

NAME: Luke

RANK: Second Lieutenant

ORGANIZATION: 94th Infantry Division

OVERSEAS WARTIME SERVICE: European Theater of Operations

- The following excerpts are directly from two original wartime letters written by Luke. These are two of many letters from Luke in the site curator's possession and more will be transcribed in the future.
- The following excerpts are presented under fair use provisions for educational purposes.
- No controversial material has been omitted from the following excerpts aside from edited profanity for the protection of younger readers. No grammatical or spelling errors have been corrected.

Luke writes his sister in the United States:

“29 March [1945]

I've finally gotten busy again. And tonight, the first in a long time, and writing again. This time though a legal excuse, we've been d _ _ n busy...

...In the drive for the Rhine, in which we took part, we were kept busy day and night. Occasionally stopping along the road for a few hours rest but then always pushing on. We were with the Infantry for some time so now I realize just how tough Paul has it, and some of the problems which confront him. And I know it's tougher than I let on to him.

By the way I suppose Paul has written saying that we were together again for a short time. We've been darn lucky to be so close together...

...Btry Hdqtrs and my headquarters are now together for a few days. But tomorrow I move again and we're separated. For the present though we have it really nice. Steam heat and running hot and cold water. Last night for the second time since we've been in France I had a bath in a tub. It really felt good. Oh but don't worry I've had other baths since I've been here. A shower occasionally but mostly just what we cal a wh _ re bath. One from our helmet with about a quart of water.

This running water in our bath is really a luxury. More than some people have in the United States...

...Did the money for Easter get there in time? I certainly hope so...

...See you are President of the YWCA. Congraculations! Let's see you do some good now. Be a big shot around school...

...having a hard time thinking of what to write. Closing for now. Write.

All my love,

Luke

Expect to be darn busy for the next week at least. So don't worry if you don't hear for a while."

Luke writes his sister again in the United States:

"10 April 45

A few pecks on this and when I say few thats exactly what I do Mean. Its just to keep in practice, see that you get a short letter, and to get this money order home. In case the other letter hasn't arrived yet its to get Mother something for Mother's Day. Buy What you like.

Perfect spring day and I'm thinking what everyone else here is. Spring fever I guess you call it. But as to a good definition I leave that up to you. Because I think that Young ladies get it as well as the men.

A lot of women running around but due to the non-fraternization rule no one goes near. At least if theres anyone else around. But when no officers I'm quite sure that they do get together . For one reason or another. (Just to talk I guess. I guess talk is the way you do spell it.)...

...About all... Write when you can.

LOVE

Luke"

- Luke made it through the Second World War and passed away in his 90s.
- **For visual context, this link connects to an original wartime newsreel in the public domain that covers the above time period and Luke's organization (viewer discretion advised):**
https://archive.org/details/1945-03-15_Allies_Open_Final_Drive_In_Germany
- **For additional detail, this link connects to the Wikipedia article that covers Luke's wartime organization, the 94th Infantry Division (reader discretion advised):**
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/94th_Infantry_Division_\(United_States\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/94th_Infantry_Division_(United_States))