

United States Army

19 July 44

Dear Beepsie



Be friendly to everyone,
live entirely by the golden rule.
Remember Wescal Wilson, he's in
the company here and is an
old veteran, having been here
for 15 days. Anyway he saw to
it that Bruce Hamlin + myself
got a private room. So I'm living
in comparative luxury.

never again will I take
showers for granted. We were
on the train from Sat. nite
until 3:00 p.m. Wednesday. I
took a shower at 3:00 + 8 seconds.
It was wonderful, absolutely.

Camp Beale is done
entirely in olive drab, grass
does not grow, except in the
winter time, it's blazing hot,
but so dry that you don't
perspire a great deal.

I've talked to some
fellows about the training

program. It's very tough, many
long hikes under full pack,
overnight bivouacs etc.

You can get a 6 hour
pass every other night &
an overnight pass every
other weekend, there's
only one catch to it,
as soon as you're 'allowed'
for overseas shipment,
no passes at all. That
must be the condition
in Adams company, though
I haven't gotten in touch
with him yet.

I've seen several
fellows that I know,
Malinow hasn't gotten
here yet.

Our processing starts
tomorrow, interviews, tests.
It's just like reentering
the army.

I've ~~so~~ tried
slept on the train, but

United States Army



didn't seem settled in the morning, so tough I'll climb under my blankets, at least that's what everyone claims though it doesn't seem possible 'cause the heat is inferno like.

I must tell you about my last night at Crowder. I tried to go to bed early but it was hot so I read a while. One of the fellows said he was going into town and I could sleep in his bed. So I got a clean mattress cover & proceeded to my beddy bye. Woke up about 1:00 am a mass of lites. Found out in the morning that the fellow who 'loaned' me his bed had gotten some tick lites

infill on my hands, and
so I suppose they infested
his bed. Anyway I had the
ticks removed & am
quite cured by now, though
I've used a half bottle
of clear nail polish & it
feels somewhat icky.

Well sweetheart
I'm tired & the sun is
going down, so I believe
it'll be bed for me
soon.

I love you

David

please thank mother & Dad
for — the word escapes
me, I guess we can call
it being as nice as they
are. I will you please
call mother on my side,
and read those parts of
my letter that she'd be
interested in — say
hello to everyone.

Ssgt David Balatin, 35478690
Co. A, 4th Bn. ASF PRD
Camp Beale, California



~~David Balatin~~
~~35478690~~
~~Co. A, 4th Bn. ASF PRD~~
~~Camp Beale, California~~

Mrs. David Balatin
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, Ky.

1

United States Army

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Dear Sweetheart, 20 July 44

was processed today, medical, insurance + general check up of records. It was somewhat tiresome, they ran us through in a group of 200, and it took hours at each place, but it's good training, I suppose to be one of the mob.

upon the advice of one of the clerks at service records, I had them list farming as a secondary occupation prior to my induction into the army. The idea being that it might facilitate getting out of the army after the war is over.

at 8 o'clock this evening I had a thermometer in my room and it registered exactly 110°; but by now it's very comfortable.



I have not received my pay as yet here, but I believe I'll be able to make it until the 15th without writing a check. I still have \$10.00. It'll be a famine + feast proposition from now on. I'll probably get all my pay at the same time. In case I should have to write a check, will you tell me in your next letter, when you are transferring the account + the exact name of the bank etc.

Kind of lovely tonight. My roommate went into town ^(Maysville) with another fellow, and I didn't see much sense in going. I too tried to go out + look anyone up, so I've been around

United States Army

- 3 -



the barracks all evening.

Listened to Roosevelt's speech & thought it was masterfully done, tho 99 ⁴⁴/₁₀₀ purely political. Understand his in San Diego, Cal. - surprise (with Eleanor).

Sure glad I brought the pictures (snapshots) along. The ones of you become dearer each time I look at them. Set your fill of kisses, I'm going to keep you in (fears) after the war. I don't know if that's the correct spelling.

Goodnight sweetheart,
I miss the hug.
Love, David

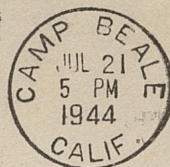
Cal

In reply to your
letter rec'd to-day
this is 3rd time
I answered your
question. Answer
is still yes &
will always be
yes. Thinking
of you to-day
as usual, only
more so -

Love,

David

Ssgt David Balatin 35478690
CO A, 4th Bn. ASF PRD
Camp Beale, Cal.



Mrs. David Balatin
785 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, Ky.

2

mal, Tule
~~Kaffen~~
well

United States Army

21 July 44



Jayne dear,

Ran into Kay & Aaron in
Marysville last night, spent
most of the evening with them.
Aaron looks well but complains
that this climate is too dry
& dusty for his sinus trouble.
Poor Aaron, no climate quite
suits him.

Drank one Tom Collins
bought an Esquire & that was
the extent of my activities.

B1 party this evening,
very successful, got our barracks
spid & span. All the fellows
cooperated, and we finished
quickly.

Haven't seen Malinow
yft, can't imagine what's
happened to him, all of our
fellows seem to be in. This

battalion, but not Malheur.

I was wondering how long this pen would write empty, but it's o.k. now, filled it with ink. It doesn't write as well with ordinary ink as with "51"

Tomorrow we start on an endless round of maneuvers, most of which we've seen before. But I'm blessed with the ability to sleep.

Nothing else of a startling nature, goodnight
boopie!

Love
David

S sgt David Balatin 35478690
CO A 4th Bu. ASF PRD
Camp Beale, Cal.



Mrs. David Balatin
285 S. Ashland Ave
Lexington, Ky

3

United States Army

22 July 44

Dear Beesie,

just finished talking to a staff sergeant who was wounded on Iwojima. Kind of a nice boy, he lives in the room next to mine.

We got off early Saturday afternoon, because our clothing hasn't arrived yet. ^(postponing) I bumped into a fellow named Sid Bolly who was a basic in B-27. He's a photographer & had an assignment down in Sacramento, some action pictures around the state capital. We got there around 6 o'clock and shot pictures until dark. Then we ate at a place called Bedells, believe it or not they had good steaks, but everything was a la carte, therefore expensive. Then we went to the USO. He's



a pretty good ping pong player,
but I tamed him. About
Ten o'clock we ran into a
fellow who had a telegram
for him, that had arrived
after he left the company.
Upon opening it he found
that he was the papa of a
boy baby. So we proceeded to
the telegraph office & wired
complete instructions to the
Mama. Then we had a few
drinks to celebrate the
occasion.

I came back at noon
Sunday, as there wasn't much
to do. I thought I might go
swimming, but was too
unambitious to deal with it.

Read this afternoon (Sunday)
& am about ready to go to
bed.

You of course, hear all
kinds of rumors here. At our
orientation lecture we were

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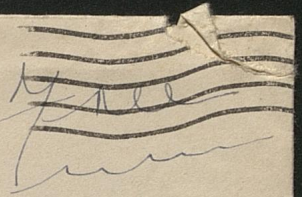
told that 95% of us
were going to the
S. Pacific, and soon.

Also we are on a numbered
shipment definitely slated for
overseas, I hope we'll not
put on the alert for a week
or so as I'd like to go to
San Francisco and see my
relatives.

Saw that witch Sir ran
second his last out and is
running against Sir Bin. Monday.
Hope he does good. The
race results are carried in
the local papers, so I can
keep up with the 'Oses.

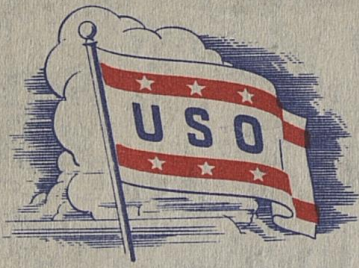
I'm looking forward
to hearing from you tomorrow.
I hung around at mail call
Sat., but knew there wasn't
time for a letter to arrive.
Hope you're getting my letters
quickly. I am oad (aint 2 silly)
David

Ssgt David Bolotin 35478690
Co A 4th Bu ASF PRD
Camp Beale, Cal.



Card
Carried
Mrs
G.P.

Mrs. David Bolotin
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, Ky.



24 July 44

Dear Boopsie,

Finally got in touch with Malinow. We're in the Marysville USO, so thought I'd write to my sweetheart.

Just sent you a night letter and had a hard time convincing the telegraph company that it wasn't congratulatory.

It was of course. I'm still looking for something nice to send you, but I'll have to wait until I get paid.

I'm sorry we can't

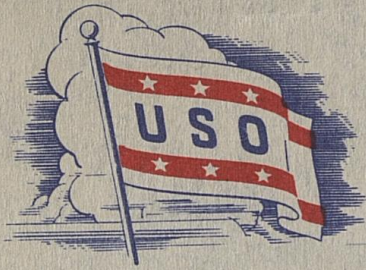
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THE SALVATION ARMY • THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
THE JEWISH WELFARE BOARD • THE NATIONAL TRAVELERS AID ASSOCIATION

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spend this anniversary
together, but maybe in
some little way I'll help
us and many others to
spend future joyous days
together.

Today was rather
uneventful. We went on
an 8 mile hike in the
morning & had a ball
game in the afternoon.
I pitched for the winning
team, and it was great
fun. Your old man also
hit a home run with
2 men on base.

I got 3 letters from
you today and your
card was clever. I only
read the letters 3 or 4
times, it was really
great getting them.



The things you are doing sound interesting. I hope you keep occupied.

We came in town especially to get a decent meal and are going back when I finish this.

I don't mind waiting in line ^{two} times a day but the 3rd time always gets me.

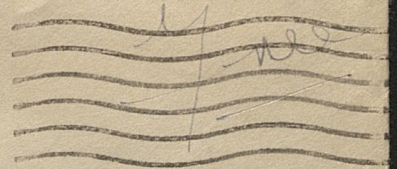
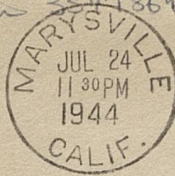
I love you

David

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FROM S Sgt David Bolatin 35478690
CO A 4th ASF PRD
Camp Beale, Cal.

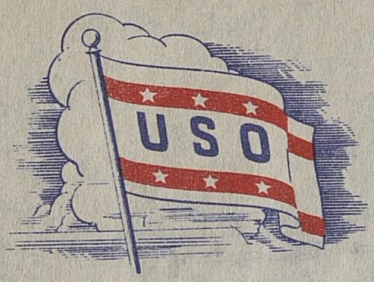


Mrs. David Bolatin
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, Ky.

5



Handwritten notes:
1
7
open
[Illegible signature]



25 July 44

Jayne Abbott,

Feeling a tiny bit blue today on account of the background of the day. That's when nervous you married nervouset me, "damn this daylight saving time!"

Remember the awful heat and poor you couldn't eat a thing, I insisted on keeping 'flying steaks' top down and we were both burned to a crisp, and those sublime, too perfect, days at Brown park and the mountains coming home, your minute investigation of each scenic wonder,

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and my indifference, then
the time after our honeymoon
seems to merge into a
complete mosaic of ~~of the~~
goodness, with a few sharp ^{quarrelsome}
moments to accent the
excellence of the rest of our
time together. I'm glad
you're not here, for I can
better appreciate your real
worth by the contrast.

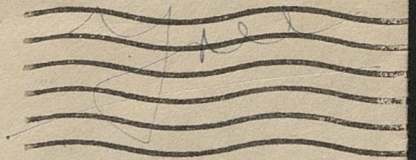
I want write an
account of the day, will
just say, I love you

David

FROM Ssgt David Balatin

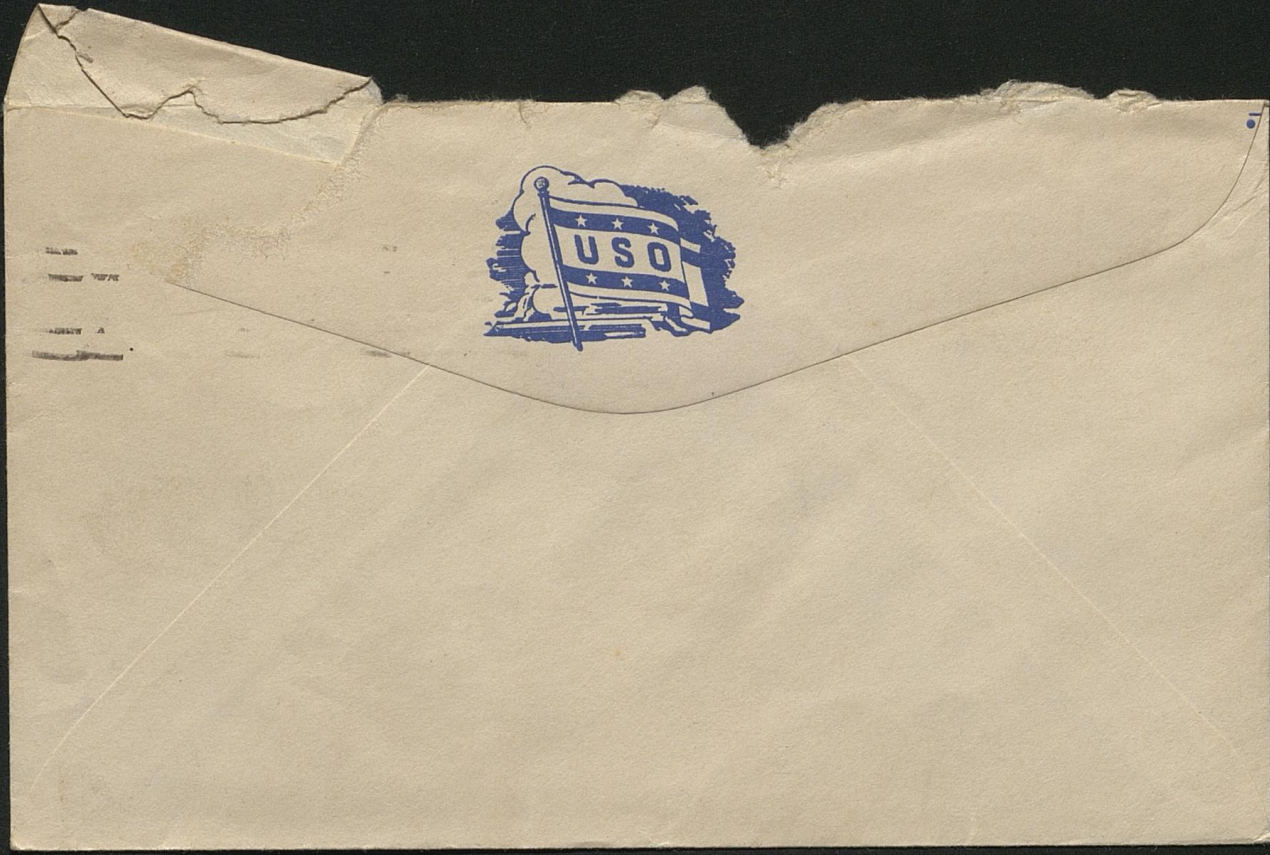
CO A 4th ASF PRD

camp Bliss cal



Mrs. David Balatin
2855. Aspland Ave.
Lexington, 34 Ky

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United States Army

26 July 44



7

Dear Boopsie,

Sitting here waiting for Malinew, think we'll go to the show tonight & eat at the service club.

Saw 4 films today on camouflage, should soon learn to be the little man who doesn't look like he's there.

al just walked in but I'll make him wait, cause I've got to keep my sweetheart informed.

actually, there isn't much else to write. the folks that have been married going on 4 years are sumpin, aint we.

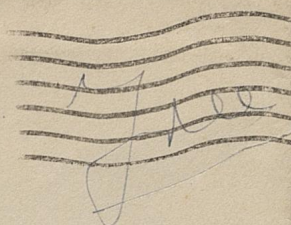
I haven't been smoking over a package a day,

thought you'd like to hear
that. Goodnight my sweet

Jane

David

S. Sgt David Bolotin
CO A 4th Bn ASF PRD
Camp Beale, Cal.



Mrs. David Bolotin
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, Ky

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United States Army



8

Jayne dearest, 27 July

I was so sorry to hear about Aunt J. and wish her a very rapid recovery. Tell me in your next letter if you think I ought to write to her.

That was certainly a munificent gift Mother sent me for our anniversary. Please thank her for me. I'll write to her tomorrow. I haven't a bit of pep right now. We hiked 12 miles under a very hot sun in full pack and equipment and beautiful sleep's the thing for me.

you asked whether I think ^{you should} or want you to come out. I do not think you should. First our stay here will be very short. Secondly the nearby town is not pleasant and is extremely overcrowded, thirdly, I will find it doubly hard to get used to being without out. you know I will always want to be with

you, but under the present
circumstances it doesn't seem
~~advisable~~ advisable.

⁴⁰ Let me repeat, the hike
was a lulu. phew - guys
were dropping out all along the
way, but I made it fine, I
except I dropped back a bit.

Aunt Eva sent me some
very good candy, aren't you
jealous.

I finished "The Star Bazer"
and found it very interesting,
tried to follow the scientific
reasoning on his discoveries
and that made the book
valuable to me. If it's read
as a story alone it's worthless.

Goodnight my sweet
gotta go soak my feeties

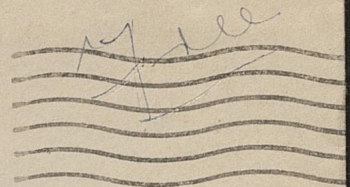
I love you

David

Army
Service
Forces
Personnel
Replacement
Depot

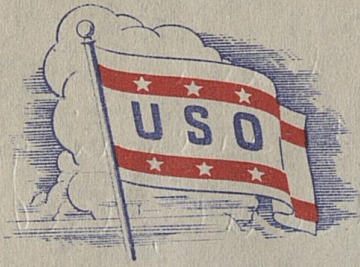
Ssgt David Bolatin. 35478690
Co A 4th Bn ASF PRD
Camp Beale, Cal.

out
horse



Mrs. David Bolatin
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, 37, Ky.

2



28 July 44

Jayne Sweet,

Today we did something unusual. We walked 5 miles out to a swimming pool. It was a beautiful place. An old quarry, deep & cold in a natural valley.

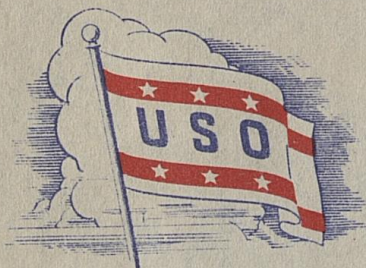
We learned to use our clothing to obtain buoyancy. My fatigue pants were like water wings, it's really effective. After the class, we went swimming in the nude and I got my first all over sunburn. Swimming without clothes is much better than with, but what isn't.

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al Malinew has been
telling me jokes all evening,
with accent & without, he
knows a million of them,
all very funny.

Our boys have started
to slip out, eight went
today, two Supply Sgts.
I'm now on temporary duty
as instructor on the rifle
range. I was passing the
range, and some S1 was
firing some shots in a
kneeling position and he
was jerking his trigger
and had a poor position.
There wasn't anyone
around coaching, so I
of name of Melby rose, went over
& corrected him. A range
officer overheard me,
we talked, now I'm an
instructor. That means



3 -

no more kisses, for which
I'm thankful as the dogs
are a'achin'.

I of course passed my
physical, it took 6 minutes
in all. They aren't very
careful at searching.

Gotta go to bed my
little sweetheart.

I'll burn you up.
I scrubbed my whole room
on my hands and knees.

If I could be at home
with you, I'd scrub the
whole house.

I love my
Boopsie
David

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FROM Sgt David Bolotin 35478690

CO A 4th ASF PRD

Camp Beale, Cal.



Mrs. David Bolotin
285 S. Ashland
Lexington, 37, Ky.

United States Army

10

30 July 44.

Sweet,



a noogle is a goagle to the 10th power, and a zoagle is an infinite number, there are as many zeroes following a zoagle as there are P-38'S following zeroes times a noogle to the 1000th power and that's how much I love you.

The pay checks were made up today and poor me didn't get one, I'm finding out what the holdup is through finance, but I'm going to cash a check in the meantime as I'm out of dough.

I applied for a 3 day pass. thinking that if I got one I'd call you and we could really be together. It was turned down because my shipment number is close up according to the 1ST Sgt. Don't get too hopeful, but because it's coming soon, it may be a domestic shipment. I have no basis in fact, but it's just a hunch as there have been several domestic shipments lately.

By now you've gotten my record. I am now convinced that my voice stinks, but I have an alibi since Malinow was making me laugh all through the recording, I hope you enjoyed it anyway and if you did I'll do some more of them.

I didn't have time to tell you all the details of my Trisco trip. was with Malinow. I covered the trip in my morning letter except the trip back. we started back about 6:30^{pm} ^{Sunday} by bus. Near Beale he blew out a tire doing 60 mph's, front left. The driver lost control & the bus plunged wildly into a field over a ditch thru a wire fence and came to rest in a peach orchard, right side up. The peaches were excellent. I must be getting brave, 'cause I wasn't panicky ^{most of} the rest of the guys yelled & jumped around. No one was badly hurt. a few were bumped & scratched. So much for that. I'm going to do no more bus riding. with the hot

United States Army



roads, and synthetic
ties, they ain't too
safe, and there's no us-
tempting fate.

That's about all for now.
I got two letters this
morning and here's a kiss and
a hug for my beepsie for
wanting to me so often.

In closing a good joke
that Al told me. It's long so
I'll condense it. Traveling salesman
got off at wrong station, small
town, no hotel, saw farmer
asked for lodging, ok, drove
out to farmhouse, very nice,
excellent meal, 3 beautiful
daughters, read & smoked pipe
till late. up to bed, open door
beautiful daughter, nude, went in
was bad boy, repeat twice
more on way to room with
other two daughters. wake up
excellent breakfast, farmer
drove him to station. Trav. Sales.
"I'd like to pay you" Farmer "
"wal lets see, how: you from

station to house, fed you supper
also I noticed you made love
to my 3 daughters, & gave you
lodging, then breakfast, and
drove you to the station, now
would 75 cents be too much."

Anyway honey, with
details and all, it's a swell
story -

There goes another
call for formation, was
instructing rifle this A.M., much
better than walking & hiking

I love you!

David

United States Army



Dear Boopsie,

Tell mother that with
last present I bought two meals.
Here's how it happened, was planning
to stay in Saturday, after retreat
Malinow came around with a
guy who had a car and was
going to San Francisco. So we
went, didn't arrive until 11 P.M.
due to two tires blowing out.
we then ate the first of the meals
at 'New Joes'. I won't describe
it because it was ordinary food,
but well prepared. We got a room
at the Chancellor, happened to
walk in on a cancelled reservation.

Next day ate at Onas Khayan's.
had Shushki Bab with mild rice
& a salad, my, my. You know
I'm not a gourmand, but it
was really good. Not cheap but
it was good. They leave the
meat in wine sauce over night
then barbecue it with all kinds
of stuff dipping on it.

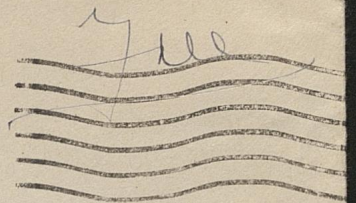
Had bad ~~luck~~ luck, no
one was home when I called
my uncle Sunday.

I'll write later today,
got to fall out now.

I love you

Paul

Ssgt David Boletis
CO A 4th ASF PRO
~~Camp Beale~~
Camp Beale, Cal.



Mrs. David Boletis
285 S. Ashland Ave
Lexington 37 Ky

10

1 Aug. 44

Jayne dear,

Having a letter writing
fiesta tonight, Malinow & Hamlin
& I sitting around a table
industriously scribbling away.

Today we taught a group
of medical officers stripping,
operation & positions in firing
the carbine. Most of them
are willing to learn, but are
naturally quite clumsy and
some are surprisingly slow in
understanding how to take the
weapon apart.

I got almost a b1 haircut
today, just a faint outline
for sideburns, and the lumps
show in my head. You'd be
very unhappy with it, I look
ugly, but I feel good & cool.

Didn't, boo hoo hoo get any
mail today. I figured there
wouldn't be any 'cause I got
two yesterday.

Marysville is only a few
miles from here and Lutes run

every hour, and it's very hot in camp until around 10 o'clock so Al + I usually go ~~to~~ into town + write letters at the USO + come in around 10. That accounts for my three trips a week to Marysville.

Bob Moller is in this company, and conducts himself very well. He drinks a little, but he hasn't been tight or anything.

Met a nice couple who used to live at the corner named Finberg. We're invited out to dinner Wednesday, hope she can cook as good as my Beegie can.

Got my laundry back from the laundry man in town. ~~But~~ I'm not on the laundry roster in camp. The Supply Sgt. says he was instructed not to let men with my order number send GI laundry as we're due for shipment. I'm getting tired of this business of waiting to ship out every day, and then not doing it.

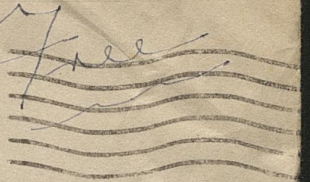
Guess the nightly shave
is next on the program, plus
the nightly shower.

Getting used to a razor,
only cut myself occasionally
now, and the wind & heat
seems to have toughened my
skin.

Goodnight little you,
you're the one I love and
I 'ya know why? 'cause I
understand your innate goodness,
and besides I love you
anyway, so there.

David

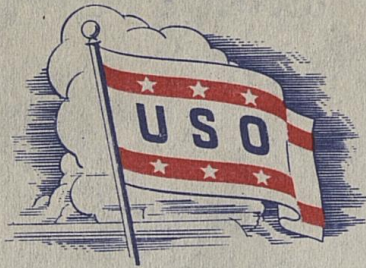
S Sgt David Beletir - 35478690
CO A 4th Bn ASF PRD
Camp Beale, Cal.



Mrs. David Beletir
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, 37, Ky.

1

record



2

2 aug 44

Jayne sweet,

Had the nicest dinner
at the Fineberg's. Al + I and a
fellow named Hi went over +
the meal was excellent. ^{Leg of} Lamb
good salad, corn (no sauce) and
sliced cantaloupe with ice
cream + berries for dessert.
we sang and had a few highballs.
They have a four year old
daughter named Carolyn, who
is awfully cute. I sang 'paper
dolly' to her and she loved
it. Her father claims she's
tone deaf, but we know
differently, dont we ???

Last night I was sleeping
peacefully. Must have turned
over, 'cause I snacked my

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THE JEWISH WELFARE BOARD • THE NATIONAL TRAVELERS AID ASSOCIATION

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forehead an awful whack on
the wall. Had a dull pain
there all day. What a
soldier. I'm turning out to
be.

Today we were out on
the Carbine range. I'm getting
to be a real shot. I had
the job of zeroing the carbines.
In the prone position, there
just isn't any such thing as a
four or three, all bulls eyes.

I heard a Lt. Colonel
get told off by A 1st Lt. today.
The Colonel was complaining
about having to be in a class
with enlisted men + colored
men. The Lt. told him that
we were all in the same
army, and he'd better change
his attitude before going
overseas or he'd have a
shot up fanny.

Not much more news.

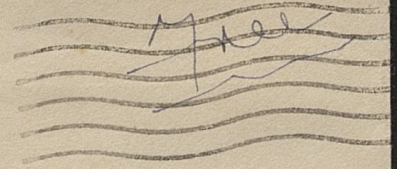
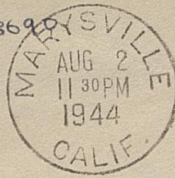
I love you.

David

FROM S Sgt David Belatin 3547869

CO A 4th Bn ASF PRD

camp Beale, Cal.



Mrs. David Belatin
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, 37, Ky.

2

United States Army

Jayne dearest, 3 Aug 44

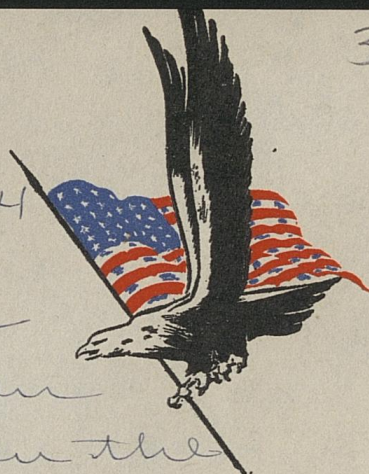
Got two letters today, one written on 31 July & the other on the 1st of August.

My letters must take ages to get there. I hoped I had answered all your questions and your last letter said I had. Anyway sweetheart, here we go on a new day.

Took my evening shower and I'm ready for bed. Today was full of nothingness. Had a class on Gas and Rifles mostly colored troops and it was a draggy affair.

Malnew got a three day pass and went to Los Angeles, so I have no immediate side-kick.

Believe it or not, there's a guy who came into this company today named David Bolton. Things should be plenty confused from now on, we look a little alike



too, only he's a ~~thing~~ ^{thing} but
sweater and on the heavy
side. Have to listen
carefully at mail call for the
extra 0.

Checked with finance
today and they have me
marked down as having
been paid to fine 1. Do you
recall whether I've been
paid for May. Let me know
if you can recall one way
or the other. As it is I
only have 2 months pay
coming and won't get that
for a while. Have borrowed
money from Malinow and
am going to write a check
to pay it back, so don't
transfer out account for
a while, or if you have,
write to the Louisville
Bank and have them
forward the check to our
Lexington account.

Well Beppie, there
aint much more, don't

United States Army

send you boy to
camp Beall, it's not
a good deal.

going to wash my
socks and undies so I
want have undie odor
goodnight my own
sweetheart

Love
David



S Sgt David Belatin 35478690
CO A 4TH ASF PRO
Camp Beale, Cal



Mrs. David Belatin
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, Ky.

3

United States Army

4 Aug 44

Dear Beopie,

phew - 120 in the shade again and we were out all day today. I'm lobster red. My tan seems to have gone away in favor of a much more spectacular color.

With my GI haircut and my red face I must be a sight. But it doesn't matter cause you aren't here so phooey on appearances.

The shipping dept, just missed me today. About 75% of the fellows I came out with are on orders and were issued tropical clothing.

Pardon the messy letter, but perspiration keeps running down my arm, can't seem to keep dry.

Finally finished the 'Star Gazer' had nearly completed it a long time ago, but read the last few pages yesterday.

The story of his conduct before the ^(in front of the court, etc.) inquisition pointed



a good procedure. Namely, when
you have a viewpoint worth
upholding, as a dead man
you can do nothing, but if
you can live, even by
renouncing your former beliefs,
you will always have an
opportunity to reaffirm &
further your beliefs.

Well snobby, I must
begin to scrub my room so
the wrath of my lord the C.O.
will not fall upon me at
Sat. inspection.

Got a ballot application,
write & tell me what ward
we're in and also the date
of the election, I could look
the latter up, but I'll let you
do the work, I think it's the
first Tuesday in November but
I'm not sure of it.

That's all for today,
sweetheart I'm of the belief
that the heat has gotten
me as I'm sleepier than
usual.

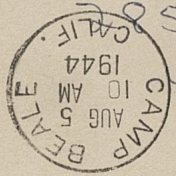
I love you
David

Ssgt David Boletini 35478690
PO A 4th Bn. ASF PRO
Camp Beale, Cal.

Free

Mrs. David Boletini
2855 Ashland Ave.
Lexington, Ky.

~~Back~~
~~to~~
~~send~~



4

United States Army

7 Aug 44.



5

Dear Sweetheart,
pneu, about 4 A.M.

a fellow named Ed Schwartzman
woke me up and asked if I
wanted a ride to Fusco. Being
too sleepy to refuse I went
along. This folks live there
and he promised to bring me
back early so off we went.

Called Uncle Esso when I
got in and his wife Aunt Penny
(not bright as a penny) answered.
For a few moments we had an
Oregon style debate as to who
I was etc thru the medium
of her maid. She finally
rushed breathlessly to the
phone and welcomed me with
open Tensils. It seems
Uncle Esso was out having
breakfast with his cronies
and didn't show up until
11 A.M. He was glad to see me
and allowed that I'd grown up

and was a nice boy. We talked for a couple of hours, he talked I listened, about things that happened 10, 15, + 20 yrs ago. Remembered most of them surprisingly enough. Then Aunt Jerry fed ~~me~~ me thoroughly with Roast Chicken, and they took me riding through the park, to the ocean and round the town. My favorite cousin, Bertie was on a combination vacation + concert rehearsal up at Santa Barbara. She's going to be accompanist for some opera singer whose name I didn't get, sounded like Mme. Patskywatsky. Tell Esther that Bertie's voice is beginning to come back and is almost as good as ever. She may sing in the S.F. Municipal opera this fall.

That's about all the trip back took 4 hrs. and were back in camp and it's only 12:30.

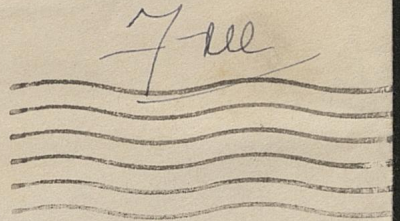
wanted to drop you this note before setting.

United States Army

Nothing else that's
new. I love you
David



Sgt David Bolotin 35478690
Co A 4th Bn ASF PRD
Camp Beale, Cal.



Mrs. David Bolotin
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, 37, Ky.

5

United States Army

3 Aug. 44

Dearest Fayne,

Got two letters
from you today.

Enjoyed all the news and am
looking forward to the Sterling
Silver West.

was on the range all
day. Since it was preliminary
firing I managed to shoot
the "C" course and did 178 with
the bazard. Not used to it,
the ^{semi} automatic bolt return
smacked me in the thumb and
cut my lip a tiny bit. I'll be
more careful where I put my
thumb from now on.

Glad you liked the
recording and will cook up
a few more for you, (if I didn't
break the mans machine)

Sorry the top doesn't
look good, maybe you'll get
used to it. Flying 'Streak'
was so pretty in the good
old days;

Melman's coming by



soon & were sitting at the
service club and will probably
go to a show at the post
theater.

Saw him a few minutes
at noon & he had a scrumptious
time on his three day pass
to Los Angeles (he flew.)

Good evening with the
wave bird. Yore luvlin
David

Sgt David Bolatin 35478690
CO A 4th Bn ASF PRD
Camp Beale, Cal.



Mrs. David Bolatin
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, 37, Ky.

6

United States Army

8 aug 44

James dear,

Got some influence now, the company clerk moved into our room. Should be able to get things out of the orderly room easier now.

Life is dull. We were out on the range again today. It's becoming old stuff. Had the afternoon off after 2:30 and promptly went to bed. Woke up at 4:00. This climate is invigorating - there's living proof. There wasn't anything to read in the room, so your lusher took down a copy of Shakespeare, and read aloud from Richard III. Enjoy it that way, but can't stick with it reading silently.

John: Question - How did the Romans count cadence: Answer - Hut - II III IV.



That isn't very good, but I'm trying.

Haven't gotten to play bridge, my bridge partners all shipped out and there's no new material so far.

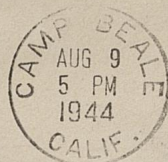
Promised to report everything to you. So must confess I had a bout with the galloping dominos.

Just of course, not much tho, glad I did, I will keep me away from gambling.

Really enjoy your letters. Get one daily and they are the high point of the day.

Saw Benne Kaplan today. He looks well. Beverly is in Chicago and isn't coming out here. Benne is on same order no. as I am & he's been told we were supposed to go out this week, but have to wait a week because a few of our officers haven't arrived. That's all for now
I love you
David

Ssgt David Belatin - 35478690
PO A 4TH BN ASF PRD
Camp Beale, Cal.



Free

Mrs. David Belatin
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, 37, Ky.

7

United States Army

9 Aug 44

Jayne Sweet,



8

lots of news. First
of all I came out on orders
yesterday. Don't know any
details, tell you what you
should know, when you
should know it. Doesn't look
like a domestic shipment.
will probably be early next
week.

The "unmentionable"
arrived yesterday, fixed as
good as new and I'm showing
it off to everyone.

al + I decided to celebrate
since we may be alerted today
and not allowed off the post.
So we went to Marysville,
purchased some whiskey +
summosily drank it. Lesser
reactions brought greater
impulses, so we decided

to make some recordings for
boopsie. Do not play them
for anyone but yourself
until you've listened to
them as they are rizzgays.

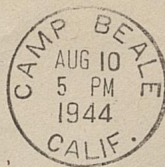
Then Al played the piano
all evening. He plays
excellently, something I
didn't know. I sang of
course, like mad. The
recordings were bad, no
accompaniment and they're
off key.

So ended the sojourn
at camp Beale. ^(practically) Yesterday a
fellow named Warner & I
read practically all of King
feet aloud. He used to
be an actor.

That's about it for
today. I'll write you as
soon as I can about the
shipping orders.

Yours
David

Ssgt David Belatin 35478690
CO A 4th Bn ASF PRD
Camp Beale, Cal.



Mrs. David Belatin
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, 37, Ky.

8



UNITED STATES ARMY

10 Aug. 44

Jayne dear,

Found out a few more details concerning the shipment. We are receiving a temperate climate issue of clothing and are going to the Pacific theatre. That narrows it down to about a bagle of territory. Could mean anyplace. It only excludes the jungle area where the fighting is now going on. There seems little use of guessing further. If I hear any substantial rumors I'll let you know, but it looks like we'll have to wait until I get there. We go from here to some port of Embarkation thence to our destination. We'll leave here soon. Perhaps not for a few days. I'm being a good soldier and not telling you any details (cause I don't know any)

Received the heart and will wear it on my dog tags all the time. Thank you sweetheart.

I was down at finance today, and the situation is hopelessly muddled. I got the address straightened out. The Bond allotment is entered and I received \$30.50 as my July pay. My records were messed up at Crowder and I'm afraid in investigating the situation they detected that we received a family allotment 3 months after I was no longer entitled to it. That means \$150.00 sunk in the mill. Dammit, I should have kept quiet about the whole thing. That means that they'll gradually take it out of my pay from now until the \$150.00 is made up. So I can't afford to breathe hard for a while. But that's OK 'cause now that we're going to a POE soon I'll have no use for money. The government is slow, but exact.

I'm glad you didn't come out here. It's kind of heartbreaking to see the married couples out here say goodbye to each other. They're out among strangers with nobody to fall back on and they're really sad sacks.

If you want to write the



Finbergs. ~~The~~ UNITED STATES ARMY us.

Miss Walter Finberg

1822 Wellesly

ST. Paul, Minn.

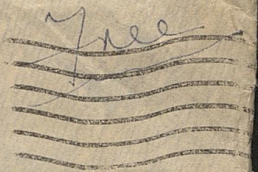
I don't know her first name,
but they're a nice couple and
have been very friendly to
all of me.

Incidentally I don't know
if I spelled Wellesly correctly,
it's the same as the school.

Now I can tell you that
it's been awful being here without
you. I've missed you more than
I can say. But I'm still not
sorry that you didn't come out.
I love you and I miss you

David

Ssgt David Belatin 35478690
PO A 4th Av. ASF PRD
Camp Beale, Cal.



Mrs. David Belatin
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, Ky.

United States Army

12 August

Jayne Sweet,



Latest and most prevalent rumor is that we are leaving Thursday and going all the way to Virginia before leaving ^{P.O.} and that we're going to India China Burma Theatre someplace. It's rather plausible so we'll use that one for a while.

Booned over the week end, my sidekicks all went someplace and I stayed in. Got a pass, but gave it to a kid whose wife was here and he couldn't get a pass. Only trouble was that I had to lend him a shirt so his grade would be right.

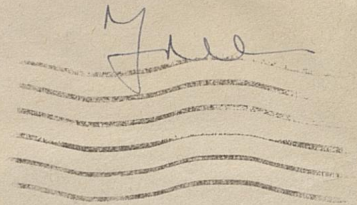
Didn't get any mail Saturday, didn't expect any as two letters arrived Friday.

I found a waterproof case to
put your pictures in and
they're like the Philadelphia
Bulletin, nearly everyone
has seen them. Bought a
good pair of sun glasses,
Bausch Lomb, polaroid with
break proof case that is
worn on the belt. They're
very light and things look
their natural color thru
them, but they cut out the
glare of the sun.

Well Snookie, got to
fall out now, so I'll close
and mail this.

I love you
David

S Sgt David Bolatin 35478690
CO A 4th Bn ASF PRD
Camp Beale, Cal.



Mrs. David Bolatin
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, Ky

Records
filed
Mrs.

United States Army

13 Aug 44



Dear Boopie,

a careful perusal of the picture indicates that the status quo has been maintained in Lexington. You weren't sitting up straight money, are you starting that? Got a sick out of it. (The picture)

By the time you get this I'll be on a long train ride. It's definite I think that we're leaving from an Eastern Seaport.

Our destination is so secret that no one knows. (probably haven't decided exactly where to send us.) I don't know whether to call you tonight or Tuesday.

I'm neither excited nor apprehensive about the

next leg in the journey of
this great adventure.

I take that back. Just
had our orientation lecture
from the officer who is in
command of our shipment.

We're showing off quack, so
I've got to pack right away
and get ready. I'll write
to you often, but the mail
will be held up until we
leave from our P.O.E. This
is the last uncensored letter
I'll be able to write. Don't
forget first letter, second
word each sentence.

I love you sweetheart and
please don't worry about
anything, remember, there
are about 6000,000 gals in
your shoes.

I love my boopsie
David

Ssgt David Belatin 35478690
CO A 4th Bn ASF PRD
Camp Beale, Cal.



Free

Mrs. David Belatin
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, Ky.

Jayne sweet,

We have a few more minutes before we leave so thought I'd drop you another little note and tell you once more how very much I love you.

According to latest rumors we have a New York APO but are going to Burma India China theatre.

Pay no attention to any of them, cause I believe the rumors are circulated purposely to confuse everyone.

Forgot to put the picture in the earlier letter so will enclose it in this one.

We're not allowed out of the company area. I wanted to call you. I hope when we get to our P.O.E. I can slip out and call you.

Somehow I'm quite excited about leaving, neither afraid nor trembling with courage, but excited. You figure it out.

Got a letter from Esther today. Please call her and tell her

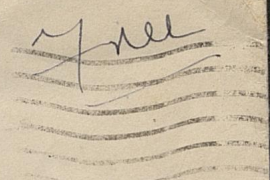
I enjoyed it and to write again.

you'll get an address card in a few days stating my APO number and attachment. I don't know what it is yet, you'll know before I will. It's filled in and sent to you by the mail clerk.

There seems so much to say, but it could be summed up in — I love you and — don't worry. After it's all over we'll both be glad I had some little part in the war effort and — here we go. The whistle for us to fall out sounded

I love you
Darius

S Sgt David Balatin 35478690
CO A 4th Pan ASF PRD
Camp Beale, Cal.



Mrs. David Balatin
285 S. Oakland Ave
Lexington, Ky

20 August 44

SERVICE CLUB

U. S. ARMY

Casual Co. #19

APO 7958

c/o postmaster
New York, N.Y.

Jayne dear,

The above is my correct address. As I understand it the mail clerk put an incorrect address on our forwarding cards. Sure do miss your daily letters. Probably won't catch up with me for a while due to the incorrect address.

The little man with the black pencil and sharp eyes is now a disinterested third party in all our correspondence, so don't reveal any civilian secrets.

wrote you a long rambling letter on the train, but it's so badly creased and it's just so

much done, so won't
bother mailing it.

am permitted to tell
you that we're on the
East Coast and that we're
not in New York City
and that I haven't the
faintest notion where
we're going.

It also says here in
small print that I miss
you dear and with each
day it becomes a miss
with more miles to it and
yet there must be something
useful in our being separated.
It's convinced me that being
around you is an
indispensable thing. It turns
the microscope of feeling to
a sharper focus and shows
more clearly how utterly
wonderful you are in

- 2 -
SERVICE CLUB
U. S. ARMY

every way.

at + 2 ate at the
~~Service Club~~
had some here but it
wasn't so far as our own
by day here though
it's now

expected - it to be better
will you please
send me Gene and Rona's
address in Japan. Haven't
written to them and
feel especially guilty about
it nowadays, got to
pay off my writing debts.

played an interesting
game on the way here,
think they call it
pocket, or the more
familiar version pocket.
now don't get excited,

it was for the time of
of stakes and I played
quite conservatively,
making sure that I had
a winning hand before
each wager. All bidding
aside, I did practically
break even.

How did you like
the recordings that I
made. They were a lot of
fun in the making and
I hope you enjoyed them.

I guess what the
1st Sgt's name of the
co. is. --- 'CONROY' ---.
However, it isn't Charlie.
This fellow is O.K., we
played poker together and
had a lot of fun and are
quite palsy walsy.

Did my own
washing today, after the

SERVICE CLUB
U. S. ARMY

war, we can have a little
side income. I can press
like mad.

Goodnight sweet

I love you

David

S sgt David Balatin 35478690
casual co. # 19
APO 7958
c/o Postmaster
New York N.Y.



Mrs. David Balatin
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, 37, Ky.

McCaid

Dear Jayne, boopsie, lover,

I can tell you anything I want to in this letter, and I can make love madly and everything. I'M on the boat loading detail tomorrow evening, in charge of a squad, and will have a truck to go into the loading zone with no one else around, so I'm sure there'll be plenty of chance to post this letter. It's really awful to know that everything you say is read by a third party. Kind of takes the kick out of all the things that are really just your business and mine.

I'll be out to sea by the time you get this letter. Don't know where we're going or much about the whole deal, but we're all set and our baggage will be gone tomorrow.

You know there seems so much to say, but the words don't seem to come. There's this, I love you now more than ever. Kind of glad everything is settled about going overseas, removes all anxiety and doubt. Going to do my best wherever I'm put and going to come back to you. Remember that. You've a harder job than I have, waiting always is. Don't make it anymore difficult than it is. You've got around 6000,000 other wives for company. When this is all over, we'll be kind of glad I went, it'll make us a really integral part of all the good and bad things that make USA.

If you had come here, I wouldn't have had a chance to see you. Passes were given for one day, that is 6 hours, and I was charge of quarters during that time and couldn't get a pass. It would have been horrible to know that you were here and that I couldn't see you. WE're confined to the area this evening but if I get a chance tomorrow, am going to call you, tho it's doubtful if the chance will come.

Bob Moeller fell and hurt his knee quite badly, but he's going overseas with us anyway. It's a tough break, as he'll have to be in bed for about a month. On the train coming down here he stayed in his berth all the time and I rubbed his back a couple of times, you can imagine how sore a person would get in 7 days on the train, and he couldn't turn over, had to stay on his back all the time.

Al is sitting at the next typewriter writing a letter to his sweetheart, he really rattles the stuff off cant imagine what he writes at about the rate of about 75 words a minute unless it's form #7 stereotyped.

It's around 10:30 Friday evening, as I understand it, we're not allowed to put dates on our letters at present, but will be allowed when we get overseas. Air mail stamps are only 6 cents for us, so I bought quite a few of them and will send your mail airmail from now on. Also will send some V-Mail, let me know which get to you the quickest.

Mosquitoes are really thick around here. Think I'll do all right after a while, cause the bites don't swell like they used to, they're just bites and not eruptions, guess a person develops a tolerance for even mosquitoes. We've got some stuff called Skat that's supposed to keep mosquitoes away from us, and the bugs obviously can't read the label and they eat it up. Maybe where we're going the mosquitoes will be of the higher type and will understand that we're supposed to have repellent on. Notice how this typewriter sticks on certain letters. It was all set to stick on the 6th line of this paragraph and I used bugs instead of the word mosquito-----forget the whole thing, you cant outsmart this damm machine.

Taps just blew, made me feel very sad and soldierish, reminded me of how wonderful our good night hug always is and made me sorry that I always slept on your side of the bed and crowded you so; however, you're not catching me in a mellow mood----namely, viz a viz----there'll be no twin beds, forget it, don't give it a thought, place it out of your subconscious, completely eradicate the whole thing- no twin beds, you hug too good and often.

I'm glad you go to see my Mother often. Tell her that I haven't too much time and that I feel in writing to you that part of it is for her. Got a new job, i'm kind of company clerk for our casual company, glorified of course. On C&Q, I made up a duty roster, compiled a group of 28 back pay claims, made an alphabetical roster of the company by platoon and straight, compiled a list of the officers that are included on this shipment, made a laundry roster for the Co, so the Major in charge of the shipment, knowing that he had a sucker, asked me to help out in the orderly room. I don't mind for two reasons. One, when busy you haven't time to mope, and two, I'm learning the overseas procedure of administration which may become useful at some time in the future.

There's a young officer named Rosset on this shipment. We've become rather friendly, he's not related to Betty, guess the name isn't spelled the same. He's an Army Photographer and I'm learning a little about what makes the wheels go round in a Camera, not too much of course, You can still put the film in our projector when I get back, my talented little woman.

Not much more to say, this is really long winded for me, enjoyed hearing Dad's voice the other night. Please don't forget to tell me what the horses do or don't do, and the name of the new yearlings and just everyt~~ing~~ about them.

I love you sweetheart, be good and I'll write soon I don't know the setup of writing letters aboard ship, but I'll write them and they'll just have to get there when they can. Please write to me as often as you're able. Your* letters mirror your sweetness.

Jane
David



Mrs. David Bolotin
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, 37, Ky.

Air Mail

James dear,

Received four letters
from you today.

Your one odd failing
comes through in each
letter and is like a blanket
of smoke that covers
all else. This is the last
time I'll mention it.

Introspect and see if it can
be gone when I come back.

In all things you form
an answer to each question
before you ask it. Then
regardless of any answer
you get to your question,
or any logical sequence
of explanation, or any
fact that's presented to
you, you persist in
retaining the original
answer. You make it

your own baby, learn to love it and make it so much a part of you that the actual facts become twisted into a tight pattern of virtue with you.

I don't mean for you to be Chavelon like but please try to be more objective, more logical, more willing to give others credit, and less adamant when there's a tense possibility that your position isn't altogether sound. O.K. that's the last time I'll mention it.

Tried to call you yesterday and talked to Alice instead, sorry you were out.

- 2 -

was embarrassed by your changing of our account from Fausville to Lexington. when I talked to you from California on the 10th of August, you said that you weren't going to transfer our account for a while, so I wrote a check on the Fausville Bank and was informed this morning via nasty letter from the Cal.

Bank that my Commanding Officer would be notified etc and that I was something of a ratter and that the check came back marked no account.

I took care of it, myf said. Also, as I recall it, I told you to write to

the Louisville bank and tell
them to forward any checks
received after transfer of our
account to ^{the} Lexington bank,
and I'm sure they would
have done so if you'd
taken care of it.

all my grievances are
very petty, sorry I
mentioned them, but
thought it'd be better to
tell you about them as
you've always said that's
the way you wanted
things.

I love you
— Paul

S Sgt David Bolatin 35478490

APO # 7958

casual co. # 19
c/o postmaster
New York City



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