

March 18-45 - France



Raymond O. Bascom
Bob Monemuck

3/20/ 1945

9000



All my love
Bob



Reverend
Stammy
30 June 45

Dear Virginia,

It leaves me with out words
when I try to write to you folks. For

I know what misery you have gone
through waiting for word from Bob.

Now that it finally came I hope

you won't feel as if he is gone forever.
For I know that we will all see

him again. Somewhere, someday we

will be able to talk with him +

find out exactly what happened. For

we are all in doubt of what the real

thing was. I am going to try + go

are where he was trained. But the

army does odd things. ^{in training at}

^{Bob's buddy} you asked about the one creek boy.

well Bob + I seen him after words.

He was in a different sector from
me but he was trying next to the road





as we went by on our way back. He died an instant after being hit as there was no suffering. A small piece of shrapnel killed him.

As for the baggage that will it is a rather long story as I don't want

to get home & tell you about that

the road we traveled across the

Rhine was below Luxembourg and about

five miles from Weissenborn. Maybe you can find it on a map.

It was at the time of the Rhine pocket as you see what we were up against.

We started across about midnight & within about 4000. We captured our objective & secured the German troops to move as was needed.

About the time we started to load in the boat, 03-88's opened up & every body naturally tried to get into

and made

the nearest boat to you
they were. As a result you
boats overturned & we lost 18 men.
what few did get out said that
it was impossible to swim in the
current. Our boat picked up some
but if you think that we could
see over your fire in front of you.

That was about all we know. So perhaps
you can draw a picture of it & get
some idea of how it happened.

Thanks Miller for the stamps they
nearly came in handy.

As things stand now I'll be seeing
ally you about Christmas time, I hope.
So I'll try & keep up with my letters
as soon as I can.

Ray



Letter to Virginia

Berchesgarden, Germany 30, June, 45

Dear Virginia,

It leaves me with out words when I try to write to you folks. For I know what misery you have gone through waiting for word from Bob.

Now that it finally came I hope you won't feel as if he is gone forever. For I know that we will all see him again. Somewhere, someday we will be able to talk with him and find out exactly what happened for we are all in doubt of what the real thing was. I am going to try and go see where he was buried. But the army does odd things.

You asked about the Mc Crea boy. Well Bob and I saw him afterwards. He was in a different sector from us but he was lying next to the road as we went by on our way back. He died in an instant after being hit so there was no suffering. A small piece of shrapnel killed him.

As for the Bastogne deal, Well it is another long story so I'd best wait till I get home to tell you about that.

The raid Bob lost his life, he was loaded with extra ammunition and grenades. The raid we pulled across the Rhine. It was below Dusseldorf and about five miles from Neinenhiem. Maybe you can find it on a map.

It was at that time of the Rhine pocket so you see what we were up against. We started across about midnight and withdrew about 4:30 am. We captured our objective and caused the German troops to move as was needed.

About the time we started to load in the boat, 3 - 88's opened up and everybody instantly tried to hop into the nearest boat to where they were. As a result, four boats overturned and we lost 18 men. What few did get out said that it was impossible to swim in the current. Our boats picked up some but it was so dark that we couldn't see over five feet in front of you.

That was about all we know. So perhaps you can draw a picture of it and get some idea of how it happened.

Thanks millions for the stamps, they really came in handy.

As things stand now I'll be seeing all of you about Christmas time, I hope.

So I'll try and keep up with my letters.

As Ever a Friend

Ray