

October 23, 1944.

Miss Margaret Edith Harding,  
316 Meader Street,  
Campbellsville, Ky.

Dear Miss Harding:

Your nice letter of October 18 has been received and I am glad that you had a letter dated August 5th from Amon Junior. Our last letters were dated August 13th and 24th and from information gathered from several boys who have been repatriated from Oflag 64, as well as from the senior officer of that camp and Larry Allen, a newspaper correspondent, perhaps I can interpret some of the remarks you refer to that Amon has made in his letter to you as well as to us.

It seems there was a lot of discussion that their camp would be moved due to the activities becoming closer to their location and they were taking exercise and toughening their feet as they felt they would have to march to whatever location they were moved to. However, it is Mr. Carter's understanding that such an order has been rescinded and they will probably stay where they are.

I am sure you realize that only those officers who are totally incapacitated for future combat service are repatriated, so those that have been returned have injuries or illnesses that disable them. His reference that you might not hear from him often is probably due to the disruption of their transportation facilities as Mr. Carter had nothing in the months of June and July and that mail is probably still en route, been destroyed or held up somewhere.

One of these officers told Mr. Carter that the boys coming into the camp from the French and Italian battle area were very optimistic

and felt that the war would soon be over. However, from all indications, our propaganda is very misleading and the Germans are better prepared, clothed and fed than we are led to believe. Of course the boys who have been prisoners as long as Amon Junior has have a better conception of the conditions in Germany and are not as optimistic, so the old boys have made up a pool of \$2,000 to bet the "newcomers" that the war will not be over until next spring.

All of these people tell us that Amon Junior is doing a swell job, speaks German as fluently as the natives and has maintained his spirit even though very unhappy all through his internment and that he is more or less a "pet" of the camp. Naturally, we know he couldn't have an enemy.

I think this pretty well answers the things you wanted to know. I was very glad to hear from you and to know that you are back in your school work and enjoying it though busy.

With best wishes, I am

Yours very truly,

Secy. to A. G. Carter.