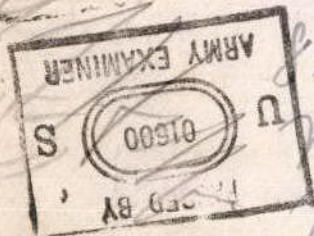


Pat Bennehan  
32898253  
Hq Battery 99 ACA Bn  
APO 969 PM N.Y.N.Y.



Miss Judith Berman  
815 West End Ave.  
New York, # 25  
N.Y. Apt 35



219

NY 1944  
APR 1 1944  
AIR MAIL  
1944  
POST

My Dearly Beloved! Just  
there isn't much <sup>activity</sup> on the  
topic of answering your letters like  
there was last week but dear today  
I did receive a V-mail letter dated Jan  
13<sup>th</sup>

Surprised you mailed me three (3)  
Valentine cards, I guess just one couldn't  
express your feelings enough. Looking  
forward in receiving them soon.

I just came on duty 1PM, and  
since I don't have to answer many of  
your letters plus the fact that the  
switchboard isn't busy around this time,  
I figured I'll devote my time to  
writing you now.

Don't think that you can only  
write me and listen to the radio, because  
I'm listening over the receiver music  
coming from the American oversea's  
broadcasting system.

This is the first time that I'm  
hearing the music during the day but from  
now on I believe I'll be hearing it  
all the time. You see dear the music  
is coming from the message center  
radio, and they don't have to use  
their radio for messages as there is  
another section that takes care of that



Then I have the ~~the~~ (message center)  
phone on a telephone at my switchboard  
became ~~all the~~ ~~switchboard~~  
all ~~the~~ ~~switchboard~~ the  
receiver from the ~~the~~ phone on top of  
my board and I have the other regular  
receiver for answering the calls  
What I'm driving at is that I don't  
have to stop the music and it makes  
it easier for me by having 11 phone  
one connection on a telephone  
because if I had them on a unit I'd  
have to put up the ring talk key before  
answering ~~an~~ a call. The telephone  
at 11 is next to the radio for Do you  
understand if you don't its ok  
because it isn't important

I got my book back "The Seventh  
Cross" and after I finish this letter  
I'm going to start reading it. I have  
a big list of those wishing to  
read the book after I finish it. Think  
that they will have a long wait as it  
will probably take me a long time  
to read it.

Now lets go back to yesterday  
afternoon when the American Red  
Cross came here to visit my outfit.  
Three nice <sup>ARC</sup> girls one of them was from  
Greenwich Village than she had on  
79<sup>th</sup> street and West End Ave. They served  
us coffee and doughnuts.

The girls only stayed a few minutes to chatter to all of us. The doughnuts were really good and Jim almost ashamed to admit that had a total of fourteen (14) but I guess you understand and that it isn't every day that I have such a treat.

While walking around yesterday I met a fellow who was in my class back at Croft. He is attached to the 36 Division which you might be reading about in the newspapers but he also is attached to their artillery outfit. This fellow Jack is a line cook and doesn't have it to bad. His quarters is only about 200 yards from mine and last night I had him over our house to enjoy the evening snack with us. No he doesn't sleep in a house but, like in the open with a stone wall around and on the roof. I wanted to him to eat over my place cause he been eating those 10-1 rations and he could get a hot meal but he refused.

Didn't think we would have much for our evening snack but just the opposite happened. From the evening chew meal there was plenty of pineapple dessert left so I filled my mess kit with that. We got plenty of bread also. It seems as if the boys weren't



hungry at chow call possible because they like I, filled ourselves up on those doughnuts.

~~Two of the other fellows managed to get things together~~

Don't want to write the rest of the above sentence because dear as you no us to avert the only ones that has to see this letter.

In the evening when Jack came over I went out and got six G R rations, all dinner one from some boys that didn't want them.

Now taking inventory for our evening snack we had pineapple bread american cheese small amount of butter and for a drink instead of coffee which we couldn't get we had ~~tomatoes~~ tomatoe juice. Put that all together we still had a nice bit to eat. As usual we toasted the bread and honey its tastes good. In fact better than in a toaster that you use at home.

My switchboard runs a line to Jack's outfit so we can call each other up.

Jack informed me that he believes that Charlie is with the American troops that made the invasion near Rome.

Could you call up Marty, girl if you still have her telephone number and inform me of Marty's address I'm just curious to see where he is now that's all sweetheart love kisses  
Dad

request reading, m etc.

For food stuff, I could do without but if you want to send me such items as cocoa, peanut butter or any other item you think I'll like, than O.K. Do you understand my point?

Now as I write you before dear I don't want you or my family to send me more than one package for the week. If I receive one package a week I'll be delighted - no more.

This is the last request for some time at least until I sample some of the packages that are on their way. You can save this request at least for two or one month before using it O.K.

I appreciate very much darling your thought in wanting to send me packages but I haven't been receiving them so what's the use in sending them. That covers the above

topic. Now I have a little more room to write that I deeply love you darling and can hardly wait to return home to you to carry out our vague plans, Ben