

Somewhere in
North Africa
Dec 30/42

Dear Mr Carter: -

Received a letter from my
wife today that a Mr Amos
Carter from Fort Worth Texas had
called giving her glad tidings.
She didn't say exactly when the
call had come but her letter
was dated Dec 11 - as I
recall you left us Dec 9 - the
only way I can figure that
one out is that you must
have your private wire from
London - anyway I for
one certainly appreciate all
the trouble and expense you
went to in order that our folks
at home might have such
'cheery' news - it was
really nice. That of course
is only ~~an~~ additional appreciation
of your many kindnesses while
we were together in England and

Ireland -
Queen Amou has written you
all the news from here - We
have been surprised in many ways
recently - My geography teacher
told me all about the great
deserts in N. Africa - and she
had never been here either for
we haven't seen any sand yet - as
far as we are concerned Africa
is a large continent covered
with mud - Madely under
mud, as you will recall I'm sure,
was never anything like this -
With exception of two days I
believe it has rained continuously
ever since we've been here -
so with lying in pup tents,
wading in mud practically up
to our knees you can
imagine what a sorry looking
site we make - in spite of
this moral is very high - strict
blackout regulations so believe
it or not I'm writing this

in a pup tent - with it
pouring rain - by candle-
light - then I hope explains
the handwriting -

Allen is in the best
of health as most of the
other men & officers - seems
like tired out of food,
no matter how bad the
weather, gives rise to few
colds & little sickness. Of
course we have our usual
few as would be expected
with this number of men -

We have visited Crow,
as we are allowed to say
by the censor; and it
certainly is a remarkable -
~~Left of~~ Pithy beyond
description - mixtures of
all the Lotius - food
not to be had - will flow
freely & very cheap tho the
price has increased many

times since the arrival
of American (not French) -
Government (I suppose French)
controlled liquor houses -
I am told of course - at
35¢ a throw - line forms
on the right - the
town is off limits to
most all military personnel.

Arabs seem to spring
up like mushrooms all over
the country side about
our camps, selling oranges
2 + 3 francs - long arms
at 1 franc eggs at 3, 4 + 5
what ever they can get, usually
5 sometimes more - & wine
at 3 - 400 franc which
sells in towns at 20 -

Guess that the story -
interesting rumors are
beginning to start however -
Thanks again & the best in
the New Year for you & yours
Bob Bateman