

NAME: Norman

RANK: Staff Sergeant

ORGANIZATION: 10th Armored Division

OVERSEAS WARTIME SERVICE: European Theater of Operations

- The following text is directly from two original wartime letters about Norman. These are two of many letters related to Norman in the site curator's possession and more will be transcribed in the future.
- The following text is presented under public domain and fair use provisions for educational purposes.
- No controversial material has been omitted from the following text aside from edited derogatory terms for Germans for the protection of younger readers. No grammatical or spelling errors have been corrected.

Norman receives a letter from another soldier in the 10th Armored Division:

“Feb. 9, 1945

I was very surprised this evening when I recieved your letter informing me that you had ben wounded. I'll be 'doggone,' so they finally got you. When I saw you standing up in your half track comming out of Noville I didn't think the h __ nies would get you. Glad to hear though, that they have taken you a good ways away from this mess and I sure hope you will be well again soon...

...Things have ben going quite well with us lately. Not to much work. Just enoughf to keep us busy and out of mischif.

The other day one name was drawn out of our company roster to compeat by drawing lots with the wining man in the other companies of the Bn for 30 days furlough back home in the states.

The snow is almost all gone here now due to several days of rain. Yesterday the sun shone and it almost felt like spring...

...We had quite a nice set up some time ago when our Co. was staying in what appeared to be a sportsman club. It was located on a large lake. Some of the men brought in some large fish by using T.N.T. and grenades. I was lucky enoughf to shoot a small spike horn deer with my M 1 in a near by woods...

...this is about all I can say this time only don't get to friendly with those nurses

Hoping you get well fast Soldier,

Your Friend,

Jake”

Norman receives a letter from his company commander in the 10th Armored Division:

[1945]

“I received your fine letter this evening and was certainly glad to hear from you, and to know that you are getting along all right. I was informed by the medics that you suffered a fractured jaw, and thought so at the time of the incident. It made me darn sick, because I always felt that you would be one of us to go thru unharmed. We remained in Bastogne for nearly two weeks after your injury, and aided in driving the Kr _ _ ts back to their original lines. Today Sgt Parker received notice that he would get to spend thirty days in the states, and of course is quite elated. Should the Russians continue their advances, maybe all of us will get a trip home...I miss you lots, and hope that after your recovery you can return to us. Thanks for writing – best of luck always.

Your friend

Capt X”

- Norman made it through the Second World War but when he passed away is unknown.
- **For visual context, this link connects to an original wartime newsreel in the public domain that covers the defense of Bastogne which Norman’s organization participated in (viewer discretion advised):** <https://archive.org/details/ARC-39153>
- **For additional detail, this link connects to the Wikipedia article that covers the town of Bastogne which Norman’s company commander mentions in his letter (reader discretion advised):** https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Siege_of_Bastogne