

Russell, Kansas, Aug. 15, 1945.

Dear Bob, I called your father Monday morning to find out how you were feeling—His report is very encouraging tho to you I know it seems slow but when you think of all you have been thru it can't help but take time. I suppose you are relieved to think the actual fighting is over—now I am so hoping that in released, recent prisoners we hear Bud is safe.

We got Phil's card saying he had left for somewhere and when his clothes arrived I think it must be south Pacific as all his warm clothing and uniforms were returned—I note by his returned checks that he had to spend \$ 77. for glasses and eye examination after he was turned down again for West Point showing that an officer has a place for all his money. He had unfavorable report on his eyes again but I hope if he is in the Pacific, wears dark glasses and does not study or read too much there will be some improvement.

The Sunday Kansas City Star had a write up of the Black Hawk Division telling that they were finishing at Camp Gruber getting ready to go to the Pacific. Of course this division includes Tom Edwards, George Holland, Wallace Dawson and Harold Bunker. George was to leave yesterday, his Mother said, he had been issued heavy clothing indicating a cool climate. I am hoping the surrender will make a difference and the boys may not have to go.

Paul Lewis, Hazel Ruppenthal's husband is to leave today for his ship in New York, where it has been undergoing repairs and he is supposed to go back thru the canal to the Pacific to bring home troops.

Jake Ruff is building on to the back of his house. That house has certainly grown from the little thing he started with. He has his front yard so even and in splendid shape.

You remember I wrote you about my young cousin, who was a prisoner from the 8th. of June 1944 to late in May 45, in Germany going back to his assignment a month early and wondering why he was so restless. Benlll is from October until January 20th. younger than Phil. He had finished his missions was much decorated and could have gone home when his ship was shot down June 8th. Now it seems he had a sweetheart at home and I suppose during the long months in prison he idealized her at any rate he tried to call her from New York City putting in several calls only to get reports she was not at her home address. He called his Mother in Chattanooga, Tenn. only to learn his girl was married-I think tho he is young it was what made him want to go back early-now I am thinking he will have quite a hard readjustment. He is a Captain. I have just heard King George speak praising the spirit of the English people and I feel that we too need a strong will and determination if this war is to make a better world.

I think I am about thru rationing and will have more time to write letters.

*Margaret E. Ruffenthal*

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Russell, Kansas.



Lt. Robert J. Dole

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Topeka, Kansas.

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