

Friday, September 28th

Left this morning for Tangiers, Africa and arrived late Friday evening, which required me to spend the night at the Hotel Allard.

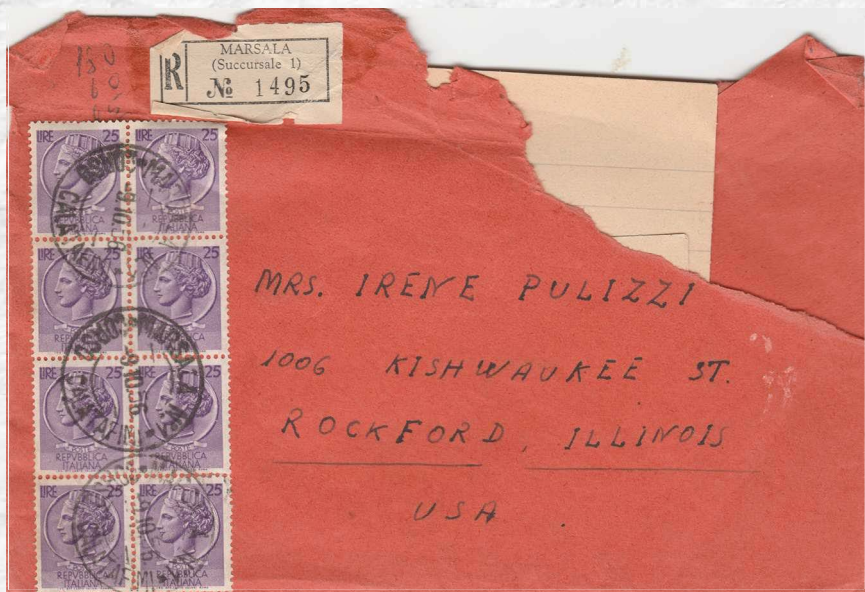


Saturday, September 29th

The next day I realized I could buy perfume very cheap. I wanted to get something for my wife Irene, so with almost my last penny, I bought five one once bottles of Chanel #5 for about \$3.50 each. When I got back to base, I ended up selling four of them for \$6.00 each but made sure to keep one for my wife.

I flagged down a cab out of Tangiers with about five other Moroccans. I was a little worried all the way because I was in that cab for five hours but it was still a lot quicker than a bus or train, and didn't cost much more.

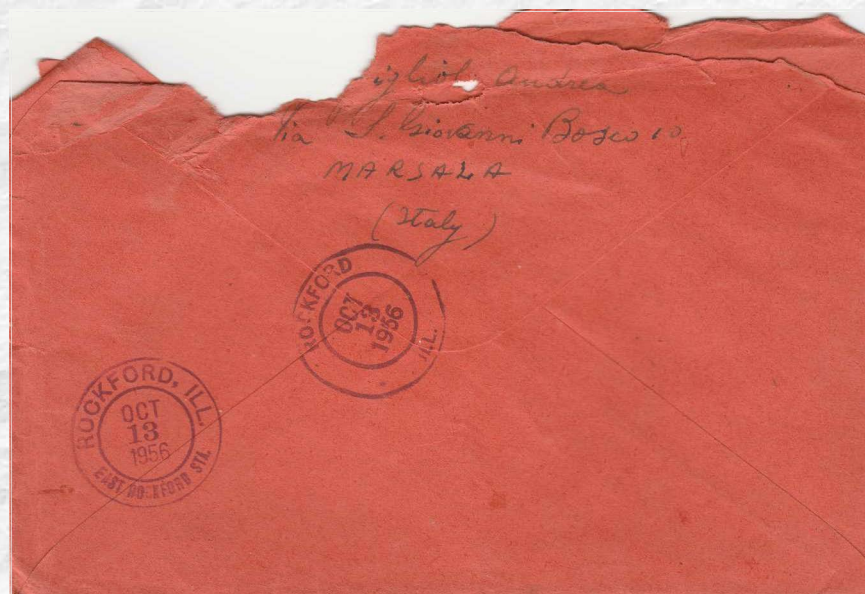
The cab brought me to a town about twenty miles outside of the base. From there I took a bus that dropped me off in front of the main gate at Sidi Slimane AFB. I was actually able to get a ride from the gate right up to my hut. It felt wonderful getting back to people I could speak English with.



Enclosed herewith you will find our picture. There is your husband too. He is a very nice and good boy. Although we don't know you we consider you as one of our family.

Write to us and good-bye for now.

(Many kisses from my wife and



best regards from my brother -
Anthony
in-law who is writing this letter

Sincerely your uncle
Figlioli, Andrea

This envelope and the letter it contained was written by Andrew Marino after Pete's visit to Sicily. Andrew's brother in law Anthony actually wrote the letter in English.

30, SEPT. 56 SUN.

Hi, My Beautiful, Sweet, Wonderful Wife!

Oh honey, I love you so, + I missed writing to you honey. I've had a guilty feeling, with every passing day. Even though I didn't write, you know that I love you.

Well Doll, I don't know where to start. I got back to the base last night around 6:30 P.M. I found six of your wonderful letters waiting for me. That was a wonderful welcome back feeling.

The pictures of Mike were great hon. I loved them all. The cutest pic of all, was the one of you + Mike together. I miss + love you both very much, honey.

I'll start as of a week ago last Friday. I left for Rome about 7:30 A.M. after 3 hours of flying, we landed in Algiers to refuel. Sat in Algiers close to an hour.

The weather was pretty rough over Italy. It took us a bit longer than we expected to arrive in Rome.

2) We landed in Rome about 4:30 P.M.

From the Air Field we took a cab into town. I asked the driver to take us to a decent hotel. He took us to a very nice hotel. Excuse me hon, when I say "us", I mean a couple of buddies of mine + myself. They came to Rome for the week end.

The hotel cost us about \$3.50⁶ a day, + that included two meals a day.

We showered, + changed clothes, ate + took off to see Rome. Rome is an awful large city. We walked, + walked, + walked. I asked several people where the fountain was. They all looked at me if I was crazy. They wanted to know, "which fountain"?

The one I was looking for is where the picture, "Three Coins for The Fountain," was filmed. After seeing a bit of Rome, I realized how silly the question I asked was. My goodness honey, they have all kinds of fountains in Rome.

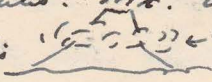
We walked around until 2:AM. Then

3, headed back to our hotel. I had planned to leave Rome Sat. for Sicily. But Sat. while I was on a tour. The guide stopped by the airlines office to check on a flight for me. The flight that afternoon was all reserved. So, I made a reservation, to leave Rome Sunday morning. That gave me all day Saturday in Rome.

Our guide took us to the most important places in Rome, for a price, of course! I saw and have pictures of: The Colosseum, the unknown soldiers monument, the Forum, & the Cathedral of St. Peter's. I have so much to tell you honey.

I saw many many more places, but to write about it is difficult. All the while I was seeing Rome I craved for you, honey. If you could have only been there with me, it would have been a "Roman Holiday."

I left for Sicily about 8:AM Sunday. about a hour after take off we landed in Naples. We stayed there only about

4, 20 minutes. Mt. Vesuvius ^(SP) looked like this  clouds, very beautiful sight.

From Naples we landed in Palermo Sicily. Stayed there about 20 minutes. Then departed for the province of Trapani. Which is about a 30 minute ride to Marsala.

I told the driver of the car the address I had, & he tried to remember if he knew where it was. He took me right to the place I wanted to go. It was an address my Grandma in Detroit gave me, two years ago. They ended up being my second cousins on my Mother's side.

They greeted me with open arms honey. I asked them if they knew my Uncle or Aunts. And to my surprise, they said, they didn't! But my cousin told me that the next morning he would check the court house for my Uncle's address.

Sunday night they fed me very well. Cooked over a pound of pasta for me alone. Of course I didn't eat

5 it all. I couldn't! Boy, they sure believe in eating in Italy.

After we ate they took me to a movie, "Ali Ba Ba," in Italian. I didn't understand all of it. It was fun though.

I guess I slept like a baby that night. But I never stopped thinking of you honey.

That next morning my cousin took me to the court house. I told him the name of my Grandfather + Grandmother. And they found the rest. They even told me that my father left Italy in 1911.

We took the address of two of my uncles. He figured that if we found one we would find them all.

The rest of that morning the son of my cousin, walked me around Marsala. I sure am tired of walking.

Later, back at the house, my cousin came home for lunch. He said he found a friend of his with a scooter, that would take us into the country to find my relatives.

6 We ate real quick like, + took off for the country.

We rode for quite a ways. Then they decided to ask for information. Oh, I almost forgot hon. The three of us were all on one scooter.

The place ~~was~~ where we stopped didn't know my uncles by name, but they recognized a picture that I had of one of my uncles. Then those people learned who I was, they hugged + kissed me. They know my mother very well. In fact, my mother use to go to school, in that very same building that I was in.

With the information that we gathered there, I was taken right to my first Uncle home. When we pulled up my cousin told my aunt to kiss me first, + then he told her who I was. And what joy, honey.

My Uncle Paul wasn't home, but she said that she would run into the fields + call him. And to stop back on the way into town. So we went