

United States V-Mail Service

To speed up mail to and from American troops serving on the front, the US Post Office used photography and mail delivery was shortened to within 2 weeks instead of 8 weeks or more. A special form was provided on which the message or letter was written, together with the recipient's name and address. A photographic negative was then made in reduced size and the film was then despatched by air to the appropriate Post Office where it was developed and enlarged. The enlarged print, officially termed "V-Mail Airgraph" was placed in a special envelope and thus delivered to the addressee.

Print the complete address in plain black letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. **146360**

PASSED BY
U.S. ARMY EXAMINER
(CENSOR'S STAMP)

To

MR. ROY WHITEON
GENERAL DELIVERY
ACHILLE, OKLAHOMA
U.S.A.

From

CPL. DUDLEY BARNETT
(Sender's name)
HQ & HQ SQ. 68TH AIR SER.
(Sender's address) OF.
APO 627 - NEW YORK, N.Y.

13 APRIL 1944
(Date)

SOMEWHERE IN CHINA

DEAR ROY & LUCILLE:

I SUPPOSE THAT YOU THINK I AM AN IDIOT FOR NOT HAVING WRITTEN SOONER, BUT JUST BECAUSE THAT I NEVER GOT AROUND TO IT. BY THE TIME I WRITE MOTHER, DAD, AND THE GIRLS IT SEEMS THAT I DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME TO DO ANY OTHER CORRESPONDING. MY NOT HAVING WRITTEN DOESN'T MEAN THOUGH THAT I HAVEN'T THOUGHT OF YOU QUITE OFTEN FOR THERE IS SELDOM EVER A DAY THAT PASSES THAT I DON'T THINK OF YOU PEOPLE HERE AT HOME.

I GUESS THAT YOU HAVE LEARNED FROM SOME OF THE FOLKS THAT I AM NOW IN CHINA, AND HAVE BEEN FOR SOMETHING LIKE A COUPLE OF MONTHS. CONDITIONS HERE ARE BETTER THAN IN INDIA, AND EVEN THOUGH IT ISN'T ANYTHING LIKE YOU WOULD FIND IN THE STATES, IT IS A LOT BETTER THAN SOME PLACES THAT I HAVE BEEN. THE CHINESE PEOPLE ARE A LOT MORE DESIRABLE TO BE AROUND THAN THOSE IN INDIA, AND YOU DON'T SEE THE STARVATION AND DISEASE THAT WAS SO PREVALENT THERE. I IMAGINE THAT THE PARTS OF CHINA THAT ARE OCCUPIED BY THE JAPANESE ARE IN VERY BAD SHAPE, BUT THEY HAD NEVER ADVANCED THIS FAR SO YOU DON'T SEE MUCH OF THAT TYPE OF THING HERE. THERE ARE MANY THINGS I WOULD LIKE TO TELL YOU, BUT YOU KNOW THAT THEY HAVE CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS SO WILL JUST HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL I SEE YOU PERSONALLY. I HAVE SEEN A LOT OF THE WORLD SINCE I LEFT THE STATES, AND YOU CAN BET THAT FROM WHAT I HAVE SEEN IT MAKES ME THANKFUL THAT I AM AN AMERICAN. IF EVERYONE COULD SEE THINGS AS THEY REALLY EXIST IN SOME OF THESE COUNTRIES I AM SURE THAT THEY WOULD FEEL THE SAME WAY.

HOW ARE THE GIRLS, AND ARE THEY STILL IN DALLAS? I SUPPOSE THAT THEY ALL HAVE GOOD JOBS. HAVE ANY OF THEM MARRIED? I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED FOR IT SEEMS THAT NEARLY ALL THE GIRLS FROM HOME HAVE MARRIED SINCE THE WAR STARTED. WHEN YOU SEE THEM SAY HELLO FOR ME, AND TELL THEM THAT I WOULD APPRECIATE HEARING FROM THEM IF THEY HAVE THE TIME TO WRITE. DO YOU HEAR FROM ROBERT AND CLAUDE REGULARLY, AND ARE THEY STILL IN ENGLAND? I SUPPOSE THAT IF THEY PUT THIS TROOP ROTATION PROGRAM INTO EFFECT THAT THEY WILL PROBABLY BE COMING HOME BEFORE TOO LONG. I CAN JUST IMAGINE HOW ANXIOUS THEY ARE FOR THEY HAVE BEEN GONE FROM HOME A LONG TIME.

WE HAD A VERY IMPRESSIVE EASTER SERMON THIS LAST SUNDAY. OUR CHAPLAIN IS A VERY NICE FELLOW, AND MOST ALL OF THE BOYS LIKE HIM REAL WELL. HE IS A PRESBYTERIAN, AND IS ABOUT THIRTY FIVE YEARS OF AGE. I WOULD SAY THAT THERE WERE AT LEAST 250 AT CHURCH SUNDAY NIGHT SO YOU SEE THAT BOYS DO GO TO CHURCH OVER HERE. IN FACT, THEY ARE MUCH BETTER ABOUT GOING THAN WHEN THEY WERE IN THE STATES. I HAVE BEEN THE ORGANIST EVERY SINCE WE GOT TO CHINA, AND EVEN THOUGH I'M NOT TOO GOOD, I AM MORE THAN WILLING TO DO MY PART IF IT IS HELPING ANY.

I GUESS THAT YOUR BOYS ARE GETTING TO BE PRETTY GOOD SIZED BY THIS TIME. I SUPPOSE THAT ROY LEE IS ABOUT OLD ENOUGH TO START TO SCHOOL. IT WILL SEEM RATHER OLD TO ME WHEN I GET BACK HOME TO SEE HOW MUCH THOSE KIDS HAVE GROWN.

I HAVE WRITTEN ALL THAT I HAVE ROOM FOR SO WILL CLOSE FOR THIS TIME. WRITE WHEN YOU CAN FOR A LETTER IS ALL WAYS APPRECIATED. ALL WAYS.

V-MAIL

YOUR FRIEND,
DUDLEY

13.04.1944

From the front to
Oklahoma, USA

"...the Chinese people are a lot more desirable to be around than those in India, and you don't see the starvation and disease that was so prevalent there. I imagine that the parts of China that are occupied by the Japanese are in very bad shape, but they had never advanced this far so you don't see much of that type of things here..."

typical "V-Mail Airgraph"

WAR & NAVY
DEPARTMENTS
V-MAIL SERVICE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300

U.S. SERVICE MAIL
JUL 23
10-PM
1944

PRINT THE COMPLETE ADDRESS IN PLAIN BLOCK LETTERS IN THE PANEL BELOW, AND YOUR RETURN ADDRESS IN THE SPACE PROVIDED. USE TYPEWRITER, DARK INK OR PENCIL. WRITE PLAINLY. VERY SMALL WRITING IS NOT SUITABLE.

No. 369177

PASSED BY
10091
CENSORS STAMP

MRS. BENJAMIN M. HAYWARD, JR.
BOX 184
MONTPELIER, VERMONT
U. S. A.

FTT. B. M. HAYWARD, JR.
SENDER'S NAME
FINANCE DETACHMENT
SENDER'S ADDRESS
MAJOR A. H. MILLER, P.O.
A.P.O. 875, U.S. ARMY
JAN 15 1943
DATE

DEAR MARION:

SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND

RECEIVED TWO V-MAILS FROM YOU AND ONE FROM LLOYD TODAY. I AM VERY GLAD THAT YOU HAVE FINALLY RECEIVED A LETTER FROM ME AND KNOW MY FIRST ADDRESS. TWO DAYS AGO, I RECEIVED A LETTER FROM YOU AND A CHRISTMAS CARD FROM ALLAN AND DORIS.

SOME CERTAIN THINGS MENTIONED IN VARIOUS LETTERS. I KNOW THAT THERE ARE SOME WHICH HAVE NOT ARRIVED AS YET. YOU MENTION THAT "IN LAST NIGHT'S LETTER" YOU FORGOT TO LIST ONE GIFT THAT YOU RECEIVED SO I KNOW THAT THE LETTER TELLING ABOUT YOUR CHRISTMAS HAS NOT AS YET ARRIVED. LIKEWISE IN ANOTHER LETTER YOU MENTION THAT THE CABLE IS ALMOST WORN OUT FROM YOUR READING IT SO MUCH. THIS WAS THE FIRST WORD I HAD RECEIVED THAT YOU DID GET THE CABLE.

I AM GLAD YOU LIKED THE POINSETTA PLANT. WE HAD CHOICES OF SENDING VARIOUS CUT FLOWERS, CORNAGES, PLANTS, AND CANDY. I ORDER A POINSETTA FOR YOU AND AN AZALEA FOR MOTHER. HOPE THAT ARRIVED ALRIGHT ALSO. PERHAPS YOU WOULD HAVE PREFERRED SOME OTHER CHOICE BUT I THOUGHT THAT THIS WOULD LAST LONGER.

YOU IMPLY THAT I HAVE NOT CHANGED MUCH IN THAT I NOTICED VARIOUS TREES AND SHRUBS. I DO NOT THINK THE ARMY HAS PRODUCED ANY GREAT CHANGES IN ME. AT THIS LOCATION, THERE ISN'T ANYTHING OF INTEREST REGARDING THE FLORA HEREABOUTS BUT ONCE OR TWICE IN WALKING TO DINNER HAVE NOTICED SEVERAL VARIETIES OF BIRDS THAT I AM UNFAMILIAR WITH.

GET MY FIRST LAUNDRY AND DRY CLEANING THAT I HAD SENT OUT BACK TODAY. IT SEEMED GOOD TO GET IT. THIS EVENING, TOOK A SHOWER AND CHANGED TO CLEAN UNDERWEAR. AM GLAD TO HAVE MY FIELD JACKET BACK AS I DO NOT LIKE TO WEAR MY OVERCOAT WHEN IT IS MUDDY. AM VERY GLAD THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED A RAISE BUT AM SORRY ABOUT THE LONGER HOURS. AM GLAD THAT YOU REMEMBERED FATHER'S BIRTHDAY. DID NOT KNOW THAT ANNIE'S WAS IN JANUARY.

I AM ONLY PARTIALLY SURPRISED THAT MY FIRST LETTER WAS CENSORED IF I REMEMBER WHAT I WROTE. THE CENSORS MAY HAVE TAKEN THE WRONG MEANING TO SOMETHING THAT I MENTIONED BUT IT WAS UNINTENTIONAL ON MY PART. HOWEVER THEY HAVE TO BE CAREFUL AND I DON'T BLAME THEM. NONE OF MY LETTERS FROM HERE SHOULD BE CUT AS I DON'T BELIEVE THAT I HAVE SAID ANYTHING THAT MAY BE MISCONSTRUED.

I RECEIVED ONE LETTER FROM COUSIN LAWRENCE BEFORE I LEFT THE STATES WHICH I DID NOT GET A CHANCE TO ACKNOWLEDGE. THE OTHER ONE DID NOT ARRIVE.

AM GLAD THAT THE CERTIFICATE ABOUT THE WAR INSURANCE CAME ALTHOUGH I DO NOT KNOW IT WAS BUT IT SHOULD BE SOME ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MY INSURANCE THAT I HAD AND I SAID TO YOU. THIS PROBABLY REPRESENTS IT.

SO THAT I COULD HAVE BEEN WITH YOU AT CHRISTMAS TIME BUT OF COURSE IT IS. AM WAITING FOR THE LETTER YOU WROTE TELLING ABOUT YOUR GIFTS AS THAT YOU WERE WELL REMEMBERED. ABOUT TIME THAT THE POPS HAVE IT WITH ALL THE PUPS THEY HAVE PUT UP TO THE FRONT. I SUPPOSE CHARLES WILL BE RECLASSIFIED OR HAVE HIS CATEGORY AS A RESULT AND EVERYBODY EXCEPT THE BOARD WILL BE SATISFIED.

VERY ABOUT MR. DEAN'S CONDITION BUT IT IS NOT UNEXPECTED. AT LEAST HE IS TO SEE HIM THEN.
YOU ARE WELL.
LOTS OF LOVE,
Ben

provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No.

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

To Pfc. Benjamin M. Hayward, Jr.
A. S. H. 31, 184, 579
H. Q. H. 4, Sq., 38th Service Gp.
Finance Section
A. P. O. 834, c/o Postmaster
New York, N.Y.

From

Mrs. B. M. Hayward, Jr.
(Sender's name)
Box 184
(Sender's address)
Montpelier, Vermont

July 15, 1943
(Date)

DEAR HENRY; FORGOT TO TELL YOU THAT EDGAR BOLD IS HOME. HAVEN'T SEEN HIM YET BUT THERE WAS AN ITEM IN THE PAPER. HE IS A CORPORAL AND STATIONED SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTH, IN MISSISSIPPI I THINK. HE IS IN THE AIR CORPS. FUNNY HOW SOME GO OVER SO QUICK AND OTHERS DON'T. MIGHT AS WELL BE OVER THERE WHERE THE FIGHT IS, THOUGH, DON'T YOU THINK?

SAW ELLA PERRIN THIS MORNING. I AM GOING TO SWAP YOUR ADDRESS FOR ALLAN'S TOMORROW MORNING SO I CAN SEND IT TO YOU. I NEVER SEE DORIS AS SHE DOESN'T GET OUT OF WORK UNTIL FOUR THIRTY. I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE BIRDS IN THE CASHIERS LIFE HER TOO WELL IF I CAN BELIEVE MY SPIES, ANNIE AND MARY SIMPSON. SHE GOT HER OLD SALARY AND I GUESS THAT DOES NOT SET TOO WELL WITH THE OTHER GALS. ANNIE SAID THAT IF DORIS HAD GOT A GIFT MORE SHE WOULD HAVE KICKED. ANNIE HAS HAD HER ENTIRE EXPERIENCE IN THE CASHIERS AND FEELS THAT SHE KNOWS MORE ABOUT IT THAN DORIS. MAYBE SHE IS RIGHT. OF COURSE MARY IS RATHER BELLIGERENT ANYWAY.

TONIGHT I GOT THE HIKK IN MY HAIR. I AM SO GLAD THAT IT IS COOLER AND I WILL NOT SUFFER UNDER THE DRISER. HOPE I LOOK BETTER THAN I DO NOW AFTER THE EXPERIENCE BUT EXPECT THAT I WILL LOOK QUITE SAD AS USUAL. ALBERT SAYS THAT WOMEN ARE ALWAYS EITHER HAVING BABIES OR PERMANENTS IN THE HOT WEATHER AND HE SHOULD THINK THAT THEY WOULD KNOW BETTER, SO I AM DOUBTLY GLAD IT IS COOLER. PEOPLE ARE GETTING THEIR HAYING DONE. THE JUDGE IS FINISHING UP TODAY AND IS PRETTY GLAD TO HAVE IT OVER WITH. HE HAS BEEN UP RENDING A BARE. HE WON'T STOP BEING A FARMER AT HEART UNTIL HE DIES. HE IS MOST SIGHTLY, I GUESS. MR. KISSER GIVE ME A BOOK TO SEND TO YOU AND I EXPECT YOU WILL GET IT EVENTUALLY. DO HOPE THOSE SOCKS AND THINGS COME IN TIME TO DO YOU SOME GOOD. PLEASE ASK FOR ANYTHING YOU NEED AND I WILL TRY TO GET IT FOR YOU. I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF WE HAD CLOTHES RATIONING IN THE FALL SO WOULD LIKE TO GET YOUR THINGS AS SOON AS I CAN. WE HAVE SOME NEW KINDS OF STAMPS IN OUR NEW RATION BOOKS SO I GUESS WE WILL HAVE TO USE THEM FOR SOMETHING. WE GET SUFFICIENT OF EVERYTHING SO FAR AND EXPECT IT WILL CONTINUE.

V-MAIL
Renee Marie Marion

15.01.1943

From the front to Vermont, USA

"...am surprised that my first letter was censored and cut if I remember what I wrote...the censors may have taken the wrong meaning to something that I mentioned but it was unintentional on my part...moreover they have to be careful and I don't blame them..."

15.07.1943

From Vermont, USA to the front

"...we have some new kinds of stamps in our new ration book so I guess we will have to use them for something...we get sufficient of everything so far and expect it will continue"

WAR & NAVY
DEPARTMENTS
V--MAIL SERVICE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE. \$300

SERVICE
AUG 2
4-PM
1944

SPACE PROVIDED USE TYPEWRITER, DARK INK OR PENCIL. WRITE PLAINLY. VERY SMALL WRITING IS NOT SUITABLE.

No. **700135**

MRS. BENJAMIN M. HAYWARD, JR.
BOX 184
MONTPELIER, VERMONT
U. S. A.

SENTERS NAME
FINANCE DETACHMENT
SENTERS ADDRESS
MAJOR A. E. MILLER, F. D.
A. P. O. 875, U. S. ARMY
JANUARY 26, 1943
DATE

JAN 26 1943

DEAR MARION :

SOMEBODY IN ENGLAND

I RECEIVED THREE LETTERS FROM YOU THIS MORNING AND ALSO TWO THE MIDDLE OF LAST WEEK. OTHER MAIL INCLUDED COPIES OF THE ARGUS FOR DEC. 8 & 10th & DEC. 16 & 18th. THE LATTER HAD A LABEL THAT IT WAS FROM BETHANY CHURCH BUT I THINK THIS WAS JUST TO SEAL THE ROLL AND NOT THE SOURCE. I HAVE ALSO HAD ONE LETTER FROM JOE AND A CARD FROM COUSIN LORENTE, THE LATTER HAVING TRAVELED ALL OVER THE STATES BEFORE COMING HERE. I KNOW THERE ARE STILL SOME LETTERS THAT I HAVE NOT RECEIVED AS YET, SUCH AS THE ONE TELLING ABOUT YOUR CHRISTMAS. THE TIME IN THE LAST TWO WERE THEY WELCOME, NAMELY THAT YOU RECEIVED THE MONEY THAT I SENT HOME AND THAT YOU HAVE STARTED RECEIVING THE ALLOWANCE.

I AM SORRY THAT MY LETTERS HAVE NOT BEEN COMING THRU REGULARLY BUT DURING THE PAST FOUR WEEKS, HAVE BEEN WRITING VERY FREQUENT AND SO IN TIME YOU SHOULD RECEIVE MY PRESENT ADDRESS. I WAS LUCKY TO SEND THE MONEY HOME WHEN I DID FOR NOW WE ARE ALLOWED TO SEND IT BY MONEY ORDER ONLY AND IF IT SHOULD BECOME LOST, IT MIGHT TAKE YEARS TO RECOVER. HOWEVER IF I SHOULD BUILD UP AN EXCESS AGAIN, WILL SEND IT HOME BY THIS MEANS.

I WOULD ADVISE YOU TO CONSULT JASON HART IN REGARD TO THE INCOME TAX AND MY NOT BEING THERE TO SIGN THE JOINT RETURN. THERE MUST BE A LOT OF SUCH CASES AND HE WOULD HAVE THE OFFICIAL HULLING ON IT. AS TO THE SEAT ONE, I DON'T KNOW THAT MY ARMY PAY IS TAXABLE OR NOT. YOU COULD HAVE MRS. FERRIN CALL UP THE TAX COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AND AND GET THE VARIOUS MATTERS STRAIGHTENED OUT.

I AM VERY GLAD THAT THE BOYS ARE PROVING TO BE GOOD ROOMERS AND THAT YOU ARE ABLE TO GET OUT TO THINGS SUCH AS THE GOVERNOR'S RECEPTION, ETC. SO I WAS RIGHT ABOUT LIL AND THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR. AM ALSO GLAD THAT YOU ARE NOW A MEMBER OF THE PAST NOBLE GRAND'S ASSOCIATION.

I WAS NOT SURPRISED TO HEAR ABOUT PORTER AS I HAVE SEEN HIS LIEUTENANT BUT SHALL PROBABLY NOT SEE HIM AS IT IS NOT TOO NEAR HERE.

I HAVE RETURNED FROM MY FIRST PASS. I SPENT AN ENJOYABLE BUT BUSY PERIOD OF TIME BUT IT WAS NOT TYPICAL OF THE ACTIVITIES OF MANY OF THE ARMY MEN.

THE THINGS I DID, I SAW A FOOTBALL (SOCCER) GAME. IT WAS INTERESTING TO FOLLOW THAN FOOTBALL. IT WAS NEARLY AS ACTIVE AS ICE HOCKEY OR BASKETBALL. THE FOOTWORK OF THE PLAYERS CORRESPONDED TO THE STICKWORK OF ICE HOCKEY. I ATTENDED THE THEATER ONE EVENING. IT WAS A CHANGE FROM MOVIES AND THEATER, AND ACTING WAS QUITE GOOD AS WAS THE COMEDY.

HEARD A PERSON'S WORKSHOP WHERE HE WAS CONSTRUCTING A MODEL LOCOMOTIVE TO PART HE MAKES HIMSELF, EVEN THE DIES TO MAKE THE CASTINGS. HE RUNS IT AND AIR RATHER THAN STEAM BUT COULD DO IT WITH THE LATTER. IT IS VERY THE PRECISION AND CARE USED IN ITS CONSTRUCTION.

ONLY THE MOST IMPORTANT THING THAT I DID WAS TO VISIT ONE OF THE IMPORTANT SITES, SULGRAVE MANOR, THE HOME OF GEORGE WASHINGTON ANCESTORS. THE BIRTH EQUIPPED WITH GENUINE EARLY FURNISHINGS, MANY OF WHICH WERE COME FROM THE WASHINGTON FAMILY. IT IS VERY NICELY KEPT UP AND THERE IS A GUIDE PEOPLE AROUND AND EXPLAIN ABOUT THE VARIOUS ITEMS.

AM GLAD TO KNOW THAT REBECCA PAULINE HAS FINALLY ARRIVED ALTHOUGH I DON'T OF THE NAME.

V--MAIL
Lots of love, Ben

provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No.

To Pro. Benjamin M. Hayward, Jr.
A. S. N. 31,156,579
H. Q. H. 4. Sp., 38th Service Op.
Finance Section
A. P. O. 854, c/o Postmaster
New York, New York

From Mrs. B. M. Hayward, Jr.
(Sender's name)
Box 184
(Sender's address)
Montpelier, Vermont
July 15, 1943
(Date)

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

DEAR BERRY: JUST GOT YOUR LETTER OF THE 6th AND AM VERY GLAD THAT IT IS AT LAST SETTLED THAT YOU CAN GO TO STATE NIGHT AS I KNOW YOU WILL HAVE A VERY GOOD TIME AND PROBABLY SEE ALL SORTS OF PEOPLE. I SHAN'T BELIEVE A WORD BLAINE SAYS, NOW'S THAT? BUT YOU WILL HAVE TO BREAK DOWN AND TELL ME ALL ABOUT IT.

I WILL ORDER THE CANADA BOOK. I GOT A FIRST DAY OF THE CZECHOSLOVAKIAN STAMP SIGNED BY THE AMBASSADOR. THE PROCEEDS WENT TO CZECH RELIEF. IT IS A VERY PRETTY COVER AND RATHER LIMITED. WE HAVE NUMBER 60. THE AMBASSADOR'S NAME IS HURBAN BUT YOU WOULD NEVER KNOW IT AS HE IS SUCH A POOR WRITER. I TOLD ALBERT I WAS GLAD HE WAS NOT A NOTARY IN VERMONT AND I HAD TO DECIPHER HIS NAME EVERY DAY OR TWO.

DO YOU EVER HAVE TO PAY POSTAGE ON MY AIRMAIL LETTERS? THERE WAS AN ARTICLE IN THE PAPER LAST NIGHT URGING EVERYBODY TO BE SURE TO PUT ON ENOUGH POSTAGE AND I WONDERED. SOME OF THEM GET PRETTY THICK BUT I TRY TO USE JUST ONE THIN SHEET.

WE HAD OUR STRING BEANS OUT OF THE GARDEN FOR DINNER YESTERDAY AND THEY WERE JUST LOVELY. I SMACKED MY LIPS MORE THAN ONCE. MR. BOYCE WON'T HAVE STRING BEANS FOR A WEEK AND HE PLANTED HIS AT LEAST A WEEK EARLIER THAN MINE. AM I PROUD OF MY EFFORTS. THE SECOND CROP OF BEETS, RADISHES AND LETTUCE IS COMING UP IN FINE SHAPE SO THAT MY FALL HARVEST WILL BE GOOD TOO. IF WE HAD HAD THAT NICE SOIL LAST YEAR OUR EFFORTS WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE REWARDED.

THE MIDDLEBURY BULLETIN CAME THIS MORNING. IT IS A NICE LITTLE NUMBER CONTAINING TWO MESSAGES FROM DR. STRATTON. MY GOODNESS, BUT IS HE HANDSOME.

A BIG TREE FELL ACROSS MR. PRATTIN'S DRIVEWAY LAST NIGHT AND TORE HIS ROCK GARDEN ALL TO PIECES. HE CERTAINLY IS HAVING THE LUCK THIS YEAR. FIRST THE SNOW FALLS OFF THE COURT HOUSE AND SMASHES THE ROOF OF HIS CAR IN, HIS WIFE HAS TO SPEND THE WINTER AND SPRING IN THE HOSPITAL HE CAN'T START HIS CAR ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS AND NOW A TREE FALLS ON HIS LAND. AT LEAST HE WILL HAVE FINE PLACE WOOD.

V--MAIL
Lots of love, Marion

25.01.1943
From the front to Vermont, USA

"...have returned from my first pass...spent an enjoyable but busy period of time...the most important thing that I did was to visit one of the important historical sites, Sulgrave Manor home of George Washington's ancestors..."

15.07.1943
From Vermont, USA to the front

"...I got a first day of the Czechoslovakian stamp signed by the ambassador..it is a very pretty cover and rather limited. We have number 60...the ambassador's name is Hurban..."

WAR & NAVY
DEPARTMENTS
V--MAIL SERVICE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300

AUG 2
4-PM
1944

PRINT THE COMPLETE ADDRESS IN PLAIN BLOCK LETTERS IN THE PANEL BELOW AND YOUR RETURN ADDRESS IN THE SPACE PROVIDED. USE TYPEWRITER, DARK INK OR PENCIL. WRITE PLAINLY. VERY SMALL WRITING IS NOT SUITABLE.

No. **16802**

MR. AND MRS. B. M. HAYWARD
R. F. D. # 1
MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT
U. S. A.

PAID BY
U.S. ARMY
CENSORS STAMP

PTT. B. M. HAYWARD, JR.
SENDER'S NAME
FINANCE DETACHMENT
SENDER'S ADDRESS
MAJOR A. H. MILLER, P. D.
APO 876 U. S. ARMY
New York, N. Y.
DATE
MAY 24 1943

SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND

DEAR FATHER AND MOTHER :

HAVE RETURNED FROM MY FURLOUGH TO SCOTLAND UPON WHICH I HAD A VERY NICE TIME. SCOTLAND IS INDEED A BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY. ALTHOUGH I SPENT MOST OF MY TIME IN AND ABOUT EDINBURGH, I DID GET OVER TO SEE LOCH LOMOND.

PROBABLY THE MOST OUTSTANDING THING ABOUT EDINBURGH IS EDINBURGH CASTLE STANDING HIGH UPON A ROCKY HILL WITH SHEER DROPS DOWN TO THE VALLEY BELOW ON ALL BUT ONE SIDE. IT IS FAR MORE IMPRESSIVE TO VIEW IT FROM A DISTANCE THAN TO BE ACTUALLY IN IT. SOMEHOW, BEING IN IT, ONE LOSES MUCH OF ITS PICTURESQUENESS.

HOWEVER THE VIEW IS INDEED NICE FROM IT. DIRECTLY BELOW ARE THE PRINCESS STREET GARDENS WITH ITS DISPLAYS OF BRIGHTLY COLORED FLOWERS FORMING VARIOUS DESIGNS. IN BACK OF THESE ARE BUILDINGS FORMING PART OF THE CITY WHILE FURTHER BACK IS THE FIRTH OF FORTH WHILE HILLS RISE FROM THIS TO FORM THE BACKGROUND.

THE BOTANIC GARDENS WAS INDEED A PLACE OF INTEREST. THERE ITS WORLD FAMOUS ROCK GARDENS WITH PLANTS OF ALL KINDS IN BLOOM. IN THE GLASS HOUSES, THERE WAS WING AFTER WING OF PLANTS OF ALL KINDS, INCLUDING TROPICAL FLOWERS, SHRUBS, AND FULL GROWN PALM TREES.

THE LAKE LOMOND SCOTION IS INDEED A SCENIC SPOT WITH THE LAKE SURROUNDED BY HILLS AND MOUNTAINS AND DOTTED WITH ISLANDS.

I DID NOT FIND JUST THE THINGS THAT MOTHER WOULD HAVE WISHED FOR AS SOUVENIRS BUT AFTER ALL ONE CAN ONLY BUY WHAT THERE IS ON THE MARKET AND THE CHOICE IS EXTREMELY LIMITED. WHAT I GOT FOR FATHER WILL NOT BE ESPECIALLY USEFUL. I GOT MYSELF A BOOKLET ILLUSTRATING THE TARTANS OF ALL THE SCOTTISH CLANS. WE ARE BOTH WELL.

No.

Pfc. B. M. HAYWARD, JR.
HQ & Hq Sq. 39th Service Group,
FINANCE SECTION, A.P.O. 634,
U. S. ARMY,
Postmaster, NEW YORK, NEW YORK.

MR. B. M. HAYWARD,
R.F.D. NO. 886,
MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT.

July 16, 1943

Dear Benjamin:- Your letter came July 14. Glad you could visit Shakespeare's home. Can imagine just how it looks from the descriptions I have read.

We have been having a very "hot wave" here but it is cooler this morning. There has been very severe electrical storms in different localities. In the town south of us it blew down silos, unroofed part of one house, burned out transformers, blew in windows etc. and the paper told of a severe storm in Barton. It lasted an hour and did \$75,000. worth of damage.

Dad spends some of his time berrying. I have put up 12 pints of red raspberries, 2 of black caps and made 13 glasses of jam. Thought I'd get some north of the house last night. picked a few and killed 13 mosquitos. so I quit.

We hear nothing more about Hayward. In fact - is let. ters have come from the Met lately. Carl graduated from college in June. John - Bernice's son - is in Mrs. Uncle Addison's ribs are better but he is very lame. He has the cutest puppy. Plans to train it for a cow dog.

Aunt Lill and Sarah are alone just now as Pamela has come up to Dan's. Has had a growth removed from her hand. Bertha and Odell called here the other day. He is very poorly and she as curious as ever. Silas and Philip's father has been taken to a hospital. The one we saw when we went out to the springs near Frederick's I had a letter from him yesterday. He said he had written to both you and Marion. Hope you see him the next time you visit London. Do write eating news to write

V--MAIL

22.05.1943
From the front to Vermont, USA

"...returned from my furlough to Scotland...had a very nice time. spent most in and about Edinburg. The most outstanding thing about is Edinburgh Castle standing high upon a rocky hill with sheer drop down to the valley below on all but one side..."

16.07.1943
From Vermont, USA to the front

"...your letter came July 14... glad you could visit Shakespeare home...we have been having a ver "hot wave" here...several severe electrical storms in different localities in the town...blew down silos, unroofed part of one house, burned out transformers, blew in windows..."

WAR & NAVY

DEPARTMENTS

V.-MAIL SERVICE

9-AM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300

GRAND CENTRAL
ANNEX

WRITE THE COMPLETE ADDRESS IN PLAIN BLOCK LETTERS IN THE SPACE BELOW, AND YOUR RETURN ADDRESS IN THE SPACE PROVIDED. USE TYPEWRITER, DARK INK OR PENCIL. WRITE PLAINLY. VERY SMALL WRITING IS NOT SUITABLE.

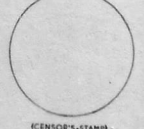


Mr. + Mrs. Roy Whitson
Achille, Oklahoma
Box 103

5486 Whitson
RECEIVED
JUL 15 1943
NEW YORK, N.Y.

Dearest Roy + family
Well how are the things on the farm? How are the boys? I sure would like to see them. Claud and I are just fine. I am still a little tired from my three days in London. I sure did see a lot of London. I was on the go from about nine in the morning till 12 at night. They had two alerts while I was there. There were a few bombs dropped once, but none came close. I enjoyed the trip but I don't think I will go again, it cost too much and saw nearly everything there was to see. Well I will love to close now. HELLO
LEE AND HENRY EARL
Bob & CLARA

No.



To Pfc. Benjamin M. Hayward, Jr.
ASN 3456579
HQ + HQ Sq. 39th Service Group
Finance Section
R.R. 634, Postmaster
New York, New York.

From Mrs. C. M. Thompson
(Sender's name)
3 Hartz Court
(Sender's address)
Baldwin, N.Y.
July 16, 1943
(Date)

Dear Ben:
It is one of those perfect days which come so seldom here on the Island in the summer. It is warm but a delightful breeze and the air nice and fresh instead of muggy as it has been most of my vacation. I am enjoying my brief holiday immensely and getting so many things done that I never have time for during the school year. Letters answered, magazines read, all the nooks of the house properly cleaned in leisure, fancy work done, an occasional nap in the afternoon and lots of new pipes tried out so I can make the most of the ration points and get turn out something palatable. Our garden is now getting along so I shall be canning before many days. The beets are about ready and soon tomatoes will be. My next door neighbor, who is spending this month up in Rhode Island to be near her husband who is a Seabee, sent me yesterday by parcel post a Fannie Farmer cookbook, something I have long wanted to own and have I had fun poring over it these two days! There is absolutely nothing omitted in it and I can see where I shall have lots of fun before the summer is over. Meat is still very scarce unless you care to patronize the black market which my Puritan conscience will scarcely let me do. So it is a challenge to a person's ingenuity to make your points go as far as possible, have variety and be able to use the meat that is available. You have to plan the menu after you do your shopping instead of before. Luckily one isn't annoyed with much company any more so that helps.
Your last letter dated July 3 arrived a week later, the 13th which isn't at all bad. I was much interested in what you had to say about your trip to Stratford. The day we were there it was misting and it rather spoiled the colorful effect in Ann Hathaway's garden which we had been so eager to see. We ate at the White Swan, a quaint inn dating way back to Shakespeare's time. You said you saw the plays presented in a nice modern theatre there. Want't it the Shakespearean theatre?
I haven't been anywhere at all exciting since I wrote you last. We do manage to see a movie once a week and that is about all. I have a date with the dentist next Wed. and I hope to get over to see Edna in Huntington before long. But that will be a real trip, three buses and a train ride. I haven't seen her folks in over a year and they live less than 25 miles away. Then I hope to get into the city when and if it gets cooler and maybe see a show or two and do some much needed shopping. You cannot shop by mail anymore unless you buy more than five pounds in weight for on account of the gas shortage they have cut down on deliveries. It is surely a changing world. But if they can put Hitler out of business no sacrifice is too much. And they seem to be doing a good job of it so far. I am wondering what your change of address may mean but I suppose I shall still continue to order. It is too good to be true that you should continue to be stationed there in England but I hope you may be all the same. Somehow that seems by far the safest place to be if one has to be overseas. And now I see I have reached the end of my paper so I shall be signing off and again soon. We are both
hope to hear from you
line and hope you are too.

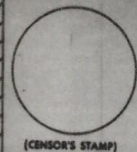
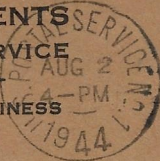
V...- MAIL

15.06.1943
From the front to Oklahoma, USA
"...I was on the go from about 9 in the morning till 12 at night. ...had two alerts...a few bombs dropped but none came close..."

16.07.1943
From New York, USA to the front
"...meat is still very scarce unless you care to patronize the black market...have to plan the menu after you do your shopping instead of before...It is surely a changing world but if they can put Hitler out of business no sacrifice is too much..."

WAR & NAVY
DEPARTMENTS
V-MAIL SERVICE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300



TO: Mrs BENJAMIN M. HAYWARD, JR.
Box 184
MONTPELIER
VERMONT

FROM: Mrs Benjamin M. Hayward
31156 579
HQ Base Sq, 225th Air Sq Gp
APO 557
Postmaster, New York, N.Y.

SEE INSTRUCTION NO. 2

(Sender's complete address above)

Dearest Marion: Molesworth, Hunts, England
6 June 1945

This is one of the last, if not the last, letters that I shall write you from this country.
I wished I knew in which direction, our immediate destination is, ^{or towards} for from there I could go either for the East or the West, or stay in that area. It is the uncertainty of it that is discouraging.
However, I will write you as soon as I am settled but there is a possibility of several minor moves before I get finally settled and can write.
There is no doubt that I will miss this country, not but I would welcome Vermont any chance I could get.
Hope you are well. Have received no mail this month as yet. It may be held up somewhere awaiting our new location.
If I get the opportunity, will write again from but am not sure whether I will be able to

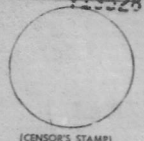
Love and kisses,
Ben

IS IN COMPLETE AT TOP?

V-MAIL

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?

No. 713528



Mrs Benjamin M. Hayward
ASN 31156 579, HQ HQ Sq
39th SERVICE GROUP, FINANCE
APO 634 C/o P.M. New York

Mrs B M Hayward
Box 184
Montpelier Vermont
August 14, 1945
(Date)

Dear Ben. Received yours of the 2nd and 3rd and hasten to say that my financial condition is ok. In fact you will eventually receive a letter in which I want to send you some money so you can go further on your trip. Hope the watch get there as fast as the letter did though I sent the watch first as I remember. Norbert Laine from Northfield has arrived in England as has "Curly Top" - Mrs Phyllis Hayward who arranged Grammie + Mimi fare. Hope you have fun on your pass and am wondering where you will "jump". Tomorrow is your special anniversary + I sent them a card. Don't remembering the 19th too. Glad Jacobson is off. Where does he live?
Love, Ben

V-MAIL

06.06.1943

From the front to Vermont, USA

"...this is one of the last letters that I shall write you from this country (England). I wish I knew in which direction our immediate destination is, for from there I could go either for the East or the West, or stay in that area. It is the uncertainty of it that is discouraging..."

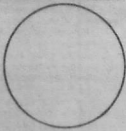
14.08.1943

From Vermont, USA to the front

"...received yours of the 2nd and 3rd and hasten to say that my financial condition is OK... you will eventually receive a letter in which I want to send you some money... hope you have fun on your pass and wondering where you will 'jump'..."

Print the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. 361819



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

To Pfc. Benjamin M. Hayward, Jr.
A. S. N. 31,186,579
H. C. H. Q. Sq., 39th Service Op.
Finance Section
c/o Postmaster, A.P.O. 634
New York, N.Y.

From

Mrs. D. W. Hayward, Jr.
(Sender's name)
Box 184
(Sender's address)
Montpelier, Vermont

July 20, 1943
(Date)

DEAR BEN: YESTERDAY I WROTE YOU THAT I HAD SENT THE WATCH. HOPE THAT IT REACHES YOU IN A SHORT TIME AND IN THE SAME CONDITION AS IT LEFT. IT REALLY IS A NICE WATCH, AND I THINK YOU WILL LIKE IT.

LAST NIGHT I DROVE OVER AND WENT TO THE MOVIES AND SAW STATE DOOR CANTEN. IT WAS A GRAND MOVIE WITH A LOT OF CELEBRITIES AND GOOD MUSIC AND EVERYTHING. THE ONLY THING IS THAT IT MADE ME WONDER WHAT THE RED CROSS CLUBS ARE LIKE IN LONDON. PLEASE ELUCIDATE. THEY HAD SOME VERY PRETTY GALS IN THE STATE DOOR CANTEN - ENOUGH TO GO AROUND. IS IT THAT WAY IN LONDON OR DO YOU HAVE TO SHARE? ANYWAY, I ENJOYED THE MOVIE AND GUESS I WILL GO AGAIN. MARIAN AND LLOYD ARE GOING TONIGHT AND I AM GOING TO STAY WITH THE KIDS. MARIAN IS MAKING A CAKE FOR DINNER TODAY AND LLOYD IS COMING HOME FROM NEYS IDES.

MR. FRATTINI HAD A LETTER FROM HARRY PARKER YESTERDAY TELLING ABOUT SEEING YOU AND WHAT A GOOD TIME HE HAD. IS HE A CORPORAL OR IS MR. P TELLING ME THINGS. HIS MOTHER SAID HE WAS A PFC. ROGER FRAIL SAYS THAT PFC'S ARE POOR FOOLISH CIVILIANS BUT AS I HAVE SAID IN A PREVIOUS LETTER CAPT. FRAIL IS NOT ONE OF MY FAVORITES. IF HE COMES IN THIS OFFICE AGAIN AND LEANS BACK WITH HIS FEET ON THE TABLE I SHALL GET UP AND GO OUT. WE WILL NEVER SEND A BOY TO NORWICH AND THAT IS FINAL. I PUT MY FOOT DOWN. THEY ARE JUST TOO UNGRACABLE.

PICLED SOME MORE STRING BEANS IN THE GARDEN LAST NIGHT AND GOT SOME LITTLE TENDER BEETS. SIS ANDROSS AND I TALKED OVER HER TOMATO PLANTS AND TIED THEM UP AND A BIT. THEY LOOK VERY NICE AND I AM GOING TO BE NICE TO HER WHEN THE KIDEN. HAD SOME. SHE HAS SOME NICE CUCUMBERS, TOO. SHE'S A LOT OF FUN BUT WAS SHE S I TOLD HER THAT SHE WOULD HAVE MORE THAN ONE CROP OF STRING BEANS.

BY THE WAY, WHERE DO YOU STAY WHEN IN LONDON, HOTEL, CLUB OR HOME. ASK ME AND I JUST ACT DUMB OR DRAF OR SOMETHING. I JUST HAVE TO HAVE DETAILS. LOVE AND LOTS OF KISSES

V-MAIL *Manson*

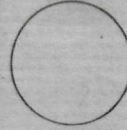
20.07.1943

From Vermont, USA to the front

"...last night I went to the movies and saw "State Door Canteen". It was a grand movie with a lot of celebrities and good music and everything...the only thing is that it made me wonder what the Red Cross Clubs are like in London. Mr. Frattini had a letter from Harry Parker yesterday telling about seeing you and what a good time he had... is he a corporal? His mother said he was a PFC (Private First Class). Roger Frail says that PFCs are poor civilians, but Frail is not one of my favorite

Print the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. 156943



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

To Pfc. Benjamin M. Hayward, Jr.
A. S. N. 31,186,579
H. C. H. Q. Sq., 39th Service Group
Finance Section
A. P. O. 634, c/o Postmaster
New York, N.Y.

From

Mrs. D. W. Hayward, Jr.
(Sender's name)
Box 184
(Sender's address)
Montpelier, Vermont

July 20, 1943
(Date)

DEAR BEN:

THIRD LETTER TODAY BUT I JUST WENT OVER TO THE POST OFFICE AND FOUND TWO FROM YOU - THE TWELFTH AND THIRTEENTH V LETTERS AND WAS SO PLEASED THAT I HAD TO WRITE RIGHT AWAY.

I CAN SEND YOU SOME MAPLE SUGAR NEXT WEEK. WE CAN SEND ONE A WEEK AND I SEND YOU THE WATCH YESTERDAY SO THAT TAKES CARE OF THIS WEEK. I CAN MAKE UP FIVE POUNDS OF PEANUTS AND MAPLE SUGAR. MAPLE SUGAR IS ABOUT ALL THE SWEET STUFF WE CAN GET AROUND HERE. CHOCOLATE IS PRACTICALLY EXTINCT AND THERE IS VERY LITTLE HARD CANDY. PLANTERS PEANUTS IN THE SEALED PACKAGES ARE JUST ASKING TO BE SENT OVER TO YOU. HOPE YOU GET ALL THESE PACKAGES. THAT WILL MAKE FOUR OUTSTANDING - TWO OF CLOTHING, WATCH AND MAPLE SUGAR. IF YOU DON'T GET THE CLOTHES RIGHT AWAY SEND AGAIN AND I WILL MAKE UP A SMALLER PACKAGE THE NEXT WEEK I CAN SEND.

Later, Just got back from Freddy's staying with the kids and found that Louise Rashed had been here. She is staying at the Tavern. I'll see her a few days so shall probably see her later.

Got a letter from Freddy in a later mail. He is pretty homesick and says he will not get a furlough unless he gets shipped and then I'll be sure of it.

By the way, don't go too far with "flair" or I shall be jealous. Remember Louise is in what she calls a "delicate" condition. I'll see her of it.

V-MAIL *Manson*

20.07.1943

From Vermont, USA to the front

"...I just went over to the Post Office and found 2 from you...the 12th and 13th V letters. Maple sugar is about all the sweet stuff we can get around here. Chocolate is practically extinct and there is very little hard candy...planters peanuts in the sealed packages are just asking to be sent over to you. Hope you get all these...that will make four...two of clothing, watch and maple sugar. If you don't get the clothes right away, send again and I will make up a smaller package the next week I can send..

24.07.1943

From Vermont, USA to the front

"...your welcome letters seem to come about as usual. I am a little late in writing this time but we have been having company for several days... wish you could have been here too. I began my garden a month ago today and it seems to be coming along pretty well. Will pick lettuce any time now and the tomato plants are doing well. You must have enjoyed Shakespeare on his native heath very much... at least it must have been much more interesting than reading about it in a book..."

Print the complete address in plain black letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

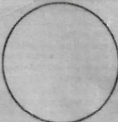
Pfc BENJAMIN L. HAYWARD JR.
H & H Q Sq, 39th Service Group,
FINANCE SECTION,
A P O 634- U S ARMY,
Care Postmaster, New York, New York,

B L HAYWARD,
R F D NO. 1,
MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT.
July 24,
(Date)

DEAR BEN:-

YOUR WELCOME LETTERS SEEM TO COME ABOUT AS USUAL, AND WE ARE GLAD TO HEAR FROM YOU. I AM A LITTLE LATE IN WRITING THIS TIME, BUT WE HAVE BEEN HAVING COMPANY FOR SEVERAL DAYS. WISH YOU COULD HAVE BEEN HERE TO. LLOYD CAME DOWN SATURDAY P M GOING BACK ON TUESDAY THE 20th. FREDERICK AND FAMILY CAME THE 21st, AND ARE HERE FOR A WEEK. RUTH HAS GROWN A LOT. WE WOULD NOT HAVE KNOWN HER IF SHE HAD BEEN ALONE. WE EXPECT BARBARA AND BETTY MAY COME A LITTLE LATER. NOT MUCH IN THE WAY OF NEWS. BILL PECK IS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI, SO GEORGE SAID. EDWARD B- IS PROBABLY SEEKING SOME ACTION WHERE HE IS. HAVE NOT HEARD FROM HAYWARD Yr FOR SOME TIME. GLAD YOU COULD SEE SOME OF YOUR FRIENDS AT THE STATE MEETING. I BEGAN MY GARDEN A MONTH AGO TODAY, AND IT SEEMS TO BE COMING ALONG PRETTY WELL EVEN IF IT WAS LATE. WILL PICK LETTUCE ANY TIME NOW, AND THE TOMATO PLANTS ARE DOING WELL. SOME OF THE FRUIT IS FORMING. CUCUMBER VINES ARE ABOUT READY TO RUN, AND THE BEANS ARE MORE THAN A FOOT HIGH. YOU MUST HAVE ENJOYED SHAKESPEARE ON HIS NATIVE HEATH VERY MUCH. AT LEAST IT SEEMS MUST HAVE BEEN MUCH MORE INTERESTING THAN READING ABOUT IT IN A BOOK. HAVE PICKED A NUMBER OF QUARTS OF BOTH RED AND BLACK RASPBERRIES. MUST STOP. V-MAIL LOTS OF LOVE FROM US ALL. "DAD."

No. 470131



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

PFC. B.M. HAYWARD, JR. A.S.N.
H. Q. H. Q. Sq. 31,156,579
39th SERVICE GROUP, FINANCE SECTION
A.P.O. 634, c/o POSTMASTER
NEW YORK, N.Y.

Mrs. R. G. Perrin
125 East Street
Barre, Vt. U.S.A.
July 24, 1943
(Date)

DEAR BEN:

YOUR LAST LETTER DATED MAY 3rd, WAS RECEIVED SOMETIME AGO, AND IT WAS A THRILL TO READ THAT YOU HAD REC'D THE CHOCOLATES AT LONG LAST. AM GLAD YOU GOT THEM AND THAT THEY WERE STILL PALATABLE.

YES, ALLAN IS IN THE ARMY AND LOCATED AT FORT BELVOIR, VA. MY HAT WAS OFF TO HIM & DORIS. THEY BOTH TOOK A VERY ADMIRABLE ATTITUDE ABOUT IT ALL. ALTHOUGH THE GOING IS TOUGH, HE DOES NOT COMPLAIN, ONLY TO WISH HE WAS YOUNGER. DORIS IS WORKING AT THE NATIONAL AND STAYING ALONE IN THEIR TENEMENT IN MONTPELIER, AS HIS FOLKS ARE CARETAKERS AT THE ASCUTNEY FOREST PARK THIS SUMMER. WILL NO DOUBT BE BACK IN MONTPELIER THIS FALL.

RENE IS STILL WITH ME. THE LONGER THE BETTER. RONALD HAS GROWN INCHES THIS SUMMER AND HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY WELL FOR HIM.

THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE CALLED YESTERDAY AND SAID THEY HAD A LETTER FROM THE PROGRAMMING DIRECTOR, RED CROSS OVER THERE, AND THE LETTER GAVE AN ACCOUNT OF WHO WAS PRESENT AT ONE OF THEIR CLUB PROGRAMS. IN THE ACCOUNT, IT WAS STATED THAT THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE EVENT WAS WHEN YOU MET CORP. PARKER FROM MONTPELIER. THE LETTER IS TO BE PRINTED IN THE LOCAL PAPER (WHICH IT WAS LAST NIGHT) SO YOU SEE YOUR ACQUAINTANCES WILL HEAR OF YOU SECOND HAND. AFTER TALKING WITH THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE I CALLED MARION. SHE WAS PLEASED, ALTHOUGH SHE HAD HAD AN ACCOUNT OF THE PROCEDURE IN ONE OF YOUR LETTERS. MARION TOLD ME TO COME OVER AND SEE A PICTURE OF YOU, WHICH I DID AT NOON YESTERDAY. YOU LOOK FINE, WITH YOUR SERVICE BAR AND ALL, BUT NOT AS FAT AS IN THE KILT PICTURE. THAT WAS SOMETHING!

WE HAD MANY COMPLIMENTS FROM OTHER PLANNING BOARDS ON THE FINANCE REPORT. THE OFFICE IS NOT NOW WORKING ON ANY PARTICULAR STUDY. I THINK WE WILL IN THE NEAR FUTURE & WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED. WE ARE RATHER HANDICAPPED NOW: YOU SEE WE HAVE NO STATISTICIAN OR DRAFTSMAN. I AM NO LONGER DOING COUNCIL OF SAFETY BOOKKEEPING. WE STILL ATTEND TO FUEL BD. & AERO. BD MATTERS. CONGRESS DISCONTINUED ENTIRELY NRPE FUNDS JULY 1ST.

WE HAVE A FINE BIG GARDEN THIS YEAR. AND THAT MEANS PLENTY OF WORK FOR YOURS TRULY & FAMILY. I PLAN TO TAKE MY VACATION THIS YEAR WHEN ALLAN USUALLY TOOK HIS. I THINK THOUGH THAT MY CANNING WILL BE ABOUT DONE BY THEN THE RATE THE GARDEN IS PROGRESSING. THAT'S ALL RIGHT THOUGH BECAUSE I WILL REST MORE.

HAVE HOPE YOU ENJOYED YOUR PASS & FURLOUGH. YOU WILL/OODLES TO TALK ABOUT SOMEDAY. WE ARE HAVING A NICE SUMMER. AND VERMONT IS AS BEAUTIFUL AS EVER. THERE I GO AGAIN!
WRITE.

V-MAIL

Ella P.

24.07.1943

From Vermont, USA to the front

"...the governor's office called yesterday and said they had a letter from the programming director, Red Cross over there. The letter is to be printed in the local paper so you see your acquaintances will hear of your second hand. You look fine with your service bar and all...we had many compliments from other planning boards on the financial report...the office is not now working on any particular study. I think we will in the near future & will keep you informed..."

Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. 647553

To Pfc. Benjamin M. Hayward, Jr.
A. S. N. 31,156,579
H. Q. H. Q. Sq., 39th Service Group
Finance Section
A. P. O. 634, c/o Postmaster
New York, N.Y.

From Mrs. B. M. Hayward, Jr.
(Sender's name)
Box 184
(Sender's address)
Montpelier, Vermont
July 26, 1943
(Date)

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

DEAR BEN: JUST RECEIVED YOUR LETTERS OF THE 18th and 19th and AM GLAD THAT ONE PACKAGE AT LEAST HAS ARRIVED. NOW I WILL FEEL BETTER ABOUT THE WATCH AS THAT WAS SENT TO THE CORRECT ADDRESS AT LEAST. YOU SHOULD RECEIVE A SMALLER PACKAGE OF SOCKS VERY SOON AS THAT WAS SENT TO 634. HAD A BIG WEEK END. SATURDAY AFTERNOON I WENT UP TO THE PARK AND PICKED WILD RASPBERRIES AND HAD A GOOD TIME HUNTING AROUND. GUESS I GOT A QUART AND A HALF BESIDES A LOT OF TAN. THERE WASN'T ANYBODY ELSE THERE SO DON'T WORRY. IT WAS A LOVELY DAY AND I SAW A MOUSE AND A CHIPMUNK AND LOTS OF BIRDS. THE RASPBERRIES WERE VERY GOOD. THEY ARE 47 CENTS A QUART IN THE STORES. YESTERDAY MORNING I WENT UP TO THE GARDEN AND WEEDED A BIT AND PICKED BEETS, CARROTS, LETTUCE, RADISHES AND SOME MORE TAN. HAD A GRAND DINNER OF GREENS AND SALAD. NEXT SUNDAY IF IT DOESN'T RAIN (REMEMBER LAST YEAR?) ALBERT AND HIS WIFE ARE GOING TO GROTON AND THEY HAVE ASKED ME TO GO. THE BLUEBERRIES SHOULD BE JUST ABOUT RIPE AND THEY SAY THAT THERE ARE A LOT OF THEM. MR. PRATTINI WENT TO WOODBURY YESTERDAY AND PICKED RASPBERRIES. THEY PAID 28 cents and PICKED THEM THEMSELVES. ANYWAY THEY HAD A GOOD TRIP. I SLEPT MOST OF THE AFTERNOON AND THEN WROTE LETTERS TO EVERYBODY I COULD THINK OF.

YOU CERTAINLY DID HAVE YOUR PICTURE TAKEN AND IT WAS GOOD TOO. I SENT ONE TO YOUR MOTHER AND HAVE ONE FOR THE SCRAPBOOK. ALBERT SAYS THAT IF I LEAVE YOU OVER THERE WITH FLORA MUCH LONGER YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO REMEMBER A THING, BUT I'M NOT WORRIED. HOPE YOU CAN GET TO THE LAKE COUNTRY AS IT MUST BE BEAUTIFUL. IN FAREWELLS WINDOW THEY HAVE AN EXHIBIT OF MONEY THAT DONALD FRAIL SENT TO COMBIE. HE IS IN AFRICA AND SENT QUITE A MIXTURE OF MONEY. HE HAS SENT A NUMBER OF THINGS. MRS. GRANT, THE FRAILS GRANDMOTHER DIED LAST WEEK SO I CAN'T TELL MRS. FRAIL ABOUT YOUR PICTURE. YOU WILL REMEMBER THAT RAYMOND SAID HE COULDN'T SEND A PICTURE (HE IS SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND) AND THEY WONDERED IF YOU THIS ONE THE BEST OF THEM ALL. GLAD YOU GOT LETTERS FROM ALL THE KNOW SOME NEWS THAT I DON'T.

V-MAIL

26.07.1943

From Vermont, USA to the front

"...hope you can get to the lake country as it must be beautiful. Donald is in Africa and sent quite a mixture of money and a number of things. You will remember that Raymond said he could not send a picture (he is somewhere in England) and they wondered if yours would come through... Glad you got letters from all the family as they probably know some news that I didn't.

26.07.1943

Vermont, USA to the front

"...just got your V letter of the 21st asking about Orlando C. Lunt. I looked him up in the draft board and he enlisted from 64 Northfield Street before registering. Lhoyd got your airmail letter yesterday. I think the air mail ones come faster than the V-mail. Fred has been in the army 2 years and never left North Carolina...is pretty sick of the place and wishes he could get overseas..."

Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. 898112

To Pfc. Benjamin M. Hayward, Jr.
A. S. N. 31,156,579
H. Q. H. Q. Sq., 39th Service Group
Finance Section
A. P. O. 634, c/o Postmaster
New York, N.Y.

From Mrs. B. M. Hayward, Jr.
(Sender's name)
Box 184
(Sender's address)
Montpelier, Vermont
July 28, 1943
(Date)

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

DEAR BEN: JUST GOT YOUR V LETTER OF THE 21st ASKING ABOUT ORLANDO C. LUNT. I LOOKED HIM UP IN THE DRAFT BOARD AND HE ENLISTED FROM 64 NORTHFIELD STREET BEFORE REGISTERING. THERE WAS NO DATE ON HIS CARD BUT HE WENT IN AS A PRIVATE. HIS NO. IS 11,038,464, IF THAT IS ANY HELP. LHOYD GOT YOUR AIRMAIL LETTER YESTERDAY. IT MADE PRETTY GOOD TIME. I THINK THE AIR MAIL ONES COME FASTER THAN THE VMAIL. I HAD TO STOP AND THINK WHAT I BOUGHT YOU FOR THE FOURTH BUT MANAGED TO REMEMBER. IT SEEMS TO BE A LONG TIME AGO.

GLAD TO HEAR THAT YOU HAVE ICE CREAM. I'LL BET IT TASTES GOOD. THERE ARE BIG ADS IN THE MAGAZINES OF A MARINE LOOKING AT A MOUNTAIN OF STRAWBERRY ICE CREAM AND SAYING THAT HE WANTS ONE OF THOSE EVERYDAY AFTER HE GETS BACK.

FRED NEILSON, THE DEPUTY HERE BEFORE NORMAN, WAS IN YESTERDAY. HE HAS BEEN IN THE ARMY TWO YEARS AND HAS NEVER LEFT NORTH CAROLINA. HE IS PRETTY SICK OF THE PLACE AND WISHES HE COULD GET OVERSEAS. HILDRED IS PRETTY WORRIED ABOUT FELIX AS HE IS PROBABLY IN SICILY. I SAW SOME PICTURES OF THE PARATROUPEERS IN THE SUNDAY PAPER BUT FELIX WAS NOT AMONG THEM. POOR HILDRED. SHE HAS TAKEN TO GOING AROUND WITH JESSIE WEBSTER AND THEY SPENT A WEEK END IN BURLINGTON GOING OUT WITH MEN FROM THE FORT. REMEMBER WHEN SHE THOUGHT JESSIE WAS FAST AND WAS TEACHING LEONA ALL THOSE AWFUL THINGS? SHE CERTAINLY IS A PUNNY ONE.

HEA KNAPP OVERLOOK WAS AT THE BREAKFAST MEETING LAST NIGHT FOR A LITTLE WHILE. SHE IS LOOKING MUCH THE SAME BUT HAS AN UPSWEPT HAIRDO THAT IS TERRIFIC. LEONA IS DOING HER UP TOO AND LOOKS ABOUT AS RITZY AS POSSIBLE. LAURA AND RAYMOND STILL GO TOGETHER BUT I GUESS THAT IS ALL. WE WERE SUPPOSED TO HAVE A FLAG RAISING AT THE COURT HOUSE THIS MORNING AT TEN AND THE JUDGES ARE HERE TO SUPERINTEND, BUT PECKS PUT THE POLE TOGETHER SO THAT THERE IS A SLANT OF A FOOT AND A HALF ON THE POLE AND THEY HAD TO TAKE OUT A PIECE OF PIPE AND DO IT ALL OVER. IT HAS ALUMINUM PAINT ON IT AND GOLD LEAF ON THE BALL ON TOP. ONE WILL, NO CEREMONY. *Red Howard* *and* *Barney* *Marion*

V-MAIL

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1942 O-32157-4

30.07.1943

From Vermont, USA to the front

"...got a letter from Hope yesterday and she enclosed a clipping from the Newport Daily Express all about you and your chums in London...my, how far flung is your glory...we are supposed to have that delayed flag raising tomorrow morning but I am afraid the weather is against us. Showed Mrs. Ewen your picture and she was very much pleased...she couldn't quite picture you in the Scotch get-up...she is having a battle with Judge Davis about the children and Bill. I think she is a match for him as he is getting old and losing some of his fire. Hope you have your pass the end of this month and have fun..."

No. 898063



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

To Pfc. Benjamin M. Hayward, Jr.
A. S. N. 31,156,879
H. C. H. Q. Sq.,
39th Service Group
Finance Section
A. P. O. 634, c/o Postmaster
New York, N.Y.

From

Mrs. B. M. Hayward, Jr.
(Sender's name)
Box 184
(Sender's address)
Montpelier, Vermont
July 30, 1943
(Date)

DEAR BEN: THE LEGION CONVENTION IS IN PROGRESS IN OUR FAIR CITY AND AS MR. PRATTINI IS ON VARIOUS COMMITTEES I DON'T HAVE MUCH TO DO IN HERE. ALBERT IS GETTING OUT THE QUARTERS REPORT BUT THAT IS A DIFFERENT MATTER.

LAST NIGHT I GAINED THREE PINTS OF WASPISHNESS THAT I PICKED UP IN THE PAIR NIGHT BEFORE LAST. THEY LOOK VERY NICE BUT I WOULD HATE TO SEE YOU. MARTHA AND BARBARA JEAN CAME TO SEE ME LAST NIGHT BUT NOT AT A CRITICAL TIME. THEY ENJOYED THE PORCH SO MUCH THAT I AM AFRAID THAT I WILL HAVE TO LOCK THE DOOR.

JUNE WENT BERRYING AT THE HOOD FARM ON THE NORTHFIELD ROAD LAST NIGHT AND GOT LOST. SHE GOT PANICKY AND SPILLED HER BERRIES. (FLASH! SHE FINALLY GOT HOME OK)

GOT A LETTER FROM HOPE YESTERDAY AND SHE ENCLOSED A CLIPPING FROM THE NEWPORT DAILY EXPRESS ALL ABOUT YOU AND YOUR CHUMS IN LONDON. MY, HOW FAR FLUNG IS YOUR GLORY. LLOYD HAS COME TO RUTLAND AGAIN ON THAT HIGHWAY HEARING. IMAGINE HIM RIDING ALL THAT WAY IN A PERFECTLY LOVELY CAR. SOME PEOPLE GET ALL THE BREAKS. HE WENT LAST WEEK TOO WITH TED LAWSON BUT THIS TIME DOT LAWSON WENT ALONG TOO. WE ARE SUPPOSED TO HAVE THAT DELAYED FLAG RAISING TOMORROW MORNING BUT I AM AFRAID THE WEATHER IS AGAINST US. MR HOUGHTON HAS BEEN WAITING FOR A SUNSHINY DAY TO PUT ON THE LAST COAT AND IT IS RAINING GUNS AT THIS WRITING. POOR MR. HOUGHTON. I CAN JUST SEE HIM WRINGING HIS HANDS. HE IS A SKECH. HE ELECTED AGNES LAWSON VG AT THE HERKIN MEETING. LAURA KNAPP WOULDN'T TAKE IT. HER LETTER OF RESIGNATION WAS SOMETHING, LET ME TELL YOU. I GUESS SHE WAS EXCITED WHEN SHE WROTE IT BUT IT LEFT NOTHING TO THE IMAGINATION. SHOWED MRS. EWEN YOUR PICTURE AND SHE WAS VERY MUCH PLEASED. SHE COULDN'T QUITE PICTURE YOU IN THE SCOTCH GETUP. SHE IS HAVING A BATTLE WITH JUDGE DAVIS ABOUT THE CHILDREN AND BILL. I THINK SHE IS A MATCH FOR HIM AS HE IS GETTING OLD AND LOSING SOME OF HIS FIRE. HOPE YOU HAVE YOUR PASS THE END OF THIS MONTH (RIGHT NOW) AND

V-MAIL *Love, Marion*

No. 1049089



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

Pfc. BENJAMIN M. HAYWARD JR.
Hq & Hq Sq- 39th Service Group
Finance Section APO 634-
U S ARMY
Postmaster, NEW YORK, NEW YORK.

MRS B M HAYWARD
(Sender's name)
R F D No 1
(Sender's address)
MIDDLETOWN VERMONT

July 30 - 1943 (Date)

Dear Benjamin:-
Your letter of July 19th came the 26th. Glad to hear from you. Frederick's family left yesterday A.M. by bus for N. Bedford to visit Grandma's sister Mary. Ruth has changed so you wouldn't recognize her. Bobby is a problem - he goes up stairs all the time and he would be very lovable if he only had something to do to keep him occupied.
We had a nice shower last night and another this morning. Nice for gardens but bad for hairing. They say Dad's garden is coming along fine. We have already had lettuce from it. Think he will go over to the farm Monday and pick currants for my jelly.
Had a nice letter from Marion this week but have not heard from Lloyd since he was down.
Jed and family spent Monday at the farm and at uncle Adams'. as they could ride both ways and not make any one waste gas. They have two puppies over there now. Adina gave her father one for a cow-dog.
Just saw a small spotted adder in the passage way in the shed but had nothing to kill him with.
Aunt Lil has a half grown black skunk that comes up and eats out of the cats dish on the south piazza. They don't dare throw anything at him.
George & the auto patrol man is very sick in a hospital. They don't know what is the matter. Dick our insurance man is an instructor at the college this summer. He graduated in '36 didn't he?
Folks can get all the coffee they want now, but it didn't bother us when it was rationed. In the only one to drink it, the rest use it up. Am so glad you could visit Shakespeare's home. It must be beautiful on the river. Always glad to hear from you and to know how you are. *With lots of love, Marion*
I'll be glad to have M. come down

30.07.1943

From Vermont, USA to the front

"...we had a nice shower last night and another this morning. Nice for gardens but bad for hairing. They say Dad's garden is coming along fine. We have already had lettuce from it. Aunt Lil has a half grown black skunk that comes up and eats out of the cat dish...they don't dare throw anything at him. George the auto patrol man is very sick in a hospital...they don't know what is the matter. Folks can get all the coffee they want now, but it didn't bother us when it was rationed. I am the only one to drink it. Am so pleased you could visit Shakespeare's home. It must be beautiful on the river...am always glad to hear from you..."

01.08.1943

From Vermont, USA to the front

"...one of these days when you stick to the paper but I'll try. Just went to the Post Office and found your letter of the 23rd. Have a tremendous package of peanuts & maple sugar ready to go and hope it is not overweight...took quite a while to get the package assembled as "only one to a customer". Mr. Holmes & Frances paid me a call this afternoon...they admired all your pictures..."

... use the complete address on green check return in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dot ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. 1056584

Pfc. BEN M. HAYWARD JR.
ASN 31156579, HQHQ Sq
39th SERVICE GROUP, Finance
APO 634, c/o Postmaster
New York, N.Y.

Ben M. Hayward Jr.
(Sender's name)
Box 184
(Sender's address)
Montpelier, Vermont
August 1, 1943
(Date)

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

Dear Ben: One show day when you stick to the paper but I'll try. Went raspberries with Robert & his wife this morning up by the Riding Club. I picked 6 quarts and gave them to Mrs. Nequath as I have all I need. Had fun picking though. It was a good day for it and a nice place. Just went to P.O. and found your letter of the 23rd. Have a tremendous package of peanuts & maple sugar nearly ready to go and hope it is not overweight. Took quite a while to get the package assembled as "only one to a customer". Mrs. Holmes & Frances paid me a call this afternoon. They were in fine form as per usual. They admired all your pictures. Got me a letter yesterday and was pleased to hear from you.
Marion.

V-MAIL

... use the complete address on green check return in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dot ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. 1308183

To Pfc. B.M. Hayward, Jr.
H.Q.-H.Q. Sq. 39th Service Group
Finance Section, A.P.O. 634, U.S. Army
c/o Postmaster, New York, N.Y.

From F.W. Hayward
(Sender's name)
55 Highland Ave.
(Sender's address)
Geneva, New York
August 4, 1943
(Date)

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

Dear Ben,
I have just returned from a two weeks vacation in New England. Isilda and the children stayed on at New Bedford for another week or two. We spent seven days in Weybridge and four in New Bedford which with the three days on the road made up my two weeks. We had a very pleasant if not exciting time and I think that father and mother enjoyed the company, especially the children.
Father and mother seemed to be quite well. I did not get to Montpelier this time as the children had plenty of traveling without that. Lloyd had just gone back the day before we arrived. We went over to aunt Lilla one day and had dinner there and supper at uncle Adrians. Father has a very nice garden and there isn't a weed in it. I helped him get and set poles for his bush beans which for some reason this year are very tall. They were about four feet tall when we left. He goes berrying nearly every day. I think that and his garden are good for him as they give him something to do.
Traveling was rather difficult, especially with the children although they were both very good. Bobby is as good as a grownup to travel with as he is very interested in everything he sees. Ruth did very well although she got rather bored and squiggly at times. The trains were quite crowded most of the way as were the buses even though we traveled in the middle of the week.
The children had a good time everywhere they went. They both enjoyed the beach in New Bedford. Bobby really likes to go in the water. Isilda and I both enjoyed the trip although sometimes we wish we could have a half day together without the children. Probably when they are old enough so we can we will be too old to enjoy it.
We were very glad to hear from you that you had your Pfc. rating. Also that you were enjoying your new work. I expect that by this time you are fully adjusted to the greater responsibility.
Marion sent us a copy of the Barre Times with an account of the meeting of Vermonters and especially your meeting with Harry Parker.
Well there doesn't seem to be any news to write so I shall close.
Love from all,
Ik

V-MAIL

04.08.1943

From New York, USA to the front

"...I have just returned from a 2 weeks vacation in New England. We spent 7 days in Weybridge and 4 in New Bedford which with the 3 days on the road made up my two weeks...travelling was rather difficult especially with the children...the trains were quite full most of the way. We were very glad to hear from you that you had your PFC (Private First Class) rating. Also that you were enjoying your new work...I expect that by this time you are fully adjusted to the greater responsibility..."

WAR & NAVY

DEPARTMENTS
V-MAIL SERVICE

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300

GRAND CENTRAL
ANNEX



Mr. & Mrs. Roy Whitson
Achille
Oklahoma
Box 103

Sgt. Whitson
SENDER'S NAME
303 Bomb Sq
SENDER'S ADDRESS
New York, NY
Aug 26, 1943
DATE

Dear Roy & Family,
Well how are the things in
Oklahoma today? Things are just
fine over here. I had out I
played a few games of tennis
tonight. We broke even on the games.
How is Roy Lee liking school?
I bet Henry had miss him while
he is in school.
How are things going at the
church? The same faithful group
I guess. I sure miss going to
church. We got several
letters today. Three from the
Ma, two from Dad and I got
from Yelene. If you make
much popcorn I sure would
well pleased if you would
send me some. Well I must
go now. Good night love to all.
Roy

Print the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. 713525
CENSOR'S STAMP
Mr BENJAMIN M. Hayward Jr
ASN. 31,156,579, HQ HQ Sq
39th SERVICE GROUP
FINANCE Section A.P.O. 634
4th FARMER, New York
Mrs B M Hayward
Box 184
Wongachie VT
August 14, 1943
(Date)

Dear Ben, another study night. I just
take the police right off the desk. Went
to Barre on the bus this afternoon and
actually had to wait for a train
on that second track. I went all
alone on the 12:30 and was in time to
see the Foreman's Parade. It was quite
a flop as they were all tight and
acting up quite a bit. I saw the
Ballou's and sat in their car as it
started to pass right in the middle
of them. They have the Christmas
things in the 5 & 10 so I had a grand
time looking but all I bought was
something to stop the bedroom door
squeak and it didn't. Rode home
at same time as Mr Hayward and we
talked about you and the state of the
world. Love
Kevin Martin

26.08.1943
From the front to Oklahoma, USA
"---how are things going at the
church? The same faithful group
I guess. If you make very much
popcorn I sure would be well
pleased if you would send me
some..."

14.08.1943
From Vermont, USA to the front
"...went to Barre on the bus
this afternoon and actually had
to wait for a train on that 2nd
track...they have the Christmas
things in the 5 & 10 (Cent Store)
so I had a good time looking...
rode home at same time as Mr.
Hayford and we talked about you
and the state of the world..."

WAR & NAVY
DEPARTMENTS
V-MAIL SERVICE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE
MAR 6
4:30 PM
1944
No. 3

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300

No. *5-546 C.B. Whitson*
ASN 1808-4463
SENDER'S NAME
303rd Bomb Sq.
SENDER'S ADDRESS
APO 639 2/FM/N.Y.C.
27 February 1944
DATE

Mr Roy Whitson
Achille, Oklahoma
Box 103

ARMY EXAMINER
CENSORS STAMP
MAR 1 1944

Dear Roy & Family.

I haven't written you for some time which doesn't mean that I've forgotten you'll cause I haven't. The fact is we've been awful busy and haven't had much time for writing. I've spent some long days in this part of the country. A few times I've been on the job 24 hours without any time off other than time for meals. However, this doesn't go on all the time. But you can understand why a guy has to have a 48-hour pass ever now and then. The past few months my passes have been spent at Summers as I get more rest there than off some place to see the

By the way, Summers would be glad to hear from you'll if you had time to write. I can't say how far I'm from home - hope you understand why. and Henry Earl be good.

Love to all,
Blaine + Rab

277754

No. *277754*

Pfc Benjamin M Hayward Jr
Hq & Hq Sq- 39th Service Group
Finance Section- APO 654
U S ARMY
2 Postmaster, NEW YORK- NEW YORK.

MRS B M HAYWARD
RFD No 1
MIDDLEBURY VERMONT

August 10, 1943.
(Date)

Dear Ben: Last week no letter came from you - but one came yesterday. Very glad to get it.

We are having another rainy spell and the days are so dark. It is discouraging for the farmers who haven't finished planting. Guess it will be spelled whether or not they have heard from neither. I hope you'll write soon.

Had a nice letter from Marion.

Think you could see my big cactus. It has 20 buds and blossoms on it. Bright red and, when open are as large as a tea-saucer. but the plant is homely. The belly buds are beautiful. red, white, yellow and all shades of pink. Also have two geraniums in bloom. Dad's garden looks fine for the season. If the season is late we will get a lot of things from it to can.

No. our radio is still on the shelf. Probably will remain so for the duration. We have a daily, but don't believe one can depend on all reports, whether press or radio.

Adena is home for vacation and last evening she, aunt Bernice and Ella were here while Ken was at drill. He was on guard duty when Ken visited the naval school. Can't send you any "snap shots" as films are not available.

Will soon be sending out 32 D.A.R. letters. Our annual meeting will be held in Rutland. Probably won't go as I can't afford it. Thank goodness, my term of office expires next May, and never again will I accept a state office. I am getting too old for such work.

Forgot to say that Aunt B. brought over Tricie (the puppy) she is certainly cute and very bright. They also have a black puppy, Judy. They are training to drive cows. Adena gave it to her father. Aunt Lill spent Thursday with me. Bernice is out at her son's. Have made 51 glasses of jam and jelly. Still have apple jelly to make. Uncle is in town today having lunch with Hortense so Dad and I had a treat - fried pork and Johnny cake. Hope you find the time to write me. I'm sure you are as interested in me as I am in you. Can't wait to see the photo you sent Marion. Love to all.

27.02.1944
From the front to Oklahoma, USA

"...haven't had much time for writing...been on the job 24 hours without any time off other than time for meals...the past few months my passes have been spent at Summers as I get more rest there..."

10.08.1943
From Vermont, USA to the front

"...our radio is still on the shelf...probably will remain so for the duration...we have a daily but don't believe one can depend on all reports, whether press or radio..."

WAR & NAVY
DEPARTMENTS
V--MAIL SERVICE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE
APR 26
3:30 PM
1944
No. 3

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE. \$300



No. 146360

PASSED BY
U.S. ARMY EXAMINER

To: MR. ROY WHITSON
GENERAL DELIVERY
ACHILLE, OKLAHOMA
U.S.A.

From: CPL. LUDLEY BARNETT
(Sender's name)
HQ & HQ SQ. 68TH AIR BDE.
(Sender's address)
APO 627 - NEW YORK, N.Y.

13 APRIL 1944
(Date)

DEAR ROY & LUCILLE:

SOMEWHERE IN CHINA.

I SUPPOSE THAT YOU THINK I AM AWFUL FOR NOT HAVING WRITTEN SOONER, BUT JUST BEHOLD THAT I NEVER GOT AROUND TO IT. BY THE TIME I WRITE MOTHER, DAD, AND THE GIRLS IT SEEMS THAT I DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME TO DO ANY OTHER CORRESPONDING. MY NOT HAVING WRITTEN DOESN'T MEAN THOUGH THAT I HAVEN'T THOUGHT OF YOU QUITE OFTEN FOR THERE IS SELDOM EVER A DAY THAT PASSES THAT I DON'T THINK OF YOU PEOPLE THERE AT HOME.

I GUESS THAT YOU HAVE LEARNED FROM SOME OF THE POLKS THAT I AM NOW IN CHINA, AND HAVE BEEN FOR SOMETHING LIKE A COUPLE OF MONTHS. CONDITIONS HERE ARE BETTER THAN IN INDIA, AND EVEN THOUGH IT ISN'T ANYTHING LIKE YOU WOULD FIND IN THE STATES, IT IS A LOT BETTER THAN SOME PLACES THAT I HAVE BEEN. THE CHINESE PEOPLE ARE A LOT MORE DELECTABLE TO BE AROUND THAN THOSE IN INDIA, AND YOU DON'T SEE THE STARVATION AND DISEASE THAT WAS SO PREVALENT THERE. I IMAGINE THAT THE PARTS OF CHINA THAT ARE OCCUPIED BY THE JAPANESE ARE IN VERY BAD SHAPE, BUT THEY HAD NEVER ADVANCED THIS FAR SO YOU DON'T SEE MUCH OF THAT TYPE OF THING HERE. THERE ARE MANY THINGS I WOULD LIKE TO TELL YOU, BUT YOU KNOW THEY HAVE CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS SO WILL JUST HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL I SEE YOU PERSONALLY. I HAVE SEEN IT MAKES ME THANKFUL THAT I AM AN AMERICAN, AND YOU CAN BET THAT FROM WHAT AS THEY REALLY EXIST IN SOME OF THESE COUNTRIES I AM SURE THAT THEY WOULD FEEL THE SAME WAY.

HOW ARE THE GIRLS, AND ARE THEY STILL IN DALLAS? I SUPPOSE THAT THEY ALL HAVE GOOD JOBS. HAVE ANY OF THEM MARRIED? I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED FOR IT SEEMS THAT NEARLY ALL THE GIRLS FROM HOME HAVE MARRIED SINCE THE WAR STARTED. WHEN YOU SEE THEM SAY HELLO FOR ME, AND TELL THEM THAT I WOULD APPRECIATE HEARING FROM THEM IF THEY HAVE THE TIME TO WRITE. DO YOU HEAR FROM ROBERT AND CLAUD REGULARLY, AND ARE THEY STILL IN ENGLAND? I SUPPOSE THAT IF THEY PUT THIS TROOP ROTATION PROGRAM INTO EFFECT THAT THEY WILL PROBABLY BE COMING HOME BEFORE TOO LONG. I CAN JUST IMAGINE HOW ANXIOUS THEY ARE FOR THEY HAVE BEEN GONE FROM HOME A LONG TIME.

WE HAD A VERY IMPRESSIVE EASTER SERMON THIS LAST SUNDAY. OUR CHAPLAIN IS A VERY NICE FELLOW, AND MOST ALL OF THE BOYS LIKE HIM REAL WELL. HE IS A PRESBYTERIAN, AND IS ABOUT 25 YEARS OF AGE. I WOULD SAY THAT THERE WAS AT LEAST 250 AT CHURCH SUNDAY MORN THAT BOYS DO GO TO CHURCH OVER HERE. IN FACT, THEY ARE MUCH BETTER THAN WHEN THEY WERE IN THE STATES. I HAVE BEEN THE ORGANIST EVERY SINCE WE AND EVEN THOUGH I'M NOT TOO GOOD, I AM MORE THAN WILLING TO DO MY PART IF ANY.

YOUR BOYS ARE GETTING TO BE PRETTY GOOD SIZED BY THIS TIME. I SUPPOSE THAT NOT OLD ENOUGH TO START TO SCHOOL. IT WILL SEEM RATHER OLD TO ME WHEN I SEE HOW MUCH THOSE KIDS HAVE GROWN.

ALL THAT I HAVE ROOM FOR SO WILL CLOSE FOR THIS TIME. WRITE WHEN YOU CAN ALL WAYS.

V-MAIL
YOUR FRIEND,
LUDLEY

No. 266627

To: Pfc. Benjamin M. Hayward, Jr.
A. S. N. 31,166,579
E. O. N. O. 86., 36th Service Group
Finance Section
A. P. O. 634, c/o Postmaster
New York, N.Y.

From: Mrs. B. M. Hayward, Jr.
(Sender's name)
Box 184
(Sender's address)
Montpelier, Vermont

August 9, 1944
(Date)

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

Dear Ben: Lucky me, I got two letters today. One of July 30 and another of July 30. Not bad. I am very glad that you got the socks and maple sugar. That makes all up to the watch. That ought to arrive in a day or two now seems to me but probably after the duration it will come wandering home a big bedraggled behind the ears. Cousin Middlebrook took an awful licking in a lawsuit last week. It seems that he was pulling the wool over nobody's eyes but went right on trying. What a guy. I do not fancy that branch of your family as much as some of the others. Am looking forward to the V picture. Yesterday Albert and his wife took me over to Walden and we all picked blueberries. We went about 11 and got back at 8 and had a grand time. I missed you a lot though. We saw a deer and picked innumerable blueberries. I ache from every one but will get over it before all the berries are gone. I got desperate and invented a rule for blueberry jam and is it good. I made it last night after I got home. I have always objected to the seeds in jam but not so in the blueberry variety. When you get home you can spread it on everything. Bessie Cook's father died so I have been rushing around ordering flowers for the Bessies and PEG's. Leona is gone this week so I am Noble Grand again. It is getting to be a habit. This is the third time and I act worse every time. I was not out out to be a presiding officer and do not like it. Albert is on his vacation this week so I have been deciding to get roller skates. I have to plow across the hall and down the end of the room about once every quarter minute and what with shoe rationing and all I don't know how it will come out. The Judge was a good scout and came in and signed things so that made it somewhat easier. Lots of times he just doesn't appear. He is fixing up the Warren farm on the Worcester branch road and that takes a lot of his time. Just now he is pondering over the lack of bathroom fixtures out he had Ted Love fussing around with it so it ought to come out somehow. Hope so anyway as it will be pleasant to have the judge pleasant again. Love, *Murray*

13.04.1944
From the front to New York, USA

"...I guess that you have learned that I am now in China. Conditions here are better than in India and even though it isn't anything like you would find in the States. There are many things I would like to tell you but you know they have censorship regulations...you can bet that from what I have seen it makes me thankful I am an American..."

09.08.1944
From Vermont, USA to the front

"...am looking forward to the V picture...Leona is gone this week so I am Noble Grand again. This is the third time and I act worse every time..."

WAR & NAVY
DEPARTMENTS
V-MAIL SERVICE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS



PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE. \$300

THE SPACE PROVIDED. USE DARK INK OR DARK PENCIL. WRITE VERY PLAINLY. SMALL WRITING IS NOT SUITABLE.

No. *4055*

PRINT ADDRESS IN LARGE BLOCK LETTERS

Mrs. Mr. Roy Whitson
Achille, Oklahoma
Box 103

Sgt. Bob Whitson
(Grade or Rank and Name)
(Army Serial Number) *14024480*

303 Bomb G.
(Complete Organization)
358 Bomb S.
(Address)
APO: 557 c/o POSTMASTER,
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

JUN 6 1944

Dear Roy & family,

I was very glad to get the pictures. I sure would like to see those two boys.

Today has been a big day. I guess the whole world has been waiting and waiting for this day when the Second Front would open up. Sure we two more big boys I would like to see. ~~But~~ that is when armistice is sign and I get back home. I guess the people in the States are celebrating today.

How are things on the farm? you were more than glad the land. Do you work much in the house. Good night and love to all from. *Bob & Cloud*

V-MAIL

Print the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. *4055*

Pfc. Benjamin M Hayward Jr.
HQ & HQ Sq- 39th Service Group
Finance Section- APO 634
U S ARMY.
Postmaster-New York- New York-

B M HAYWARD
R F D No. 1
(Sender's name)
(Sender's address)
MIDDLEBURY VERMONT
(Date)
August 9th

Dear Ben:-

Glad to hear from again as we always are.

Every thing goes along about as usual and every body is the same. Your mother was some tired after Ick and family's visit but we were very glad to see them. Hope to see Barbara and Betty this month if they can come down here. A nice letter from Marion this week. Hope she can come down again too.

I was over to the farm Monday and picked 15 quarts of currants. Your mother has made currant and current & raspberry jell this week. Kenneth went 'over the Lake' and got a fine lot of blue berries. Your mother has canned some of them so the prospect of blueberry pie is good. Lill was here Thursday, and seemed to have a good visit. She thought I had a good garden considering it was so late. I am fighting the big tomato worms. Killed 9 in one day. They expected Adena home this week for her two weeks vacation. I have not seen her but presume she came.

The blackberries are beginning to get ripe and the prospect is good for a lot of them so I probably will be busy up in the woods and elsewhere.

Deer have been quite plentiful near here. Several have been seen crossing the road between here and Mr. Austin's but I have not seen them.

V-MAIL Lots of love. "DAD."

08.06.1944
From the front to Oklahoma, USA
"...today has been a big day. I guess the whole world has been waiting for this day when the Second Front would open up. I would like to see when Armistice is signed and I get back home...I guess the people in the States are celebrating..."

09.08.1944
From Vermont, USA to the front
"...glad to hear from you again as we always are...everything goes along as usual and everybody is the same...a nice letter from Marion this week... expect Adena home this week for her two weeks vacation..."

WAR & NAVY
DEPARTMENTS
V-MAIL SERVICE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, 9900

STANDARD SERVICE
AUG 7
12:30 PM
1944

No. CENSORS STAMP

Mr. Roy Whitson - Family
Achille, Okla.
Box 103

Dr. Claude Whitson
ASN 1808463
SENDER'S NAME
30322 Bomb Sq (H)
SENDER'S ADDRESS
APO 557 2/11/44
29 July 1944
DATE

Dear Roy & all,

Maybe you've heard that I was spending a seven day furlough in Scotland - well I decided to make it Edinburg and I'm here now and have been for a couple of days. The Red Cross Club here couldn't be any better. Before it was taken over for its present use it was one of the best hotels in Edinburg. The Club is in the main part of the city. My room is on the third floor and the two large windows look out over the city.

You see, I'm suppose to be here for a real and a change and I'm making pretty very good use of it. I've spent the mornings in walking and taking a few pictures. The weather hasn't been any too good for picture taking this in a coach stage over the city most of the day however, the sun was a couple of hours this morning. Last night I went to a dance and had a rather good time. I was thinking about going again this afternoon about going swimming but it's too cold. And going away from the shows while here so my eyes a good rest.

I really had a long train ride up here - it takes me to get here. It was about 11:30 when I got to the club and if it had been for the club I don't think I'd had such a small room here, the girl had called and made reservation for me.

Love to all,
Claude

V-MAIL

29.07.1944
From the front to Oklahoma, USA
"...was spending a seven day furlough in Scotland...decided to make it Edinburg...the Red Cross Club here couldn't be any better...was one of the best hotels...last night went to a dance and had a rather good time"

06.08.1943
From New York, USA to the front
"...referring to your last letter, I was in England during the summer of 1933...when they bombed Rome I was specially interested in reading about the churches...hope they won't have to bomb it much..."

No. 1479266

To Pfc. Benjamin M. Hayward Jr.
H.S.N. 31156579
HQ & HQ Sq 39th Service Group
Finance Section
A.P.O. 634 Postmaster
New York, New York

From Mrs. C.M. Thompson
(Sender's name)
3 Anita Court
(Sender's address)
Baldwin, New York
August 6, 1943
(Date)

August 6, 1943

Dear Ben:

About time I was answering your good letter which reached me a week from the time you wrote it. That is quick service. It is a nice cool day today for a change, the first really clear one we have had in weeks. So I have been real ambitious and cleaned all through and written letters all afternoon. Have been gadding about so much the last two weeks that I have neglected a lot here. I have been invited out to luncheon, Edna has been over for two days and I have been over there and Ruby and her husband were out last weekend. He is at present back from a cruise and transferred to another ship so he and Ruby are enjoying about two months together before he sets sail for parts unknown once more. They are staying in Brooklyn. It was very warm last week end so we took life easy and ate out Sunday. When we get beef hungry we go out for we never can assemble enough points to get any nowadays it seems. I have made my semi-annual trip to the dentist so that is done again until Christmas. I start my canning next week I expect and then I shall have the house to clean thoroughly before school starts again.

Referring to your last letter, I was in England last during the summer of 1933 so the new Shakespearean theatre was built, that very year I believe. I have been rereading my letters written to my mother that summer and living over again all the places we visited. When they bombed Rome I was especially interested in reading about the churches they were asked to avoid and to see for what each was so famous. I do hope they won't have to bomb it much for it is so lovely. The war news surely does sound good these days, yesterday for example when everything seemed to happen at once.

Have you been to Weybridge as yet or the other place you mentioned where the Haywards came from? I shall be interested to hear about the former. I believe it is Warwick Deeping, the author who lives there.

Presume you knew that Frederick and his family have been at your home for a week and Lloyd too was down. In Aunt Lill's last letter she said your mother expected Barbara and Betty down for a visit. I sent your mother my last club book, Carleton Beals' Dawn Over the Amazon but as yet I haven't heard from her. Now I have another I shall be sending in a few days, Mr. Lincoln's wife by Anne Colver. It is fascinating and almost makes history interesting. I have also had a present of Fanny Farmer's cookbook, something I have long wanted to own so ever since its arrival I have been trying out new dishes. So far Charles has stood up under it but don't know how long it will last. It is fun when I have plenty of time but once school starts he will be lucky to get anything. That will be in another month too I am sorry to say as I quite like just being a housewife and nothing more. Cheer up when the old war is over, then we hope to buy a little place somewhere in New England and live an independent life once more. Charles has his eye on some already only he can't get any time off to go up and investigate, naturally. Well, I see I have reached the 5000 word limit so I shall be saying au revoir for this time dinner, scalloped onions, and apple pie. Do write to me soon.

Corn muffins and hot dogs

V-MAIL

as ever
Claude