
Jack P. Bell Second World War correspondence

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3-26-1943

1943-03-26, Evabel to Jack

Evabel Bell

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Subject Terms

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Priv John P. Bell
78th Sig. Co. 78th Div.

Camp Butner,
N.C.

A. P. O. 78

Mrs. Jack Ball
345 St. River St
Cleyra O.

Mar 26, 1943.

Darling,

Well, I finally got your little card, after everyone else told me where you were. Gosh, Honey, you'd think you would let me know before any else where you were. I even got a card from Genevieve saying you were in Camp Butner before I heard from you and Bill and Dolly even got a card before I did, after all if you got there Sun. you could have let me know before Friday. I nearly went crazy until I heard where you were. Of course you told me you weren't going to write every day, but I didn't think you would ^{write} every else before you'd write to me. But if that's the way it's going to be, I suppose I'll have to just take. Of course, I shall write my measly little letters every day, just as if I were hearing from you as often. I'm

sorry I sound so sarcastic, but how would you feel if every one knew where I was but you, if the situation were vice-versa and then almost a whole week gone just before any word of my husband. I thought for sure you must have gone to Calif. or Texas or some place real far, and here you were only about 650 miles away. Why didn't you wire me, at least? I looked for a phone call every night, but I suppose you couldn't get to a phone, so that's excusable.

Well, enough of that, I really and truly love you very much even if you don't think of me as much as I do of you.

Well, Wed. night right after I finished your letter, I was sitting there almost ready to go to sleep when I heard a knock at the door. I went to see who it was but I couldn't see any one so I opened the door and then squatting

were all my girl friends and they yelled
 "Surprise!" I was so surprised you
 could have knocked me over with
 a feather. Lena made the party
 and there was, Edick Fatts, Jan Sibson,
 Florence, Emma (Lena's friend) Ida, Dolly
 + Lena + me. We played bingo and
 we had a swell time. I got some real
 nice gifts. I got a beautiful satin slip,
 two aprons, a box of powder, a pin,
 a bottle of apple blossom cologne, a box of
 stationery, and a box of french soap,
 and you should have seen the beautiful
 birthday cake. It was a big huge one with
 flowers all over it and in the center it
 said "Happy Birthday, Evahel." now
 wasn't that nice? I've I thought every one
 had forgotten about me. They didn't leave
 here until about 12:30 or a quarter to 1.

and then Thurs. when I got home Dolly called
me up and she said she thought the baby
had the measles and so she would have
to call the club meeting off. So all the
girls called and said they didn't want
it postponed again and each one offered
their house. So I called up Dolly and
told her and she said she would rather
use my house. So she came over with
all the food. In the meantime I had
to hurry up and clean up my place
which was messed up from the night
before, get dressed & eat before they
got here. So I was so busy I didn't get
a chance to write to you. But I shall
make up for it in this letter. Any way
after the girls got here, Dolly had to
go after her sister Esther (who was to
be a guest) and she was gone about 45 min.
We got kind of worried we couldn't figure

5.

out what would take her so long when all of the sudden the phone rings. Dolly was stuck out on Furnace St. Her horn had let loose and her car stalled and she couldn't get it started. So then she sat on Furnace St in a stalled car with the horn going like mad. Well anyway I went out there I didn't know what good I would do. She called George Barras and he came and brought a new battery and disconnected her horn. Any way by the time our meeting got started it was 10:30. So we sat down and played Dominos and I won first prize and then we took pictures. I think these ought to come out better than the other ones. at least in these we all held still. Well the girls didn't leave until about 1:15. So to-night I'm going to sleep good and early. And I hope no one disturbs me.

4/

Well, Sweetie, I got my first pay to-day. I got \$9.23. That's for 5 days and after taking out \$5 worth of bonds, S.S., V. tax and all the other crap. So I don't think that is too bad. It sure is a thrill to get money that you really earned yourself. you know it was nice when you brought the money home but I really didn't have to work for it (not actually) But this is my very own doing, on my own. If you run out of money before your payday don't hesitate to ask me for it. I'll send you as much as you want.

I got my picture badge yesterday, Boy I sure do look like a gangster's moll. He told me to stick my face closer to the camera and that's just what I did. and it looks it too.

Yosh, Honey, isn't it wonderful that you got at Camp Butner? Just imagine

only 33 miles from Henderson. I'll bet
 your tickled. Tell me all about the camp.
 Is it a nice camp? I understand it's quite
 new. How in the world did you ever
 get into the Signal Corps? Tell me what
 it's all about. What are you supposed to
 do? Do you have to go to school very
 long for it? I hope you like it.

Why do they keep you in quarantine
 for 21 days? I thought most places
 it was only 10 days.

Well, Sweetheart, I hope you don't
 get tired reading all this nonsense but
 I thought perhaps you might be
 interested.

I love you, my dearest one, and I shouldn't
 say this, but I miss you so very much.
 I'm always wishing you were close to me
 so I could feel your lips on mine and

8/
have your nice warm body next to my
usually cold one. I just want your
arms about me and your face close to
mine. When you come home I'm never
going to let go of you. Oh sweetheart what
a time we shall have when this is
all over and the lights come on again all
over the world.

all my love + kisses.

your own
Fink.

P.S. Everyone sends their very best regards,
Jean, Edith, Lena, Ida, Gibby, Ralph, Skinny
Viola, Barb and of course me.

[[Nick Dante 6/15/16]]

[[Bell Correspondence #8]]

[[Page 1- Envelope - Front]]

[[image- purple three cents U.S. postage stamp]]

[[image- black circle stamp: ELYRIA, OHIO 1943
MAR 27 1³⁰ PM]]

Pvt. John P. Bell
78th Signal Co. 78th Div
Camp Butner,
N. C.

A.P.O. 78

[[Nick Dante 6/15/16]]

[[Page 2 - Envelope - Back]]

Mrs Jack Bell
345 W. River St
Elyria, O.

[[Page 3 – Letter]]

Mar 26, 1943.

Darling,

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[[Page 4 – Letter]]

2/

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[[Page 5 – Letter]]

3/

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“Surprise!” I was so surprised you
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a feather. Lena made the party
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Florence, Emma (Lena’s friend’s) Ida, Dolly
+ Lena + me. we played bingo and
we had a swell time. I got some real
nice gifts. I got a beautiful satin slip,
two aprons, a box of powder, a pin,
a bottle of apple blossom cologne, a box of
stationary, and a box of French soap.
And you should have seen the beautiful
birthday cake. It was a big huge one with
flowers all over it and in the center it
said “Happy Birthday, Evabel.” Now
wasn’t that nice? Here I thought every one
had forgotten about me. They didn’t leave
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[[Page 6 – Letter]]

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And then Thurs. when I got home Dolly called me up and she said she thought the baby had the measles and so she would have to call the club meeting off. So all the girls called and said they didn't want it postponed again and each one offered their house. So I called up Dolly and told her and she said she would rather use my house. So she came over with all the food. In the meantime I had to hurry up and clean up my place which was messed up from the night before, Get dressed + eat before they got here. So I was so busy I didn't get a chance to write to you, but I shall make up for it in this letter. Any way after the girls got here, Dolly had to go after her sister Esther (who was to be a guest) and she was gone about 45 min. We got kind of worried we couldn't figure

[[Page 7 – Letter]]

5.

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[[Page 8 – Letter]]

6/

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7/

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[[Page 10 – Letter]]

8/

have your nice warm body next to my usually cold one. I just want your arms about me and your face close to mine. When you come home I'm never going to let go of you. Oh sweetheart what a time we shall have when this is all over and the lights come on again all over the world.

All my love+ kisses.

your own

Fink

P.S. Everyone sends their very best regards. Jean, Edith, Lena, Ida, Gibby, Ralph, Skinny, Viola, Barb and of course me.