

October 13, 1943
Letter No. 29

2nd. Lt. Amon G. Carter, Jr., U. S. Army,
American P. O. W. #1595,
Interned at Oflag 64, Germany,
Via New York, N. Y., U.S.A.

Dear Cowboy:

Recently, I sent a long telegram to the U. S. Chief Censor in New York protesting the removal of three small packages of Mixture No. 79 smoking tobacco and, on receipt of your letter dated August 30th, I sent another telegram to the Chief Censor advising him of the contents of your letter wherein you stated that many of the packages are twice the size of your package (which was Government regulation size); that the censors had removed chocolate from some of the packages while others arrived with as many as 48 bars of chocolate in one package.

I, also, wrote Norman Davis, Chairman of the American Red Cross, and sent him a copy of your letter of August 30th and suggested that he, the Chief Censor and the Postmaster General should get together and work out some kind of sane, constructive plan or policy whereby the prisoners of war would not be discriminated against from this end of the line. I, also, made inquiry as to why we could not send an extra Christmas package to you and indicated to them that I was afraid that you and the other prisoners of war were not receiving the regular standard Red Cross packages each week and the German Government placed no restrictions on the number or size of the packages you could receive. Therefore, I considered it the responsibility of your not getting packages was up to our Government.

I cannot understand why we can receive a letter from you in thirty days and it takes two or three months for you to receive one of my letters. I hope they will be able to solve this problem in some way that will expedite both your mail and packages.

Although, I have sent you a number of pictures, I am sending you another bunch:

One of particular interest - of Ruth, Cynthia Brants and Bobby Overstreet. In my previous letter I advised you of Bobby's death of pneumonia.

One of you, Ruth and Dad.

Another of you and Ruth.

One of Carl, Phyllis, Ruth, Katrine, you and Dad.

One of the house made when snow was on the ground.

One of Phil North dancing with Ruth before he entered the service.

One of you and Dad, as well as one of you leaving the Airport the last time you were here.

A picture of your boat showing Ruth Ruth, Betty Lederer and Suzanne Clery aft.

One showing Stanley leaning out of the window on your boat, as well as one showing Mr. and Mrs. Van Zandt Smith, Mr. and Mrs. North, Carl and Katrine, Dad, Betty Claire Schmidt, Suzanne Clery and Dad.

One of Carl, Katrine, Ruth and Dad.

All of your things arrived from Africa Saturday and Katrine and I unpacked them Sunday afternoon. There was a small, reddish looking, heavy box, carrying a lock and key, and another package in which they had consolidated everything and shipped it from the Quartermaster Depot - making two packages. Everything was in fine shape and those things that needed cleaning have been sent out.. There were eight boxes of Kodachrome and eight boxes of Panatamonic films as well as:

- 1 Officer's Short Coat
- 1 " Rain Coat
- 1 Field Jacket
- L Pair fur lined boots
- 1 Pair shoes
- 1 Pair wool lined bedroom slippers
- 1 Pr wool lined gloves, leather
- 1 " " gloves
- 1 " unlined leather gloves
- 1 Barracks Bag
- 1 Radio - damaged
- 3 leather frames with pictures
- 4 boxes poker chips
- 1 box dominoes
- 1 Officer's belt
- 1 Pr. slacks OD
- 2 Khaki Shirts
- 3 Wool shirts
- 1 Green OD Shirt
- 2 Pairs wool trousers
- 4 Garrison caps

and ties, underwear, pajamas, 2nd. Lt. bars and Cross cannon, 2 fountain pens, pencils, sewing kit, razor blades, sun glasses, scissors, brushes, pictures, letters, mirrors, socks, handkerchiefs, miscellaneous toilet articles, etc. A list of these things we have already sent you previously.

As for sending your uniform to England as suggested, I think it would be much easier, in the event the war is over and you have a chance to get to London, to buy a new outfit. In the event you should at any

the box of Robt. Burns cigars. You will recall having met him on Thanksgiving afternoon.

Bill, Nannie, Stanley and Mable all send their best regards to you. In fact, they get to read all of your letter as we always show them to them. Meanwhile, we have gotten another yard man, whose name is James Calhoun, colored.

Billy Bob Watt and Raymond Buck have just returned from a hunting trip in South Dakota and they brought me back a dozen nice wild pheasants. Sid Richardson and I had one for dinner last night and it was delicious. I am sorry I cannot send you and the boys the balance of them.

C. R. Smith spent the day with me yesterday. He will be in China shortly and I asked him to send some covers from different points if he came in contact with the post offices. He asked me to give you his regards.

I wish you could have had breakfast with us as we had some fine Virginia ham steaks with eggs, straight up, floating in gravy. This together with a half a honey dew melon, some french fried potatoes, topped off with coffee, hot biscuits and hot cakes made a fairly good snack for breakfast. I have one of these extra hams that I am going to save for you when you get home.

You mentioned in your letter that you had received two boxes of cigars (100). We are permitted to send 200 every sixty days; however, I divided the shipments up so in the event anything happened to one package we would have more shipments enroute. You should have by this time received several additional shipments as we are permitted to send 200 every 60 days - so this would make 100 shipped every thirty days. I am glad to know that all of you enjoyed the cigars, even though I have not smoked a cigar in fifteen months. Incidentally, the only drink I have had during this time was the one with you Thanksgiving afternoon.

I am leaving as previously stated Sunday morning by plane for New York and will have Ruth and six of her school girl friends at the Stork restaurant Tuesday for her twentieth birthday dinner, at which time she will receive her bonus of fifteen hundred dollars for not having drunk or smoked. I recall very well the time of your 21st birthday when you received the check for one thousand dollars and a new automobile. The only thing that we need to make this party a complete success next Tuesday, the 19th, would be to have you with us. So, we will drink a toast - with something - to your good health as well as to the good health of all of your friends in the camp.

I presume, without exaggeration, there have been twenty-five or thirty people made inquiry as to whether they could and how they could send you a Christmas package. I have had to tell all of them that

it was not permissible. While we are on the subject, I am sending a package of three pounds of candy out to Stipp, Weidemann, Romeiser, Malless, Elkins, Hightower, Talbot, Pirnie, Delaney, Burney, Dr. Brewster and Rominger and writing each of them a little note stating that I am sending the candy as Christmas greetings from both you and me. I am sending all of them a copy of your last letter as I know they will be glad to know I am hearing from you regularly.

I am going to ask the Red Cross if it would not be permissible for us in some way to send you a Christmas cable, although they state it is not permitted except under extreme emergencies and will in addition ask if there is any way you can send us a cable.

By the way, I received the notice that you evidently signed in Rhone on March 6th advising that you were safe and sound in a transit camp going to Germany. This came through the Secretary of State through His Holiness and was received here quite a while after I had received your first letter and it was sent to me out of Washington July 7th. I don't know who was responsible in sending it but I appreciated it very much and the notice has been covered up in an accumulation of mail. You will have a lot of correspondence to answer when you get home as I told you previously for we have several boxes of mail.

I think this about covers the situation. Everybody is fine and getting along fine and as we always say our present and foremost concern is you and your welfare as well as the welfare of all of your Buddies. So, give all the boys my regards and tell Johnny Jones, Warren, Beasley, Batte, Martin and others that I am communicating with their families, telling of my letters from you. John Jones is in town today, although I have not had an opportunity to see him.

With heaps and heaps of love, I am always

Affectionately,

AGC.KD