

Headquarters Prisoner of War Camp  
4804th Unit, Camp Maxey, Texas.  
Feb. 4, 1944.

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

Dear Sir:

I have just finished reading an account of the death of Captain R. H. Torrence, Jr., of Waco, Texas, in Oflag 64, German prison camp in Poland. In this write-up, the names of a number of Texas boys were given who are also internees at this camp, among which was the name of your son, Lt. Amon G. Carter, Jr. It seems that there is an implied doubt in the minds of the parents of this man concerning his death, due to the fact that he had written early in December that he was well and was carrying on his studies. Also, the disease, appoplexy, is not commonly associated with persons as young as twenty-five years.

My reason for writing you is that my own son, 2nd Lt. John R. Rodgers, is (or was) a prisoner of war at Oflag 64 as late as Nov. 8, 1943. He was captured in Sicily in July and from that time on I received mail from him regularly. However, it has now been almost three months since I have had word of any kind concerning him. Also, at the time of his last letter, he had not received any mail of any kind since his capture, and he seemed very dispondent over this fact. Needless to say, letters by the dozens have been sent; also as many packages and cartons of cigarettes as is allowable. The fact that mail from him to me has ceased; also the fact that his name was not listed among other Texas boys in the above mentioned write-up (although one man was mentioned who was captured much later), leads me to feel that perhaps something may have happened to him; or that perhaps some of those boys have been moved to another camp. Is there any information which you may be able to give me concerning the habits and routine of this camp; whether they are considerate of the boys welfare; and whether boys from the same section of the country are allowed to mix and mingle with one another? Perhaps you have heard from your son lately? If so, did he mention whether the boys from Texas received any mail or packages from home for Christmas?

It seems that there is some confusion as to the proper manner in which letters to airmen should be addressed. My son in his letters merely gives his POW number and the number of his camp; yet the International Red Cross Bulletin advises that mail to airmen should be addressed to Stalag Luft 3, for censorship, with the name of the actual internment camp underneath in brackets. As my son was a pilot, I have been addressing his mail to Stalag Luft 3. Do you know if this is correct? I have written the War Department, but it seems that inquiries of this kind take considerable time to be answered, and to date I

have not heard.

I am sure that you are keeping up with the news concerning the trials which the Germans have threatened against American and British airmen. What do you think may come of this threat? Of course, in the event the trials are actually held, there is no doubt as to what the verdict will be.

My son is 21 years of age this month; but to me he is still a little boy, and the thought of what may be happening to him, or what may be in store for him in the future is almost more than I can bear. Am sure you will understand, knowing that your own son faces the same uncertainties.

As you will note by the heading of this letter, I am employed at a prisoner of war camp here. We have all German prisoners and I can truthfully say that they are receiving the best treatment possible; in fact they lack for nothing. Our own soldiers are not treated any better. I only hope that our own boys over there are getting treatment that is one-half as good.

Any late news which you may have received from your son, which you think might be of interest to me, will be greatly appreciated. Thanking you in advance for a prompt reply, and hoping that the near future will bring a release of all of our fine boys, I am

Very truly,

*Mrs. Madge C. Rodgers.*