

Belgium
Jan 9, 1944

Dear Mother, Dad & all,

Well I finally came back to our base after three weeks of leave and gadding about. We had a very good time while we were gone and enjoyed every bit of it. Had a lot of trouble getting transportation to England and back or we would have been back here much sooner.

While we were gone ~~over~~ we were in London a few days and the rest of the time up near Liverpool. I liked northern England much better than the southern part. I thought it was much prettier up there and the people were more friendly. We met one family that treated us exceptionally well. Almost like some of the family.

It snowed quite a bit late before last and almost all day yesterday and some today. Everything is so clean and nice. I helped my snow chief dig my plane out this morning and it snowed again this afternoon so I guess we will have to do it all over again tomorrow.

This afternoon we came home early so two other fellows and I went hunting. We only had one shotgun which won't too good, but we did alright. Maher, he owned the gun, was first and we raised two

two birds for him. He missed the first and crippled the second but we couldn't find it. Miller was next and after we holed up about four for him, he finally shot one. He wouldn't get the safety off on the first four birds. Two last and got one with the first shot. Two birds and darkness coming on so we came home. There are a lot of pheasant and partridge around here. In fact in the hour that we were out, we saw about ten pheasants.

I don't know what's wrong with the mail lately, maybe the push in Belgium. I expected to have stacks of it when I got back but I only had about seven letters and your package with the toothpaste. Thanks a million for the package as it will come in mighty handy. I haven't heard from you for almost a month. If mail doesn't start coming soon, I'll think everyone has stopped writing. Oh yes I got four newspapers; some from Sept, Oct and Nov. I guess they should be coming in pretty steady now that the Xmas rush is over. I really enjoyed reading them.

Got a letter from Bill and he said that he had received the watch. I guess he is pretty tickled with it. He said

that it was so nice that he was half
afraid to wear it for fear of breaking
it. I thought he was going to move
up near here, but I guess he is still in
the same old place.

Well, I had better close for tonight
and answer a few more letters. Take
good care of yourselves and tell everyone
I said "Hello".

Love.
Luis.