

Tucuman, NM  
Sept. 1, 1989

Dear John,

Sounds like letters some of the guys got during the war - I wasn't expecting an answer so soon, good to hear from you. Will answer some of your questions. With Co. C 105<sup>th</sup> from Nov. 44 until 7 July, was in the hospital in England from that day until after Xmas, was about 6 months, while in the 98<sup>th</sup> General in Sept. came down with something like malaria, sick as a horse for a couple weeks. Later in Feb. this fever, chills would come back unexpectedly and be sick again, happened right along different times. It was the million dollar wounds received limited assignment with 397<sup>th</sup> AAA Weapons Bn 40 MM. Discharged Dec 16, 45.

We had the fuel bridges on July 7 to put across the river plus boats to take you guys across. I was hit just when day light was breaking. 120<sup>th</sup> people coming into the ward in the hospital I was in said, there were dead engineers laying all over the place. I received a letter from my Co in the hospital which said they blew the hedge row and some men were killed. Were you there when the bombs fell short on 120<sup>th</sup> and 105<sup>th</sup> Co? My hair was killed, my squad truck was hit and some guys hurt.

Yes, I have two war horses of the Western front 30<sup>th</sup> Div books.

I went deer hunting in Mich with ex Mess Sgt and later in my squad Dale Harvey in 47 and 48 he lived in Trasson City. Anyway when I got home from hunt in Nov 48 I was driving out to check traps for muskrat

When I Couldn't breathe, just like a rope around my chest. Made it home and Dr told me to go to hot dry climate. An Xmas eve had another and he said get out of here and now, so after new year I came here, had friends here so just stayed, Went to Barber college in Amouth, Texar 1950, met my wife, got married in Bernillo, N.M. New year eve 1950-51 I was barbering at White Rock just outside Los Alamos. By the way, was real busy one night both of us barbers when the Sheriff came in all excited and said, you guys be at the Community house at 8 P.M., you are deputized now. So we did, they had caught the Rosenbergs, Julius & Ethel you remember them, the spys. Thought they needed our help so were on a special police until I left and came back here.

I love to hunt and fish, deer every year, elk a few times, antelope, Barbary Sheep once and tomorrow grouse hunting. I can still shoot a buck running and not miss many doves & quail. I have a Jerry helmet maybe I told you before mouser rifle bayonet 5 Jerry swords Iron Cross other medals also a knife I took out of the pockets of one of them, a pill box carved other things. The last 4 issues of your? remember the safe conducts dropped before July 7 for the German to surrender, I have one of them plus a pass to Nancy, France and a couple stars & stripes. I'm a collector, have muzzle loader guns, thumb-buster colts about 15 swords, hundreds of arrow heads

and other items I had a barber shop here  
for 28 years and pawn shop so got lots of  
things that way.

Have a son retired from airborne Green  
beet, wounded 3 times Viet, 20 years now  
a deputy sheriff in Georgia, a daughter teaching  
in Carrizozo, N.M. another daughter, husband & 33  
month old son here. She is assistant Probation  
parole officer here.

I agree, there is a bond between people  
who had been in the army, same places and  
outfits together. I'm 69 now and will go turkey  
hunting Sept. 27 and deer in N.V. after I quit  
barbering I worked in post office 7 years as  
custodian, maintenance etc, really enjoyed it.  
Now I take care for 8 houses and maybe another  
one in the future. Had a Western auto store  
1956-58. Will good to hear from you. Forget  
to mention, Dale Harvey, my hunting partner in  
N.M. died 3 or 4 years ago. His son stopped by  
here once after that, ~~came~~ in the army for  
the full time. Any more news I'll let you know

Sincerely  
Ken Porter