

June 29, 1943.

Major General G. C. Brant,
Headquarters, Army Air Forces
Gulf Coast Training Center,
Randolph Field, Texas.

My dear Jerry:

Your letter of June 15 received congratulating me on my election as President of the Fort Worth Club for the 24th consecutive year, for which please accept my thanks.

One paragraph in your letter was not altogether clear to me, as you state that you are more than glad to rejoice with me over the safe homecoming of my son. I only wish this were possible. Meanwhile, he is a prisoner in Rotenberg, Germany, 24 miles southeast of Kassel. I received the wire from the Adjutant General's office March 11 that he was reported missing in Tunisia. On April 14 I received a wire advising that he was a prisoner of war in Germany. On April 29 I received the first letter from him and I have had several letters from him since that time. In fact, I received two letters from him Monday. As a matter of information I will forward you a photostatic copy of his first letter and there has been no change in his status since this time, and I presume no possible chance for any exchange of prisoners until after the war is over. Meanwhile, he has lost about 40 pounds; however, he is in good spirits and states they have nothing to do but eat two meals a day and read for which they receive 72 marks a month or about \$20.00 in American money.

There are 141 officers and eleven doctors in this camp. In his last letter he stated that 30 of the boys had left to get new artificial arms and legs. This is something for some of the bellyachers in this country to think about as you hear a lot of people yelping about the tough time they are having with the ration restrictions, etc. There are too many people in our country who are not really conscious of the fact that we are in the war. Maybe a little bombing like the British receive would shake up our patriotism. It is a rather

deplorable condition when the Supreme Court of the United States rules that some cult or class are not required to salute the flag as long as it is against their religious principles, so it makes us wonder what our country is really coming to. In my homespun, horseback way of thinking, no "S.B." should receive special privileges of this kind. If it is a good enough country to live in, they should be required to show proper respect for the flag that represents our country, our freedom and our liberties. This is one case where the old Ku-Klux-Klan could render a good service by taking a bunch of this kind out and teaching them to respect the flag and salute it, especially on Flag Day, designated to commemorate the ideals which the American Flag represents.

Incidentally, I missed seeing you on one of your trips to Fort Worth and I hope that you will always advise me when you can be here. I want you to remember that my quarters at the Fort Worth Club and all of the equipment therein is at your disposal at any and all times.

With my best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

AGC.SB