

No.

270532

CENSORS STAMP

W.T. HOLMQUIST  
3241 WEST 45<sup>TH</sup> AVE  
GARY  
INDIANA U.S.A.

W.T. HOLMQUIST

SENDER'S NAME

51st Troop Carrier Co

SENDER'S ADDRESS

APO 760 4th Ave N.Y.

JULY 22, 1943

DATE

Dear Mom, Dad and all, ①

I must have been quite a while since my last letter because I had to hesitate to be able to remember the "3241."

It's hot! I can write about the weather because there's not much else to write about. Most of my office force has deserted to the blue Mediterranean. Kugler is relaxing on the stone floor of the office with a book while the perspiration drips. Murphy is getting a haircut - the organization barber is doing the job. The barber is really the carpenter but that doesn't matter.

Yesterday I received a letter from Jess which was dated in October of 1942 - while they were yet in Texas. How's that for speed. But it was practically all news for me which just goes to show how important every letter is. Suspendings army moves causes mail shipments to be quite erratic because the postal authorities hold it for security reasons and also to provide more space on ships for more important things - at least they consider them more important.

V. MAIL

CONT.

No.

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*W.T. Holmquist*  
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*PO Box 100*

*JULY 22, 1943*  
DATE

CONT.

There are very few civilians around here. (2)  
A few Arabs and that's about all. Along the beach a few Arab vendors parade among the naked soldiers and try to sell dirty lemonade and also doughnuts, which, it is rumored, are fried in cat grease which has been handed down from generation to generation.

While writing I have been listening to some of the G.I.'s chatting with some Italian prisoners under a nearby olive tree. One of the prisoners had escaped with three others and was close enough to his Mediterranean shore home to be able to see it when he was recaptured.

Kugler is now asleep. And the camels, I notice, are drooping from the heat. For some reason the heat doesn't bother me a bit - I rather enjoy it. The nights are always cool and beautiful - you can depend upon that. Never any rain but plenty of starry sky and bright moonlight nights.

V...-MAIL

CONT.