

12 June 1945
Wiesbaden, Germany.

Dear Mom,

I'll make this a short one. Just wanted you to notice the change of address - you can start using ^{it} now in place of the old one!

Since I got here, I've managed to meet up with most of the fellows I knew in the outfit when I left the States last year. For Mary's benefit, I've seen and talked to Frank, and he's just the same fellow he always was. He looks fine, and has lost none of his sharpness of ~~wit~~ wit that was familiar to us all.

I can't say that I'm particularly pleased to be here. Most of these fellows are strangers to me and I would have

preferred to remain working with those I knew. But that's only one reason - there are a host of others, too numerous to delineate here, showing why I'd rather still be using the old address. But one has to take orders in the Army, so here I am.

Just before I came here, I received your letter of the 24th May. I've already received those pictures you mentioned sending. Can hardly believe that Ron & Lee are actually the girls shown in the picture. They look so different from how I last remember them.

The pics of the dining room, though blurred slightly, give me a pretty good idea of what it must look like now.

It seems to have been quite a job ~ but it was best to do it while you had the time and labor available.

Yes, mom, Duff's death was rather a shock to hear about. But I'd prefer you kept me informed on things like that. I don't know what I can say about John's passing away. I'm affected by the sad news, but when you can't see the body or attend the funeral it all seems so unreal. You keep feeling that some day you'll see him again. But you won't. I know though that John's mother was right in feeling that her son is happy now! Duff was that kind of fellow ~ sincere, simple, and unashamed of his

Faith in a personal God.
Unfortunately I didn't always
speak of these praiseworthy
Characteristics of his, but dwelt
too often on his obvious failings—
which are, after all, those of
all of us. You anticipated
my actions in having a mass
said for him. Thanks.

I won't be sending home
any money this month now —
you know of my new allotment;
and I wanted to get a little
stockpile of cash for emergencies
before it went into effect.
So now I've some \$⁵⁰ which should
tide me over any rough spots.
From here on in I'll be drawing
only \$16.20 per.

Well, almost time to hit the
hay, so I'll close.

Love to all
Frank.

1/3 F. J. Shields 12110488
3186 Sig Sobn Co C
APO 75 c/o P.M.
San Francisco.

June 13



VIA AIR MAIL

Mrs. Frank J. Shields
~~244-87~~ Street
Brooklyn 9 Box 117
New York