

73-0474

New York, N.Y. October 7, 1944

Lt. Amon G. Carter, Jr.
U. S. Army
American Prisoner of War No. 1595
Interned at Oflag 64, Germany
Via New York City, N. Y.

Dear Cowboy:

Your letter to Katrine dated August 24 arrived in Fort Worth September 29 and she immediately relayed its contents by wire to me to the Ritz-Carlton in New York. Dad was delighted to know that you have received your new perpetual wrist Swiss watch from Switzerland and I presume, as you previously stated, in time I will receive the bill as I understand to the extent of eighty dollars.

You asked about sending more pictures in your card and to see one of Phil. This was sent to you some time ago and you have probably received it by this time.

Larry Allen dropped into the Ritz-Carlton to see me Tuesday and gave me the card you wrote him dated August 24 in which you make reference to the fact that even Billy Bingham has changed and also the fact that you had a hundred new officers from France and six French officers from Italy; further mentioned that he should see your tomato crop which I hope is fine.

You stated in your letter to Allen that he would probably see TDD soon. He is now located in the hospital in Washington. I called him on the telephone last night and had about a 25 or 30 minute conversation. He told me about you, your camp, activities, etc. and stated that you had asked him to get in contact with me. He tells me that he left there July 27 and that Breckman left there August 27 and delivered word from Johnnie Waters that the chances are there would be no change in your location as the previous order had been changed.

TDD is bringing his wife to New York sometime within the next week or ten days as my guest. I am taking him to see the show, Oklahoma, and I told him if his wife would get him to make the trip I would see that she was cheerfully rewarded. I asked him to be sure to get in touch with Johnnie Jones' uncle and give him all late particulars regarding the camp which he stated he would do.

(of Opp, Alabama)

I also received a letter from Lt. N. J. Meadows, written September 15 on the stationery of the Swedish American liner Gripsholm. He stated that when he left Oflag the last few days in July that you had asked him to write to me and send the enclosed pictures of camp friends and fellow Texans as well as pictures taken at Captain Torrence's funeral. This letter was received at home, Katrine had triplicate copies made of it as well as copies of the pictures and mailed them on to me by air mail. Ruth and some of her friends were having dinner with me at the Stork Club that night and your mother was there with Mrs. Herman Cornell so Ruth delivered a copy of the letter and a set of the pictures to your mother and she was delighted to receive them.

Meadows stated that he was in the same hospital with you in Rottenburg at the time you had yellow jaundice and that you looked rather bad at that time. However, that your living conditions had improved and that you had gotten more accustomed to them and you had begun to look better and almost like your former pictures. This was extremely gratifying - in fact the picture which Mrs. Ranck sent me in Fort Worth recently of eight of you was excellent and I was delighted to see you with the customary smile.

I may go back home and return again for Ruth's birthday on the 19th at which time she will be 21 years old. I had a dinner party for her at the Stork Club Tuesday night and enclose herewith a picture. On the right is Emily Roeser, Joan Herbert, Ruth, Dad, Mrs. Travis and another friend of Ruth's, Kay somebody from St. Louis. This is Emily and Joan's first year at Sarah Lawrence. Your cousin, Olive Ames, was unable to come in. I am going to have a birthday party for Ruth on the 19th at the same table in the same place. If it was only possible to have you here with us that would make everything complete.

done

Meadows stated that you had a nice job in the camp and TDD also told me about me the same thing. Roger White wrote his dad a letter that they had been out picking cherries. I asked TDD about it and he stated that there were a few cherry trees along the border of the camp from which the boys picked enough to make a cherry pie. This must have been very exciting.

Meadows also stated that you asked him to tell me that you would like to remain over in Europe for a while after the war and wanted to know if I would approve of it. Naturally, Dad wants to do anything that will please you or make you happy. It may be some time before the war is over which will mean that you will probably have been away from home about three years. The thought occurred to me that it would be a fine thing for you to come home, see all your loved ones and have a good rest, get caught up on the things you are short on and then you could have a chance to return to Europe and see some of the country, which should be very interesting, and it might be possible that I could go back with you.

Let me know who this strikes you. As I have often told you, Dad's principal concern is your happiness and welfare and if you are h--- bent on this I naturally would not stand in the way, but it sure would be awfully nice to have you back home for a visit first.

The pictures you sent through Meadows were tremendously interesting, especially those of the Texas delegation and your bridge parties. Meadows numbered the pictures and in one group it shows Joe Green of Little Rick, Amon Carter of Fort Worth, Benton Beasley of Ennis and Bill Fabin of Kansas City and a notation underneath, "These four have sat around the bridge table for many an hour." Jimmie Jones looks fine. I couldn't pick out Warren and some of the other boys in the picture although I could gradually recognize Captain Martin in the picture sent by Mrs. Ranck. It was nice of the German prisoner authorities to permit you to take these pictures and send them home, and nothing pleased me more than the fact that we were able to have these interesting pictures.

Johnnie

When Larry Allen came by I gave him a quart of 12-year old Scotch, a quart of 50-year old brandy and a quart of good gin and I am going to make up a nice package of about half a dozen bottles for TDD.

Your sister Ruth is getting along fine and is really becoming a very beautiful young lady. I am sure you will be proud of her when you come home and have a chance to see her. Her principal concern, like mine and that of Katrine, Carl and everyone at home, is your welfare, as to how you are getting along and with the reverent hope that you come home sound and feeling as good as possible. We will certainly have a great celebration for you.

I think this about covers the news that I could be able to give you other than that your hunting grounds out in West Texas continue to look good, your investments are getting along fine and you are going to be rather solvent when you do get back. All of these things are of course inconsequential or minor incidents - in fact there is nothing that matters except to have you back with us again and I know this same condition applies for all the boys.

I noticed in the Texas picture there were about 37 or 38. I was under the impression you had more than 50 from Texas in the camp.

Miss Mary Duden, Mr. Kemp's secretary, is writing this letter for me at the American Airlines office and she was nice enough to do this once before. When you get back we will have to come in and call on her.

With heaps and heaps of love from all of us, I remain

Affectionately,

Dad

Aunt Clara

This letter is about No. 73 or 74.