

NAME: Spencer

RANK: Corporal

ORGANIZATION: 4th Infantry Division

OVERSEAS WARTIME SERVICE: European Theater of Operations

- The following excerpts are directly from two original wartime letters written by Spencer. These are the only letters from Spencer in the site curator's possession.
- The following excerpts are presented under fair use provisions for educational purposes.
- No controversial material has been omitted from the following excerpts. No grammatical or spelling errors have been corrected.

Spencer writes his sister in the United States:

“Oct 10, 1943

Sunday After = 3:00 PM

I recieved your letter last night and have a little time to myself so here is an answer to it. About you being ‘Clever,’ yes I guess you are theres just no other way out...I’m fine but I still don’t like Florida. We had a night problem the other night that started at one oclock in the morning and lasted untill the next noon and Gosh I was tired and I mean tired.

How is Mom.? swell I hope You wan’t to hear something, the other night I had all my hair cut about half an inch long and the very next night they tell me that I’m getting a furlou it starts the 15th of this month and I was so mad I could half shot somebody...

...Well I know that this isint much of a letter but its all that I have time for now.

Goodbye now

Love

Spencer”

Spencer writes his sister in the United States after being seriously wounded:

“Jan 25, 1945

Thurs. Nite, 7:00 P.M.

Gee Sis it was a beautiful day down here today but everywhere I seem to go its beautiful, I’m down in the lounge now and the music is, ‘Im Making Believe,’ I like to hear some first Sergent is sitting next to me with some dame he picked up on the street...The other day they measured a guy down at the limb shop for his leg and when it came they found out that they had measured the wrong leg so now

he has too wait another month. Another guy was 6 ½” tall and had both of his legs taken off so now he has both of his legs and is 5’10 ½” inches how about that. One of the guys that had his operation at the same time that I had mine died last Wed morning 130 gee he was a swell kid and he had only one leg gone below the knee. About the leg in the laundry chute yes he finally got it back.

Say I liked that little diddy when are they going to give me a leg to stand on. But Clever.’ that I could not tell you. Couple of jerks just came in and asked me to go too the party with them but I guess I’ll stay in tonight and sleep besides I have a terrible cold...I just saw shorty on my floor and he just gave me my pass so Goodbuddie I guess I’ll say goodnight and pleasant dreams tell Mom to take very good care of Pop and give her a kiss for me okay.

Your Little

Brother

Spencer.”

- Spencer made it through the Second World War and passed away in his 80s.
- **For visual context, this link connects to an original wartime period film in the public domain that covers the type of hospital Spencer stayed in for some time (viewer discretion advised):**
<https://archive.org/details/FB-203>
- **For additional detail, this link connects to the Wikipedia article that covers Spencer’s wartime organization, the 4th Infantry Division (reader discretion advised):**
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/4th_Infantry_Division_\(United_States\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/4th_Infantry_Division_(United_States))