

5926 Haverford Ave
Indianapolis, 5, Ind.
27 February 1944

Dear Mr. Carter :-

At last I reached the end of the line, and I'm really home! -

It's hard to believe that it's true, but everything seems so natural, it's just as hard to believe that I was gone for almost two years. -

When I called you, it was from Asheville, N.C. - It took several weeks to get sent from there to here. - - Right now, I'm enjoying the third day of a thirty day sick - leave. -

My only regret, is that all of the original members of our division can't be home, too. -

I feel a little guilty, enjoying all the good things, when I know exactly what they have to put up with. - - I guess that what originally looked like a tough break for me, actually has turned out to be a lucky one. -

Amos Jr. had a terrifically tough break, but I hope that it will end up that his was for the best, too. - - That might seem a silly

thing to say; but I know that the 91st,
at least, is in the Rome bridgehead. -

You probably already know, but last week
in the Army Register, I noticed that Jim
Rominger had been wounded, and Ira
Hilliard and Klinker were killed. -- I don't

believe that you knew those two. --

This Hilliard was a cousin of Ted Hilliard
in the 27th, who you might have known.

After I finish this letter, I'm going to
send one to Amos Jr. -- You gave me his
address over the phone; however if you can,
I'd like to have a written sample of it so
that I can be sure that I have it right. -

When I write, I am not permitted to use
my military rank, or make any inference that
I'm in the armed forces. --- And when I
was overseas, I wasn't permitted to write
to a prisoner of war at all. -

Enclosed is a clipping of my wife and
my daughter. -- My daughter was born
only a month after we originally sailed. -
Contrary to what the article says, she and I

are really excellent friends, now. - I think that she likes the faces I make, better than any one else's. -

When Amos Jr. gets home; if he is affected the same as myself, and almost all of the others, the thing he'll like the most is fresh milk. - - Before we left, I'd hardly touch the stuff, but since I got back it tastes wonderful. - - We all thought that candy, Coca-Cola, etc. would taste the best, but plain, cold, milk is what took the prize. -

Truthfully, I was very disappointed in the civilians' "sacrifices" for the war. - I'd expected to see such few cars, and those filled to capacity, and such shortages of everything. - - Instead, they seem just as numerous to me, now, as they were before, and they "bat" around just as fast. - Black-market gasoline & food seem to be just as common as the regular variety! - You're not a flag-waver, by any means, but by comparison it hardly seems fair for some people to be giving so much, and others hampering so much. - - Of course, now that

I'm back, the war seems ever so remote to me, so I guess that some people have - it ever been able to grasp the significance of it. . . . It is certainly real enough to some of the fellows, tho', - every day.!

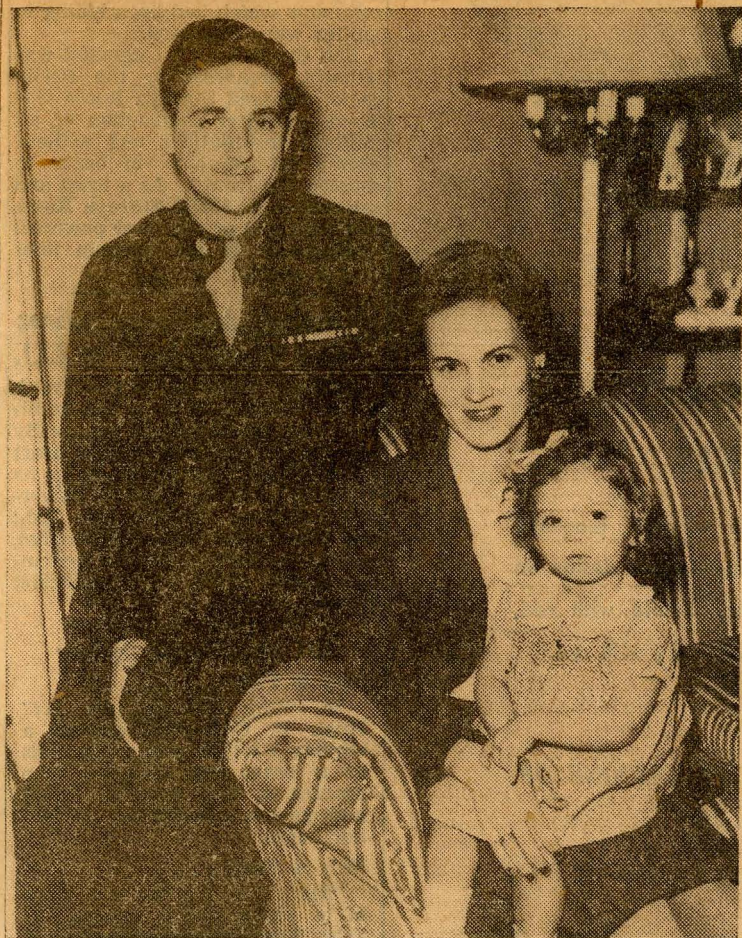
I've set-up my darkroom again, and will be developing some Tunisian pictures. If there are any, specially good, I'll send you prints of them . . .

Thank you again for all you've done for all of us. . . . I know that all the boys have been grateful, even tho' they may not have been able to express it to you. -

I hope that it won't be long before Amos Jr. will have that tremendous emotional surge in his throat, as ~~he~~ he steps off the train to meet his family; like I did. -

Sincerely,
Stanley Waller
Major, F.A.

Major Loses Battle On Home Front; Baby Daughter Calls for "Mommy"



MAJ. STANLEY MALLESS, former mechanical engineer with the Chevrolet Commercial Body division of General Motors Corporation, saw his 20-month-old daughter, Merrillee Ann, for the first time Monday when he arrived at Billings General Hospital for treatment of injuries suffered in North Africa. They are shown with Mrs. Malless in their home, 5926 Haverford avenue.

By **MARGUERITE BROWN.**

When the ribbon-bedecked, mustached army officer grabbed her up in his arms Monday, 20-month-old Merrillee Ann Malless, 5926 Haverford avenue, began calling for "mommy."

Merrillee Ann needed moral support even though the 29-year-old major, veteran of the North African campaign and winner of the silver star for conspicuous gallantry in action, was her own father. It was the first time she had met the man with whose photograph she had become so familiar

in the 20 months he had been overseas. Maj. Malless, former mechanical engineer for the Chevrolet commercial body division of General Motors Corporation, arrived Monday at Billings General Hos-

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Major Surrenders To "Mommy" Call

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pital, where he is recuperating from injuries suffered in North Africa.

"She knows my picture better than she does me," Maj. Malless said, but added that he and Merrillie Ann were getting to be great friends now.

Thinks Wounds Unglamorous.

As for the injuries which brought him back to the United States, Maj. Malless explained that while he was riding in a "peep" during a blackout near Oran, Algeria, to obtain treatment for "a little nick in my elbow," a French truck collided with the vehicle and his hip was injured.

"It's a kind of unglamorous way to get hurt," he commented with a grin.

However, some of the action which Maj. Malles has seen as a member of the artillery section of the First Armored Division, which now is fighting at the beachhead near Rome, definitely is of the "glamorous" variety.

The action which won him the silver star occurred on St. Valentine's day last year, "the morning when the Germans first came through Faid pass . . . the only day the fighting was the way you see it in pictures and magazines and advertisements," Maj. Malless related.

Pays Germans Tribute.

"The Germans really are rugged ballplayers," he said, recalling the long hours of fierce combat that day. But he added that in his experience the Germans "have been as fair as we have" in waging battle.

The part Maj. Malless played in the struggle at Faid pass is told in part by the citation accompanying the silver star awarded him.

". . . for conspicuous gallantry in action on 14 February, 1943, in the vicinity of Sidi Bou Zid, Tunisia. When the battalion trains were subjected to a combined enemy attack by air, artillery, foot troops and tanks and all friendly troops had withdrawn from the area, Capt. Malless voluntarily and unhesitatingly remained behind with them to assist in their safe evacuation. He continuously disregarded his own welfare and constantly exposed himself to close and heavy enemy fire in his assistance to personnel and vehicles. By his daring and heroic action and aggressive, efficient leadership he contributed materially to the successful withdrawal of the organization's trains. The gallantry, effective leadership and complete devotion to this voluntary and self-assumed duty displayed by Capt. Malless reflect the finest traditions of the armed forces and are deserving of the highest praise."

Is Purdue Graduate.

Maj. Malless received a commission in the reserve corps when he was graduated from Purdue University in 1934. He was called to active duty in January, 1941. He won a letter in tennis while at Purdue and formerly was president of the Indianapolis Amateur Tennis League.