

1-1  
July 22 1944  
Italy

Dear Mother,

Just a few lines to let you know that I am well and doing alright. It has been pretty hot here lately but it doesn't seem as hot as it feels at home in the summer time. There is most always a good breeze blowing.

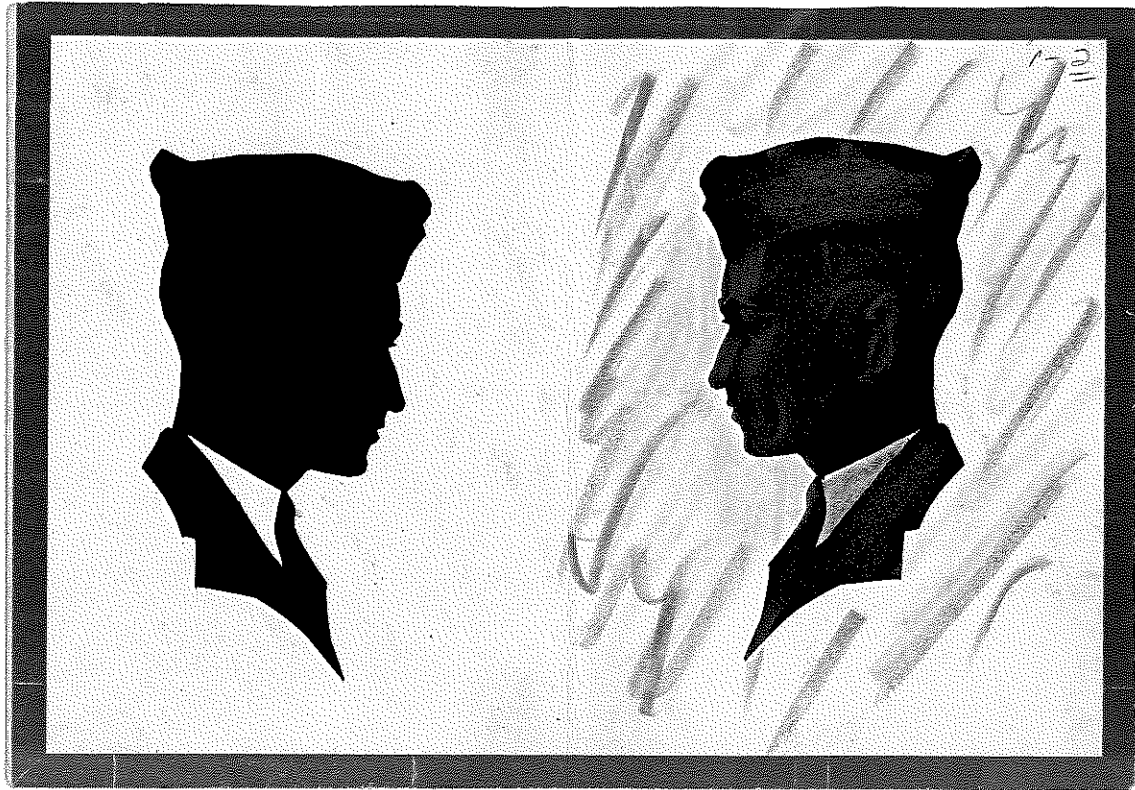
I am sending three pictures that we made some time ago in Foggia. This one of the street is typical of all the side streets that we seen.

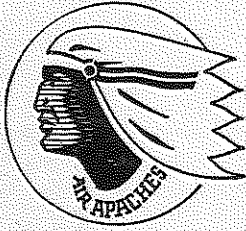
Well Mother I was sure sorry to hear that Edward was hurt but I hope it wasn't very bad. It sure looks <sup>as if</sup> Aunt May is having lots of troubles and worries with what she is going through.

Mother from the bits of news that we are able to get things are looking very good over here. We are all hoping that something will break in Germany and it looks as if there is something happening. The sooner they turn against Hitler the sooner this thing will end.

Mother I am sending an order for you to give Mrs Deemer. Mrs Albert L. Valasquez - Seminole, Texas - Glad 5<sup>th</sup> Card. - Remember I always love you, Al

Well this is about all for this time.  
Love Bill





To: Salve Hills  
Bowling Green, Ky.

Philippines

Sun. June 10, 1945

Hells! Hells!

Just a few lines to let you know I am still well & O.K. I certainly hope you are the same. Mother wrote me that Bill was at Casablanca now. Guess that is why I haven't heard from him lately as he has been on the move. I guess he is glad to get away from Italy. Isn't it about time that Henry was coming home. Wasn't it grand that Charles Aspley & Wendell Allen were set free? They rescued many boys from the Germans & hope same can happen with the Japs soon. Hope I can be home by first of next year.

Gotta close now. Give my hello to all & take good care of yourself.  
as ever,  
George

George L. Smith



Dear Mother

I sure was glad to get the cigarettes and the papers. I was out of cigarettes and had been out for about two weeks. They sure did come in at the right time.

Down here we have to pay eighteen cents for a pack of cigarettes. We also have to pay for our Laundry. Back in Shelby we could get all of our Laundry done for a dollar and a half but down here it cost twenty five cents to get a suit washed. I wear about three every week.

I understand now why all southerners walk slow. If you walk very fast

Please send me Harold's address

at all down here you will get  
ringing wet with sweat.  
My uniforms don't get dirty  
they just get ringing wet  
with sweat. I believe this  
is the hottest state I have  
ever been in. The government  
are supposed to pay as extra  
to take care of our laundry  
but they have never done  
so yet.

We really get good things  
to eat down here, I get all the  
milk that I want to drink and  
anything I want to eat, I sure  
like this part about it.

Laura sent me a basket  
of oranges and they were  
really good.

We had a funny  
thing happen the other night  
here. I was sleeping and was  
waked up by the howling of  
a maniac. It sounded like  
some one was trying to



tear the building down. I got up to see what the matter was and started up the third floor steps. ~~WAA~~. Just as I started up the steps I saw someone coming down, he was growling like a mad dog and nearly bent double. Of course being not scared, I backed into the shadows and let him pass. I thought he needed the steps more than I did. And I could see that he was in no mood for arguing.

By this time all the barrack was wakened and they started to follow him, me too, but still at a safe distance. He went down to the showers and turned them on and beat on the shower walls. He slipped and fell in the shower and couldn't get up. He would beat on the floor with his ~~fists~~ fists. Then all at once he passed out. They picked him up and started to carry him up stairs. All at once he came to and started

up the steps. <sup>4</sup> I in the meantime  
had left, thinking the excitement  
over when he passed out. He evidently  
started up the steps just after I did.  
I was on the second landing when  
I looked around and there he was. One  
look at him told me again that he  
wanted the steps, and being a  
person easy to get along with I let him  
have them, I guess he thought he saw  
an optical illusion when he saw me  
and then didn't see me. He would  
come up to the landing and stand  
and growl at the boys below him.  
He went to the third floor and  
tried to jump out but they didn't  
let him. He was finally quieted and  
was laying on his bed. all at once he  
jumped up and tried to jump out again.  
They finally got him back on his bed  
again. He jumped up again and  
tried to eat his iron bed and then the  
Cops came and took him away.

I haven't been paid yet and none  
of the boys have, Well thanks again  
for the cigarettes and paper. Tell everyone  
hello for me

Love  
Henry

SC 1598