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# SOLDIERS SERVICE CENTER

SPONSORED BY

HATTIESBURG COMMUNITY DEFENSE COUNCIL

FRONT AND FORREST STREETS

TELEPHONE 2882

HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI

Sept 24  
J.G.A.

July 24, 1943

Dear Friends,

I was extremely pleased to hear from you. And I thank you for your interest in the welfare of this part of Uncle Sam's army. Indeed, your letter was like a long, cool breeze in the middle of a very hot day, but why dwell on the weather which is a very unpleasant topic here.

The hospital was a very restful place in which I became very restless. Can you imagine my being a patient for a month.

Jack I am almost inclined to believe that foreign missions should be closed until our army (the country's

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representative) is cleaned up. We all know the story about how tough Mr. Sergeant can be. It is all too true here that the filth from his lips are quite catching among the ordinary run of soldiers. But perhaps I'm not yet fully imbued with army spirit, and I sometimes wonder if I ever will be.

This week the 880<sup>th</sup> Bn was on the rifle range. We fired 30 cal. Carbines. I made 145 out of a possible 200. Since I never have used guns, I think that ought to be pretty good. Anyway I'm a qualified marksman now.

Yes, Merle is coming to Shelby. I hate for him to leave to Tallahassee in many ways. War bring many problems, and living in two or three places all at the same time is

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one of those problems. But it surely will be nice to have her here. One needs some distraction.

The 69<sup>th</sup> Division is now a part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Army. As you remember the 2<sup>nd</sup> Army fought in Africa. We were recently transferred from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Army. So we now feel we are much closer to the real thing.

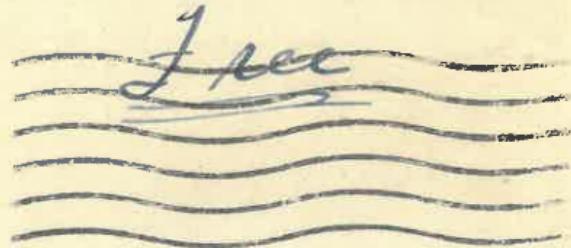
I broke my glasses this morning, and I am wondering if my writing will be legible for you.

Accept my wishes for all of you. I often think of the pleasant association I enjoyed in Tallahassee. Some day may they be renewed. In the meantime, carry on with your good work.

Most sincerely,

Pat Byron Andrews

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