

Captman. Jex O,

March 12th = 1943 -

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Carter,

After reading today
in the Dallas News that
your son is reported
missing in action in
North African area, I am
prompted to write to you
because of the similarity
of the message we received
February tenth that our
son Lt. Roy J. Chappell Jr
was missing in action
in same area - They

each had trained at St. Croix, were
in Northern Ireland and England,
landed in North Africa I feel
sure in same contingent that
made the wonderfully successful
invasion November seventh or
eighth - Roy J. was in Btry C
27th = Armd F. A. Bn. - I believe
they knew each other, for it seems
I recall having heard Roy J.
speak of him last March while
I was visiting him his last
week at St. Croix, when he was
mentioning by name the many
Texas boys who were in training
there. My heart aches for you
as you endure the terrible
dushense, or you wonder, what
when and how, something has
happened to him! Have faith,
hope and courage to believe
you will soon hear better news.
The bad message Monday
morning March eighth, two
days less of a month, since
receiving our first message, from

Adjutant General Ellis,
that Ray is a prisoner
of war of Italian government
and that a letter follows.

The location of his whereabouts
we yet do not know, but
are hoping to soon hear so
we can write to him.

Being a prisoner of war
is terrible and visualize
his disgust at being one,
he can't fight nor write.
But to us, to know he
is alive is wonderful
news, though we know
he is definitely feeling he

is being cheated in not
being able to help "finish
up" the Germans and
Italians, and return home

We derived much comfort
from letters so many people
wrote to us, desiring to
share our anxiety, and to
hope with us for news of
his safety. So, we want you
to know that our hearts
reach out to yours to seek
to share the burden of the
terrible suspense you
must endure. Through
constant prayer, and

renewing faith and courage
each day, I was able to carry on
from day to day feeling that we
must meet tomorrow bravely -
However much the heart may
ache with loneliness, or deep distress,
we must go on -

We are thinking of you in
your great anxiety and
holding every faith and
hope that you shall soon
hear good news of your son.

Sincerely

Ray, Mr. & Mrs. Roy Chaffell
(Roy & Neelie Nash Chaffell)