

**NAME:** Mike

**RANK:** Private First Class

**ORGANIZATION:** 91st Infantry Division

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

- The following excerpt is directly from an original wartime letter written by Mike. This is the only letter from Mike 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. No grammatical or spelling errors have been corrected.

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**Mike writes his family in the United States:**

“July 16th 1944

Somewhere in Italy.

Just a line to let you know that I am well and sure hope you are the same...

...The germans haven't got a chance now because I have been in there doing my little bit. We think its bad to have 18 year olds in the army. Well you should see some of the germans. They are only 13 or 14 years old.

I've got about \$25 that I am going to try to send home. I don't need any because they give us every think we need. All I need money for is to buy wine from the Italian's. They have a lot of darn good wine. They also have some kind of drink that you don't want to drink but a little of. I tried to drink a lot but I didn't get very far.

As you can tell by my A.P.O. I am in the 91<sup>st</sup> div...

...Well I can't think of anymore to write now so will close hoping you both are as well as I am.

With Lots of Love

Mike.”

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- Mike made it through the Second World War and passed away in his 40s.
  - **For visual context, this link connects to an original wartime newsreel in the public domain that covers the above time period (viewer discretion advised):**  
[https://archive.org/details/1944-07-14\\_Roosevelt\\_To\\_Run\\_For\\_4th\\_Term](https://archive.org/details/1944-07-14_Roosevelt_To_Run_For_4th_Term)
  - **For additional detail, this link connects to the Wikipedia article that covers Mike's wartime organization, the 91<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division (reader discretion advised):**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/91st\\_Division\\_\(United\\_States\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/91st_Division_(United_States))