

OF HENRY W. DALE 37865099
NO 716 ED MP BR
PORT JAY, NEW YORK



CHURCH STAIR
STATION



AIR MAIL

Henry W. Dale
85-45 Leiger Rd.
Normandy-21-Mo.

Dear Mom:

January 17

I guess Theresa is just waiting around for the blessed event. Make by the time this reaches there it will all be over. I hope it is. That will take a big load off of all of your heads. I'll bet Theresa will be happier when it is all over and she doesn't have to worry about it any more.

Say, I haven't been able to get out of this damn camp to get here anything. I haven't even been able to get to the post office to get a money order to send this money to you. Do you think it is OK if I send some money home and let you buy something for her. I hate to do it this way but there isn't anything else that I can do. I hope this letter gets through. I guess there isn't enough money in it to make any difference any way. I won't send any more till I get a chance to get a money order. I'd hate to loose it all.

I went to a nice place yesterday. We took a load of prisoners to Greenhamen prison. It's a real thing. The walls around it are thirty five ft high and about five or six ft. thick. The whole thing takes in about four city blocks. They have all types of factories right inside for the prisoners to work in. They really take care of them

to see that they don't get away. They have double gates and about ten guards to check all of the trucks and people that go in or come out. They even have pits under the ground for a guy to stand in to see that no one is hanging on under them. They have all kinds of guards on the walls. There mess hall was something to. It is a big affair. It is larger than a city block and is really fixed up good. We ate in it while we were there. The only things that are out of place are a guard box on one end of the room. It is situated above the door and has thick glass all of the way around it. In it the guard has switches that work doors and turn on a spray of tear gas from jets in the ceiling. The seats are down low so that in order to eat you have to reach up in the air. This puts the prisoners off balance so that they can't jump right into a fight. We had a little trouble eating there. I'm not used to eating off of a table like that and besides they don't allow the prisoners to have a knife. Not even a kitchen knife. We had to try to cut our meat with a fork. The mess hall is the cleanest I have seen.

(3)

The trip up wasn't so good on my nerves as it could have been. We had 68 prisoners. we were supposed to have 70 but one of them threw a cup at another prisoner and three guys ganged him and they had to put him in an ambulance instead of our busses. That accounts for one. The other got into the battle somehow and got the side of his head bashed in some way. He also went in the ambulance. He was able to walk to it though.

That gives you some idea of the guys that we had. They had two guards in each bus with twenty five of the prisoners. That wouldn't have been so bad if they would have given us a gun. Instead they issued us a club and told us to sit at the doors and keep the guys from taking off. In back of us there was a 30 cal. machine gun. The only trouble was that it couldn't go into action unless they shot the two guards and the driver.

I was thinking that they were in for ANOL and didn't feel so bad about it. I found different when we were about half way there. Then I started talking to a guy sitting next to me and happened to ask what he was up for. He told me

as unconcerned as anything that, he was
up for manslaughter. Here he was almost
leaning against me at the back door. He
was about six ft four and weighed about
two hundred and ten pounds. All he would
have to do was put his arm and weight
against me and I would have been
a dead duck. He could have used my
club on me. I guess you are wondering
why I didn't have a pistol. I did to
untill I found that out. I ~~had~~ I knew
that they were playing safe in case
they tried something. I ~~hey~~ knew that
we would be laid ducks if they started
anything and they didn't want to have
them get hold of a gun. If they could they
would be able to fight back and give
the gunners a rough time. Do you under
stand how I felt on that five hour trip up
there. The trip itself only took three
hours for the riding but we had to sit
and wait for them to get the records
all straight. Naturally we had the prisoners
in the busses all of that time.

Well I guess I'll quit now.

Yours,

Brutley.

P.S. I hope you don't mind buying something
for me. I couldn't get it myself. I wish I could
have. Thanks.