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Haver, Harland C.

[s.l.]: [s.n.], 1944-10-25

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**BLUE ENVELOPE MAIL
ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES**

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I certify that the enclosed letter was written by me, refers only to personal or family matters, and does not refer to military or other matter forbidden by censorship regulations.

Sgt. Harland C. Haver
.....
(Grade) (Name)

36228868
.....
(Serial number)

HQ. BTRY., 118TH F.A. BN.
.....
(Organization)

APO No. 30 % Postmaster N.Y., N.Y.



ADDRESS

MRS. EDWARD R. LAMBRIES
1424 A Clark Street
Manitowoc, Wisconsin

This envelope must be sealed by SENDER

SOMEWHERE IN HOLLAND

Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
October 25, 1944

My Dearest Snooks, Edward & Gaylord,

Just finished writing to Mom so while I am still in the writing mood I guess maybe I better try and answer your letters which I have beside me or otherwise I may put it off and then another day will pass by. Though I don't write as often as I really should as we have lights and nothing to do at nights but gosh one gets tired writing every night, but Snooks there isn't a day that passes that at some time or another I find myself day dreaming and thinking of all the good times we used to have together and how I pray we can take up where we left off nearly three years ago soon. Time certainly does fly as just think next month I'll have three years service meaning I'll start drawing longevity of \$3.00 extra each month. I can still picture that morning when I left for Fort Sheriden and you, Tuts, Gene and Billie took me down to the Court House and then that first week-end there when out of the clear blue sky you all came down to visit me. I believe that night when you left I cried myself to sleep.

I guess it must sound silly a guy twenty five years old getting homesick but I'm not ashamed to admit that there are plenty of nights before going to sleep I lay and wonder what you are all doing at home and when we will see each other again. I sure hate to see Xmas come being so darn far from home and not able to even call. Remember that first Xmas when I called home boy we certainly did have a bawling good time. I have to laugh now when I think of such times but boy it was far from being funny at the time. Enough of that or you will get tired of reading before you finish and then to I'll start getting homesick.

Yesterday our back mail finally caught up with us and I received the letter you had written September 10th and the day before the one written October 11th so you can see how the mail gets screwed up.

Had a nice letter from Mabel and Otto the other day and as usual she sent along a rather cute story. She said she was over one night while Otto was bowling and Edward took her home.

The weather today was rather cloudy and dreary. How is it back in good old Manitowoc? If it continues to stay as cold as it has been I wouldn't be surprised to see snow falling before long. gosh, I sure am glad we set up in buildings now as it sure would be hell out in the field.

The other day another clerk and I went up to the batteries on business (that's what we told Mr. DeMatio) but it was mostly on pleasure. The batteries are in Germany so it was our visit to Germany. We are only about three miles behind them so have a little of excitement around here especially at nights when "Jerry" comes over.

The country itself is similar to the rest only boy we certainly are blowing things up. While up to the batteries we went snooping through some of the houses trying to find some souvenirs but the guys already took them all. I still have the German helmets which I said I was going to send to Edward and Gene but still haven't gotten up enough ambition to box them up. . .I'm telling you this army sure makes one lazy as some days we have plenty of work and then other days none. Take to day for instance I believe I worked about ten minutes the whole day.

Last week one night I was on guard and the post I was assigned to was about in the middle of the town and honestly at times I'd swear I was all alone in a desert Ghost Town. That was during the sudden lulls when neither side fired for a minute or two and there wasn't a sound to be heard except the crackle of broken glass under my feet. That illusion ended, however, with the scream of American artillery shells, and sudden bursts of small-arms fire which always sounded as if there were just around the next corner. We catch guard duty about every two weeks and boy those two hours at night certainly do drag.

The civilians are slowly returning back. The Sisters are nearly all back and gosh they just stay across the court from us and our latrines are right in their garden and it seems everytime we go out to it they are outside but then guess they know what it looks like by now, eh!

Did you have a good time at the Shawno Fair or was it like all the rest a flop?

Suppose by now you have the storm windows on, eh! Wish I could be home to help as those upstairs ones are really a job putting on. I sure wish this mess would end before winter makes it's appearance as I hate to think of winter as it is plenty cold at present.

Did you get to see "White Cliff's of Dover"? Bet it was one swell movie I only wish we would get some late ones over here. We haven't had a movie in sometime now guess it is about time they have another one of these nights.

So you enjoyed Bruno's visit.. .he certainly is a swell kid and after this war is over we will all have to pay them a visit, eh! According to the pictures I seen of his girl she isn't bad looking, right!

Yes it must be nice to have money and be able to move from city to the country like Nettie Blair, ha! I bet she makes a cute doughnut lady.

No Snooks I don't think when this war is over I'll prefer the floor to the bed as before this area we were sleeping on the bare floor and gosh by morning our bones really ached. Now Jack and I have a rather soft bad as when we first arrived we went over in the Sisters home and found several cushions and a comforter so we don't sleep bad.

Well Snooks it is almost nine bells and past my bed time as I am usually in bed by eight thirty so guess I'll have to wind this up make our little bed and crawl in.

Always remember you are my favorite sister and I think the world of you three. I love and miss you more than words can ever express and how I wish we three could be visiting upstairs instead of having to do so by letter.

I bet you say what a dry letter but honestly writing letters is okay as you say as far as letting each other know we still think of and miss one another but as for interesting news its a problem to write.

Next month I'll send you two a money order for Xmas so you two can buy something as it is impossible to do any shopping over here. Hope next year I'll be able to do my own shopping instead having to depend on you Snooks.

Well if I don't soon stop I'll have a small book although if I had something to write about I could continue all night as it seems when I write you I can always tell my troubles and you will listen like you always did.

Goodnight and I'll see you in my dreams.

All My Love and Kisses,
Your loving brother,

Harlie
Harlie

P. S. Tell Gaylord I am still waiting for that letter he started in school. Thanks for always sending me thinks and always being so good to Mom and Dad. I can't seem to think what I would like at present but wish it was possible to request you and Mom in a box.