

June 30, 1943.

Mr. W. R. Hearst,
Los Angeles Examiner,
1111 South Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Mr. Hearst:

Some time ago you sent me a nice letter acknowledging my good wishes and remembrance on your birthday. I am always delighted to hear from you.

I appreciated your sympathy and interest regarding my son who is now a prisoner of war in Germany. Incidentally, I had two letters from him Monday and he is all right and in good spirits. The following are quotations from his letters, which I thought might be of interest to you:

"Here in the camp, life is very bore-some as we do not know what is happening. The building is enclosed with barbed wire, which restricts our recreational facilities, however we pass the time by reading and playing cards. I am taking German lessons and will soon be able to speak the language as well as read the German newspapers, which is the only news we get of any kind. We only get two meals a day and the food is not like what we are used to at home. The people at home cannot realize how important the little things they take for granted are until they have to do without them. I have changed rooms here at camp as about 30 officers went to get artificial arms and legs leaving some rooms vacant."

I wonder just how some of our belly-achers that are now complaining about the hardships that we are enduring would feel if they were prisoners in Germany and were getting two scant meals a day.

Babe Meigs just sent me a copy of the Herald Examiner from Chicago carrying the story, "Why America is Winning the War" and the cartoon with the caption, "He Said They Could Do It" - Billy Mitchell. I just wrote Babe and told him if the powers that be had listened to your recommendations regarding the Billy Mitchell episode, the scrapping of part of our Navy

and the Japanese problem, that the country would be a damn sight better off than it is now because most of the things that you advocated in those days are the things we are now fighting to preserve.

Incidentally, I got a great kick out of the letter I received from Tom White acknowledging the editorial we carried on your birthday in which Tom told about his transatlantic conversation with you in Europe just prior to the Roosevelt and Landon campaign stating that he told you it looked like a foregone conclusion for Governor Roosevelt, at the same time trying to console you by stating that time would yet prove that you were right in supporting Governor Landon. Tom stated that one of your characteristic chuckles came over the phone and you stated, "Yes, Mr. White, but by the time the people realize that I am right, they will have forgotten what I am right about. I have told this story many times as it is a fine evidence of the keen sense of humor that has been a great asset to you in the successful and constructive life you have lead.

Incidentally, Bugs Baer gives me a lot of pleasure. It is one of the first things I read in the paper every morning. It is too bad that we don't have Will Rogers here to help Bugs in his take-off on the current events of the day.

I hope you are fine, and as you state in the last paragraph of your letter, let's hope the results of this war will justify the sorrows.

My best wishes to you at all times,

Sincerely,

ACC.SB

P.S. Amon Junior in one of his letters from the prison camp made inquiry as to how he could pay his income tax. I thought I might send this one along to Mr. Morgenthau. Meanwhile, I am writing Amon Junior that that is a problem I am worrying about concerning myself.

COPIES OF THE ATTACHED LETTER TO MR. W. R. HEART
OF JUNE 30, 1943 SENT THE FOLLOWING:

M. C. MEIGS

DICK BERLIN

TOM WHITE

BUGS BAER

W. R. HEARST, JR

JOE CONNOLLY

BILL CURLEE

BILL CORUM

DAMON RUNYON

E. M. SWASEY