



UNITED STATES ARMY

Italy
July 25, 1944

Dear Hazel:

Received your letter today and was glad to hear from you. I saw Ralph and spent two nights and a day at his camp. If we want to go any place around here we have to hitch hike or catch a plane that is going in the same direction. I went by truck so that I could see part of the country from the ground instead of the air.

You were asking how it is over here so here goes. They grow all kinds of fruits and vegetables and wheat. In the daytime it gets pretty damn hot but at night it is cool. The towns around here are filthy worse than the worst parts of Mexico. The streets are so narrow that one car can barely get between the buildings and they have very few sidewalks except on the main streets. Cars are so few over here that you can count them on your fingers. They have wagons



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with taxi meters in them around the larger towns. Horses, mules, and donkeys pulling wagons and carts of every description is their main transportation. Also besides they have a few antiquated street cars that go out to Pompeii. The trains they have here resemble the trains we had about fifty years ago.

The country really looks nice though because they have a lot of trees and vegetation. There is quite a few mountains around here and Mount Vesuvius (the volcano) is not far from Naples.

Along with all the trees and fruit they also have bugs, more bugs, and then some more bugs.

I guess I had better close so I will have something to write about next time. Tell everyone hello for me

Love

Herbert