

**NAME:** Robert

**RANK:** Corporal

**ORGANIZATION:** 95<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division

**OVERSEAS WARTIME SERVICE:** European Theater of Operations

- The following excerpt is directly from an original wartime letter written by Robert. This is the only letter from Robert in the site curator's possession.
- The following excerpt is presented under fair use provisions for educational purposes.
- No controversial material has been omitted from the following excerpt aside from an edited derogatory term for Germans for the protection of younger readers. No grammatical or spelling errors have been corrected.

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**Robert writes a relative who is also serving in the U.S. Army:**

“13 Feb 1945

Time for just a short note to accompany this snapshot, which might prove interesting to you and a little too gruesome for the folks to see now. Save it for my book. The guy on the stretcher is the Kr \_ \_ t pilot of one of the planes we shot down on Christmas day. We had more strafing on New Year's Day too, & got six that day. We changed off on the machine guns when they came over, so that everybody could get crack at the boidies. Those pilots fly ridiculously low when they strafe & bomb, and it's duck soup to knock 'em off. They furnished us good sport on the holidays. It was hard for the ack-ack boys to get the hedge-hoppers, but they took care of recon. planes & buzz bombs pretty well.

This guy here was one of those fanatic Nazis, for he was forced down in an adjacent field, and instead of surrendering himself to the huge gang of GI's around him he stepped out on the wing and drew his pistol. Of course he didn't last a second after that move. As you can see in the snap shot, he was plugged in the forehead. One of our attached engineers got him. Two other pilots we found burned with their planes...

...The area we're in now is really beat-up, just like St. Lo. Nothing but stubble. Well they asked for it, now they've got it. It must be rough on the German civilians coming back to their homes, some of them really elaborate ones, and finding just a pile of junk...

...Good luck on your Nationals -

Robert”

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- Robert made it through the Second World War and passed away in his 70s.
  - **For visual context, this link connects to original wartime footage in the public domain that covers the above time period, Christmas 1944 (viewer discretion advised):**

<https://archive.org/details/ADC-1718>

- For additional detail, this link connects to the Wikipedia article that covers Robert's wartime organization, the 95<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (reader discretion advised):  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/95th\\_Infantry\\_Division\\_\(United\\_States\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/95th_Infantry_Division_(United_States))