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ARMY POSTAL SERVICE
108
JUN
17
1945



Germany

Mr. & Mrs. E. L. Williams
2463 Second Ave North
St. Petersburg, 6
Florida

E. Williams
2nd JCE

Saturday Evening
16 June 1945
Germany

Dear Mom & Dad,

This time I'm writing from inside a tent about 150 miles from where I was last night. We've moved to an area not far from Baumholder which in turn is several miles south of Coblenz. This is pretty hilly country in this sector, not like the flat "Cologne plain" near Kemper.

Our motor column roared thru dozens of towns and cities, including Neuss, Cologne, Bonn, Remagen (where the Yanks took the Ludendorff Bridge across the Rhine - intact), Coblenz, and other cities I never heard of before.

Our U. S. Army traffic really keeps things buzzing over here ~ it's about

the only kind of traffic over here. We passed several PW camps where acres and acres of Germans, now prisoners on their own soil, are awaiting discharge or some other disposition. Also passed one big DP Camp for "displaced persons" where men, women and children of France, Belgium, Holland, Russia and other countries are awaiting transportation home, after being moved about by the Nazis.

Got a letter from Mel yesterday - he's in Austria now. Last winter he drove a bull-dozer in Belgium; this spring he volunteered for the infantry and was given 6 weeks' training in France. Then when he went on into Germany as a replacement, no riflemen were needed so he was put back in the engineers in the 3rd Army, and when the war ended he was (still is) in Austria. He wrote about visiting Hitler's hideaway

at Bergesgaden, and he also saw one of
the concentration camps just taken over
by the U.S. He said plenty about what
he saw there - burnt bodies, starved
men, etc.

I also heard from Norman (I got 4
letters yesterday - first mail in a month),
and got a letter from Mary. Those letters
evidently arrived in the ETO the same day
I sent in my new address - any other
letters will probably come soon. I
didn't know about Clayton's sister, Virginia -
don't remember of ever having heard of her
before.

Guess you can easily tell when I'm
writing from in a text - my ragged writing
shows it.

Love to all -

Your devoted son,
Gene