



Kenitra City Hall - Port Lyautey Morocc



swans in front of Kenitra City Hall, - Port Lyautey Morocco



Swan back side of Hotel Mamora Kenitra Morocco



Hotel Mamora Kenitra Morocco which is across from the Kenitra City Hall



Catholic Church (note cross on top of steeple) in Kenitra Morocco near the Hotel Mamora and City Hall - Church no longer exists



Unknown church and location at this time

Tuesday, September 18th

I had a talk with my First Sergeant Cannon and explained how important it was for me to visit Sicily; that it had been 47 years since my father had seen his family. The sergeant seemed as though he understood my urgency and how important it was to my family back home. I was sure he would do all he could to help me reach that dream. He had a talk with Commanding Officer Morris and he in turn called for me to come to his office. Of course I departed for the CO's office immediately. He commenced with the pros and cons of such a trip to Sicily, and all the while I could tell he was holding back his enthusiasm. In fact, the CO felt that three days would not be enough time for me to accomplish my goal so I was given a nine day leave! So Morris typed up a leave of nine days, Cannon signed it, Gay signed it, Major Smith signed it and our CO signed it. The government would pay for my trip to Rome but from that point on, including getting back to base in Africa, would be my expense.

After getting all the required signatures, I went to base operations to get on the list going to Rome. But I was surprised that they didn't have any openings. I had to put my name on the waiting list of eight other men. If just one of them failed to show up for the flight I'd be called. At this point I decided it was too risky. I went back to tell CO Morris, who I found in the orderly room. He had heard about the waiting list. He quickly picked up the phone and called operations and told them he had a man he wanted on the Friday morning flight to Rome. At that moment, just like that, I was on the flight list for Friday.

I made my reservation for a return flight at the American Express office, which was located on base. The return flight would leave the 28th of September on a Friday from Rome, then on to Madrid, Spain and back to Algiers North Africa. The lady working the desk, Loetitia, asked me where I was going. When I told her of my plans, she asked if I was going to visit the Vatican and I replied that I hoped to do so. She then asked me to light a candle for her when I got there because she was very much in love with an airman named Robert and really wanted him to propose. I actually remembered to offer this prayer when I visited St Peter's Cathedral. Upon my return from this amazing experience, I went to see her and to let her know that I prayed as requested. She put out her hand and the engagement ring was on her finger.

19 Sep 56
(Date)

SUBJECT: Request to Visit Foreign Countries

TO: Commander
375th Bombardment Squadron M
308th Bombardment Wing M
APO 117, New York, New York

1. Request permission to visit foreign countries listed in my proposed itinerary. I will be traveling in a (leave, pass, temporary duty, or non duty) status for 9 days and will commence travel on 21 Sep 56
2. The following information is furnished:

<u>AIC</u> (Grade)	<u>Pulizzi, Peter S.</u> (Name)	<u>AF16435062</u> (AFSL)	<u>43151E</u> (AFSG)
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Purpose of Visit: Visit Relatives and tour.

3. Proposed Itinerary:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
	Rome, Italy	c/o American Express Co

(Signature)
Peter S. Pulizzi, AIC, USAF
(Name and Grade)
375th Bomb Sq M
(Organization)

375BS

1st Ind

375th Bombardment Squadron M, 308th Bombardment Wing M, APO 117, NY, NY.

TO: Commander, 308th Bombardment Wing, Medium, APO 117, USAF

Recommend approval.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Maxon H. Rowe
MAXON H. ROWE
Major, USAF
Commander

PULIZZI, PETER S, A/IC Subj: Request to Visit Foreign Countries

308A

2d Ind

Hq 308th Bombardment Wing Medium, APO 117, USAF, 19 Sep 56

TO: Commander, 3906th Air Base Group, APO 117, USAF

Recommend Approval.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Donald W. Binder
DONALD W. BINDER
Capt, USAF
Adjutant

BA

3d Ind

Hq 3906th Air Base Group, APO 117, USAF, 19 Sep 56

TO: Commander, 308th Bombardment Wing Medium, APO 117, USAF.

Approved provided the provisions of 5th Air Division Regulation 125-1 are not violated.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMANDER:

Oliver H. Houston
OLIVER H. HOUSTON
1st Lt, USAF
Asst. Adjutant

308A

4th Ind

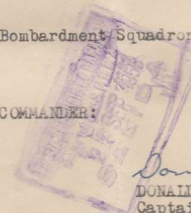
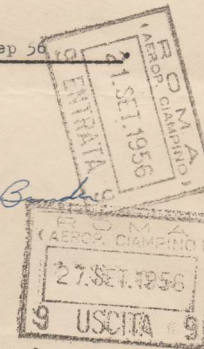
Hq 308th Bombardment Wing, Medium, APO 117, USAF, 19 Sep 56

TO: Commander, 375th Bombardment Squadron M, 308th Bomb Wing M, APO 117, NY, NY.

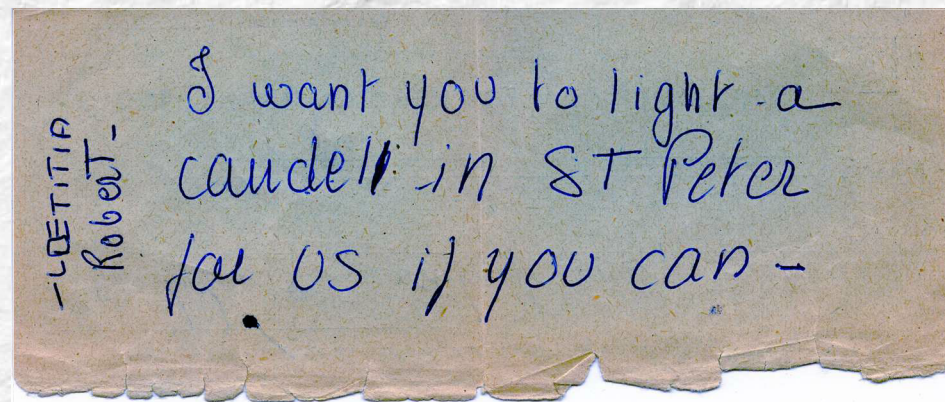
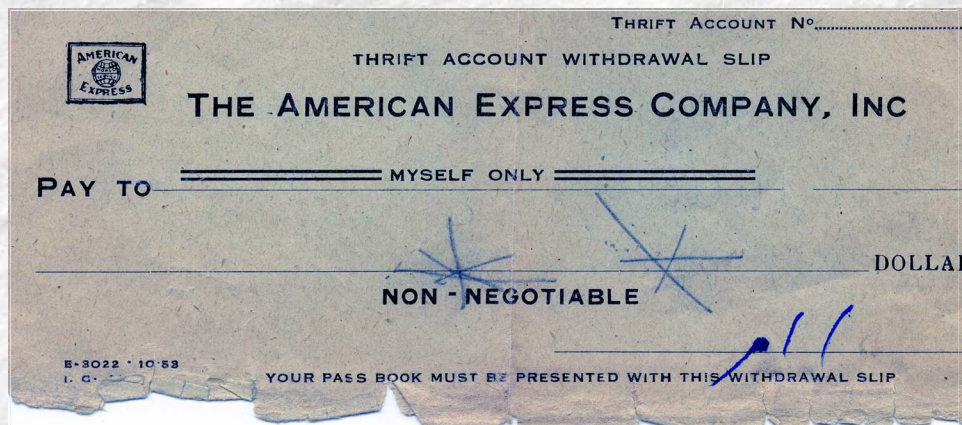
Approved.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMANDER:

Donald W. Binder
DONALD W. BINDER
Captain USAF
Adjutant



September 1956. Peters request for permission to visit family in Italy and the approval process and signatures



Front and back of the American Express paper that Loetitia wrote out for Peter to light a candle for her and Robert to get engaged.

Friday, September 21st

The early morning of Friday September 21st, I received my leave orders advising me to be at base flight by 06:30 hours. The takeoff time was set for 07:00 hours. At 06:45 we all boarded the plane and instructions were given in case of any emergency. Engines were then started. At first they coughed roughly, then roared at full power for a moment and the plane taxied to the end of the runway. It was 07:00 hours, the brakes were released and the engines went to full power. I was on my way. The plane nosed to a climb and we reached the leveling off point taking a north heading. This heading would bring us to the northern coast line of Africa.

The aircraft we were flying was a C-47, better known in the military as the goony-bird. It was not a very comfortable plane, it was equipped with military bucket seats. Instead of the normal canvas bucket seats, this craft was equipped with something new, Plexiglas seats. This was by far the most uncomfortable of the two options. The bucket seats are lined parallel with the fuselage and your back rests against the aircraft walls.

We were soon over the northern coast of Africa and could see the beautiful Mediterranean Sea. The aircraft commander headed the plane in an eastern heading and would follow the coast line to Algiers. After an hour on our eastern heading, we were over the Algerian air field. We circled the field once and went into our landing approach. After our touchdown, which was about three hours after takeoff, we taxied to a refueling area where we took on fuel

to fly non-stop to Rome. We were only in Algiers for an hour so naturally we had no time to visit the city, which is the capital of Africa and a very important French sea port.

We then flew across the Mediterranean in rough weather, so much so that we had to fasten our safety belts to secure us from the rocking and rolling of the craft. Usually the pilot would try to fly over the storm providing that the aircraft was large enough, but ours was not. Very much to our disgust, the bad weather continued. I could see we were flying over the island of Sardinia which is the second largest island in the Mediterranean Sea, having many small surrounding islands. This marked our halfway point between Algiers and Rome.

The weather between Sardinia and Rome was more settled but we still flew into turbulence every so often. After what seemed like days of traveling, we sighted the mainland of Italy. Once over the mainland, we began looking for Rome and there it was, the ancient city of the world, with more history than any other. Parts of the old Roman walls were still standing, the sight of Rome was breathtaking. The pilot had our plane in line with the runway and our descent was evident because of my ears popping. There was a sudden lurch of the aircraft and the landing gear was down. We were in our glide path and approaching rapidly and then gradually touched down around 4:30 pm.

After completing our customs check, two of my buddies, WA Smith or Smitty and the other name I cannot remember, and I hailed a cab into town. I asked the cab driver to take us to a decent hotel. Neither of my buddies could speak Italian so I was the de-facto translator. We were taken to a very classy looking hotel, in fact, I was doubtful we could afford to stay there. It was called Palazzo Salviati. After speaking with the desk clerk I was very much amazed at the low price, just \$3.50 per day for each of us and that included two meals per day each. Naturally we all agreed to stay.

Once in our room we showered and dressed for the evening. We ordered spaghetti for supper, what else would we order. After enjoying the tasty food we began our walking tour of Rome. We walked and walked and walked. Rome is an awful large city. I asked several persons for the location of the famous fountain from the movie "Three coins in a Fountain" but they all looked at me like I was crazy. No one seemed to know what fountain I was talking about. As we continued our walk, I finally paid attention and realized why no one knew what fountain I was talking about, there was a fountain on every block. The rest of the evening we observed the Roman citizenry and enjoyed the beautiful city until 2am and headed back to our hotel.