

January 17, 1945.

Mrs. E. M. Erwin,
423 N. High,
Longview, Texas.

Dear Mrs. Erwin:

Your letter of January 13 has been received during Mr. Carter's absence from the State and inasmuch as he will probably be gone several weeks longer, I am taking the liberty of acknowledging it for him.

Mr. Carter's son, Amon Junior, has been a prisoner of war for 23 months and has spent 19 months in Oflag 64, where your husband has been interned for several months. While I am sure you have gotten most of your information from the War Department with reference to writing and sending packages, it is our understanding that they are permitted to write 3 letters and 4 postcards each month and there is no restriction on the letters they may receive. You will receive a next-of-kin label from the War Department every 60 days which will permit you to send 11 pounds of food and clothing, however, may I suggest that you put as much concentrated food as possible in these packages as their rations are very scant and I am sure the clothes will be furnished in some other manner. They may also have a 5 pound book package each month.

There is an organization called American Parcels for Prisoners of War in Buffalo, New York that can pack your next-of-kin food parcels for around \$5.00 and they can also send cigarettes and items of sport articles and games without a special label. If you will write to these people, I am sure they will be glad to send you a list and prices.

This camp is located about 100 miles south of Danzig at Schubin in the Polish Corridor. It was originally a boys reformatory school and part

of the buildings are of stone construction, however, there are about 1200 American officers there at this time and they are very cramped for shelter and fuel and they have only been allowed $2\frac{1}{2}$ pounds of coal per person per week, which is insufficient with a 30 to 60 below zero climate. For a couple of months - October and November - they were deprived of Red Cross food parcels and did not receive personal parcels for three or four months and without these supplemental packages, they would not be able to exist on German rations. Mr. Carter has been advised this week that the Red Cross parcels are going into the camp again and that they have had a shipment of the personal packages, so let us hope for the best and that they will soon be released, and the war news looks very encouraging today.

If I have not given you any information you might desire, please let me know and I will gladly furnish it. Incidentally, letters have been received from this camp as late as December 14 and they were all right at that time.

Yours very truly,

Secy. to A. G. Carter.