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MARTIN CAMPBELL
Managing Director

1122 Jackson Street
DALLAS 2, TEXAS

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Dear Mr. Carter,

As I stated on the phone yesterday, I have had several letters from my husband, Lt. Henry L. Pritchett, Jr., from Oflag 64 recently and Bertice asked me to call and report to you on them. The latest was written October 24 and arrived January 6. During the holidays I received two cards written September 13 and 21 and letters written October 1, 7, 12 and 24. Henry's family also received several cards and letters written in that period also.

I shall copy here some excerpts from these letters which might be of interest to you and other families in Ft. Worth.

Sept. 21--"...Everything is about the same here. Been awfully lazy lately but have several requests for house plans and building plans so I'll have to go to work. I'm baking a cake today..."

Oct. 1--"Received 3 letters today written June 1--20. Have been doing a lot of drafting this week and have really enjoyed ~~myself~~ it and done some pretty good work. I'm also enjoying my own cooking which is taking a good deal of time. Made a very nice cake, tomato soup and potato-fish cakes for supper tonight. P.O.W.'s will make good housekeepers by the time they get home. We manage to have lots of laughs and fun. One thing about this life, there can be no disappointments. Saw the second American film this week, "Spring Parade" with Deanna Durbin. The sound was not so good but I enjoyed it very much. We're putting on two more stage shows soon--one an original musical, the other "The Man Who Came to Dinner." I hope you'll get this by Christmas time. Please remember at Christmas that I'm healthy and happy and that I would be the happiest guy in the world there. It won't do to worry about me 'cause I've never felt better..."

Oct. 7--"No more mail as yet but I'm feeling fine and keeping busy. We're having some fine football games but I'm only participating on the drums as usual. Will give you some instructions for parcels--incase. Pay no attention to instructions of sister's outfit (Red Cross). I have plenty of clothes but would like to have the things following: Cake flour, lots, baking powder, beans and peas, rice, Kraft dinners, cocoa, coffee, tea, powdered eggs and lots of peanut butter. I need a few razor blades, tooth paste and brown shoe polish. I'm doing fine on toilet articles but would like any amount of the other things...ice cream cartons are used very effectively...Please send also pancake flour and mapleine to make maple syrup. I'm doing ~~lots~~ of cooking now and enjoying it as much as ever. I'm still able to eat my own cooking too. If you read anything by Larry Allen you can believe it and follow his instructions. Mr. Amon G. Carter can give you lots of good suggestions too, I think... None of you can ever know just how much a letter and a parcel mean to me...the pictures are a God-send--please send more..."



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October 24--"...Received 14 letters yesterday...the latest were yours of Aug. 7 and 9th..."

I don't know about Mr. Allen's article in this month's Cosmopolitan. It seems to me he exaggerates the situation a little. I'm sure it is not at all a bed of roses over there, but if Henry were really hungry he'd be unable to write about baking cakes and such. He has mentioned making a raisin pie and other such delicacies. He couldn't write about all this and be hungry unless he has lost his mind, and his letters sound quite sane and natural. I don't know how he manages to write so often, but I'm grateful that he is able to do so.

As I wrote you last fall when I first learned Henry had been transferred to Oflag 64 from the hospital at Stalag IIIA, he arrived at 64 the first week in August, so all the mail he has had from us has been forwarded from the other camp. We have sent four parcels, but I do not entertain much hope that the first three (sent to IIIA) will be forwarded to him. That indicates the ingredients of his cakes and pies were obtained from Red Cross parcels or someone else's "next-of-kin" parcels.

I hope I am not too optimistic about conditions over there, but I really do not worry about Henry too much, mostly because he writes so often and because all of his letters are much more spirited than I know mine would be, were I in his shoes.

I had no idea I was better fixed for news than other families, and assure you I shall write you more often when I receive mail from Henry. Each time I tell myself these may be the last letters I shall receive, from what I hear of the paper shortage in Germany, but they have continued to come in pretty regularly to date.

I hope you hear from your son again very soon.

Sincerely,

Elaine Pritchett

Elaine H. Pritchett,
Publicity & Promotion
WFAA-KGKO

3424 Princeton Ave.
Dallas 5, Texas

P.S. - My aunt Mrs. Homer W. Ladd has kept me informed some-what on news through Mrs. Henry.