

Lt. Amon G. Carter, Jr. U. S. Army
P.O.W. No. 1595
Interned at Oflag 64, Germany
Via New York, N. Y., U. S. A.

New York

June 15, 1944

Dear Cowboy:

(Letter No. 63)

Your very interesting letter dated April 25 arrived in Fort Worth May 29 after my departure for New York and a photostatic copy of the letter has been forwarded to me here. In this letter you announce the fact that over one hundred new officers have arrived at your camp in the past two days and that they were captured in February, having been in other camps before being transferred to Oflag 64. We immediately got in touch with

Mrs. J. B. Tatum	1415 Crocker St., Houston
Mrs. Louise Martin	Box 174, Eagle Pass
Mrs. C. M. Wilkinson	Menard
Mrs. J. B. Valentine	Gonzales
Mrs. J. A. Stansel	Olden
Mrs. W. B. Sims	Box 172, Wills Point
Mrs. Goda Granberry	212 N. W. 5th Ave., Mineral Wells
Dr. M. L. Freedman	1703 $\frac{1}{2}$ Live Oak St., Dallas

and told him that Captain Hugo Fielschmidt had arrived in your camp.

All of them were delightfully happy and pleased over the information. The fact that they had heard from someone in the camp made them feel in a way equally as interested as a personal letter from the boys in the camp.

You state in your letter you have had forty letters from me. This makes my sixty-third letter so others will be coming along in due time. I hope the January parcel arrived as you were expecting it at the time you sent your letter of April 25. Meanwhile, as I told you in my previous letter, your Mother had forwarded the card you wrote on May 7 which arrived in 17 days and I am hopeful now of having another letter from you any day.

I was very much interested in your garden and the fact that it contains garlic, onions, radishes and flowers. As you say, it will fill you up a little.

I thanked Mr. Schuman and the W. E. Smiths at Louisville, telling them of your thanks for the letters they sent you.

I am delighted to know that the winter is over which should make it much more pleasant for you.

As indicated to you in my previous letter, I went to Washington and presented the Government with 700,000 acres of land known as the Big Bend Park, located in Brewster County in the deep bend of the Rio Grande River south of El Paso. Having been president of this association for a number of years during which time the land was gotten together, the Governor appointed me as his special representative to officially convey to the authorities in Washington, the President and Secretary of the Interior, the official deed. This park covers 1000 square miles and will be known as the "Twenty-seventh National Park" in the United States Park System.

While in Washington I called on Mr. Pate, who has charge of the prisoners of war for the Red Cross. He in turn introduced me to a Mr. Dunning from Geneva who, I understand, has charge of the international Red Cross and the matter of distributing packages, parcels, food and etc. to the prisoners of war. We had a rather frank discussion in which I expressed my disapproval, as well as my disappointment, rather vigorously regarding the fact that they had not supplied you boys with suitable clothing, including overcoats, until about the 13th of last December. As I recall, you wrote me a card on November 18 advising that up to that time the boys in camp were insufficiently clothed and without overcoats.

I further asked them why they could not supply you with additional food packages or why they would not permit the next of kin to supplement the regular 60-day package by an additional package every 30 days. Without going into details, we had a long discussion. Of course I realize the matter of transportation in any country in time of war is a serious problem that cannot always be handled satisfactorily.

I had previously read a newspaper story that your breakfast consisted of a cup of hot water, your lunch consisted of soup made from dehydrated vegetables and dinner of two boiled potatoes and a thick slice of black bread. This was somewhat disappointing as our Government feeds the German prisoners on the same rations as given to our American soldiers and most of the prisoners have gained from 5 to 8 pounds within five to six weeks after their capture and movement to the United States.

No doubt the German authorities are doing the best they can. Therefore, the only thing for you and others in the camp to do is to make the best of it, stick out the chins and take it with a smile, with the hope that nothing will happen to the delivery of your supplementary Red Cross packages once each week.

C. R. Smith has spent a few days with me in New York and asked me to send you his best regards. I had dinner with him at his house in Alexandria, Virginia, across the river from Washington, last week. The cook he has is Fritz, one of my old waiters at the Ritz-Carlton. He was anxious to know who you were getting along - in fact all the waiters at the Ritz-Carlton as well as the maids, telephone operators, managers, clerks, etc. have asked about you. Mr. Stack, the manager, said that when you did arrive home he wanted to give you a big dinner.

Larry Allen had lunch with me on June 8, 30 days from the time he left your camp and it was tremendously interesting to have an opportunity to talk with someone who had been in your camp for the past six or seven months. He gave a good report of all of you and incidentally told me that you were one of the first boys he had met in the camp and I was proud to know that you had provided him with razor blades, soap and other incidentals and in fact he said you had told him to take whatever he needed out of your package which had recently arrived. That made Dad really proud of you and it is the spirit I want you to always preserve - doing things for others at every opportunity possible.

Larry has had lunch with me three different times and dinner with C. R. and myself in the apartment at the hotel night before last. His girl is arriving from Texas at the end of the week and I am giving him a dinner party at the Stork Club Saturday night. By the way, I had dinner there last night and both Mr. Billingsley and Mr. Spooner asked about you and sent their best regards.

I brought along with me ten nice sirloin steaks from Texas and Larry so far has eaten four of them and I only wish it was possible to send all of the 500 prisoners you have in your camp as well as your guards, censors and German officials, a nice big steak for each one of you. It may be that some of them will have to wait until they can visit you in Texas after war is over so I can make good on this promise.

Larry is going to Washington the early part of next week and has an appointment with Mr. Davis, the head of the American Red Cross. Johnnie Jones' uncle telephoned me from Washington to ask Larry to have dinner with him and he has promised to introduce him to the top ranking officials in the Government. Incidentally, I have invited him to come down to Texas and spend a couple of weeks in Fort Worth and your sister Ruth is inviting his girl from San Antonio to come up to spend a couple of weeks with her. I thought I would place Larry in 10-G at the Fort Worth Club, would turn your boat over to them at Eagle Mountain Lake and they could have a real holiday. I am sorry you cannot be with us.

Mr. Rossbach and Mr. Freedleman - think that is the name but may not be correct - are inviting Larry to lunch at the University Club here tomorrow and have been nice enough to include me, they not having had an opportunity to talk with him before.

Larry looks fine and none the worse for the internment in a prison camp for the past 12 or 15 months. He was glad to get in civilian clothes. I gave him a bottle of 17-year old Bourbon de luxe and a couple of bottles of 12-year old Scotch which he seemed to enjoy and appreciate very much. Incidentally, this being June 15, completed my first two years on the water wagon without a drink or cigar, other than the little nip I had with you and Barry Bingham in London on Thanksgiving, 1942, and as previously stated if everyone joins me in a drink when you do arrive home I am afraid we will exhaust the liquor supply in Texas. However, I hope to have a sufficient amount to take care of it, even if I have to go in the vault at home in Rivercrest and take out some of the pre-war refreshments of the first war which have been in the vault for about 26 years and belong to you.

I just had lunch with Mr. Kemp, President of American Airlines - in fact I am in his office now and writing this letter through the courtesy of Miss Mary Duden, his secretary, as my letters in long-hand would be difficult for the German censors to read.

I talked to Ruth Sunday and Suzanne Clary's wedding went off Saturday night in fine style. Ruth was in the wedding and little Betty Lederer caught the bouquet which I am sure was a disappointment to Ruth.

I will be here until the directors meeting on Wednesday and hope to be home on Thursday, having been away more than two weeks. Mrs. Deakins is always glad to have me get away and give her a chance to get the office cleaned up. As a rule when I get back she had cleaned it up so well that I can't find anything. She and Carl are fine and I am sure you will hear from the regularly.

When Larry gets to Washington he will see the fathers and relatives of the boys from Washington who are interned in your camp. Again, it was certainly interesting to have a chance to talk with someone who had seen you in person 30 days previously. It was about the next thing to having talked with you on the telephone.

The Red Cross has just issued a new Prisoner of War and Civilian Internment Camp map. It shows all the camps and locations and the Red Cross gave me a list of the number of prisoners in each camp. My guess is that you must have now about twenty-five per cent Texans in your camp.

I was interested in what you wrote about the fine police dogs they had. Don't forget that Dad told you and I want to emphasize it, - do nothing at any time to incur the ill will of the police dogs and I am sure you will get along and be happy. Make up your mind that you are located for the duration of the war, that your captors or guards whose duty it is to keep you there are no more responsible for the war than you are; therefore treat them with every consideration, do everything they ask you to do and do it with a smile - in fact treat them like you would like to treat them if circumstances were reversed. The war will be over some day and you can look back on it with a tremendous interest. Take advantage of your time to learn the various languages and particularly the German language as it will be important and I want you to teach me to speak German when you get home as I hope to visit that country after the war is over and things have settled down to a normal status.

Mr. Swasey, Mr. Olwell as well as Sky Kudner, who have had lunch with me recently, all send their best regards to you. I am going out to Aqueduct to the races Saturday and if I find anything that looks I'll make a bet for you.

So far I have not received the bill for the Swiss watch which I presume will come along in time. It will be a pleasure to take care of it. If there is anything else that your guards will permit you to acquire or have, do not hesitate to buy it and send me the bill. I wish there was some way to permit you to acquire more food. If you should be permitted to do so, buy as much as you can and give all the Texas boys as well as your other friends in the camp a dinner at my expense. Imagine this would be difficult, but at the same time I want you to know that nothing would please me more.

I think this about covers the crop of news. I hope you are feeling okay and that all of you will take excellent care of yourselves, make model prisoners and remember, as Dad always says, our principal interest and thoughts are concerning your welfare and the hope to have you and all the boys home as soon as consistently possible.

Heaps and heaps of love,