the vehicles that did not land until the next morning as I was assistant driver for that vehicle.

The trip through France and Germany is pretty well covered on the sheets I am enclosing. There is no mention on the sheets of bombings at St Martin-De-Landelle from August 5th to 8th nor of another air ~~KAX~~ raid when we were at Soulge Le-Bruant and the Jerries bombed Laval. After that we had no more sign of air raids or of German planes until we were stationed at Thionville. During the breakthrough north of Thionville last fall under Von Rundstedt we were bothered nightly for weeks by "bedcheck Charlie." One night I got dressed and undressed four times getting up to take cover and later going back to bed. The anti-aircraft really shook the ground and put up everything they had. Sometimes one could hardly hear himself think. No bombs were dropped near us, though. A few planes were shot down. It is quite an experience, but I do not care for a repeat performance.

Amberg, Germany -- our present location -- is East of Nurnberg and slightly South. You will notice on the listing of towns we went through on our last move that we went through Weimar. The concentration camp Buchenwald is located outside Weimar, and I visited that camp while we were located at Gotha. I wrote to you

(next sheet)

