

Friday night 7:30

May 11th 1945

In Italy (City of Leghorn)

Dear Mom & Girls;

Well I'll take up where I left before, last night to be exact. Let see I believe I was in Rome. If we stayed in Rome for about 4 months. We really enjoyed it too believe me. It was such a change from all the other worn out bombed out towns in Italy. After we left Rome last Sept. we came up to Leghorn and operated another line starting from the port and following up the 5th prom. Our place was in a large refinery right out side of town and that's where we've been for the last 8 months. The longest we've stayed in one place yet. Most of the installations here were destroyed by our bombings but some of the buildings came thru okay and that's where we lived thru the winter, nice modern buildings too. Swell lavatories and showers. Can't complain at all because we had it very comfortable, considering what the G.I.'s up

front went thru. We sure had the breaks so far. Only hope they continue till this thing is over for good!!? Wonder when? I listened to a broadcast on the radio last night on the point system for G.I. overseas. It takes 85 points to be eligible for discharge. Well, I have a measly 57, so that means 15 more months before I'll be eligible. Hope the war in the Pacific's over by then?! The only fellows that will be discharged are the ones who were in the army before Pearl Harbor. I hear the only ones who'll have enough points. Might get to come home on furlough, but don't have any high hopes mom. It's all in the books. I'm hoping and praying for it tho. After 2 yrs. overseas I think we're entitled to a leave at home!!? Hope the War Department thinks it over. ha-ha-ha. We're only 12 miles from Pisa and I've been there quite often. If you have Joe get a map of Italy, you can find all these places on it mom. Leghans a town of about 8,000. (before the war)

It took quite a pounding because it was the second largest port on this coast. The people in town took off for the farms when the bombings started. Their moving back, the slow but sure. The only trouble is, they don't have any transportation over here at all. Horse and wagons and bikes. Very very few trucks or civilian cars. Even before the war there wasn't any cars to talk about. Under Fascism there was only 2 classes of people, the rich and the poor. Bicycles for the poor and automobiles for the rich. Young and old alike have their bikes. Sure great I think anyone can have a car back home now. The people over here can't realize how great America is. I wouldn't trade you back yard for the whole of this country now believe me!

Well its 8 o'clock now and we have a movie here tonight, so I'm going to sign off for now. I'm still feeling fine and hope you're all the same. And should be feeling pretty fair by now. Say hello to everyone for me, and please don't worry about. I'll write again tomorrow. It sure feels

