

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY

120 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

JOSEPH F. MANN
GENERAL COUNSEL

February 23, 1945.

Mr. Amon G. Carter,
Fort Worth, Texas.

Dear Mr. Carter:

I assume your papers have carried the A. P. stories from Moscow from the officers who escaped from Oflag 64.

If the taking of the men's shoes and belts (Mac's first letter to us asked for shoes), the supplying of a starvation diet so that the men lost upwards of 20 pounds before they got back to permanent camps where Red Cross packages were available, the removal entirely of Red Cross packages for seven weeks last fall -- if all these things are in accordance with the Geneva Convention then I will be agreeably surprised. In meeting returned prisoners last fall and again this winter, I have found that there are many subjects upon which they are forbidden to speak and one of those is the treatment by the Germans and the food the Germans supplied them. It is easy now to see how the War Department is able to maintain the fiction that our boys are being properly treated in Germany. Marching a group of half starved men across Northern Germany on foot in below zero temperatures is, I understand, in accordance with the Geneva Convention, but it quite contrasts with the treatment of German prisoners in the U.S., who, to my knowledge, are being sent in Pullman cars, using drawing rooms.

While lists have been coming to the United States of those who have been released, apparently the newspapers are, under the casualty rules, forbidden to publish more than the local names, so I have no way of finding out if your boy is among those who escaped. If he is, I hope you will write me and I certainly hope he is. We have no news of Mac.

Sincerely yours,

Joe Mann

FEB 26 1945