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4-9-1943

### 1943-04-09, Jack to Evabel

Jack P. Bell

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## 1943-04-09, Jack to Evabel

### Keywords

April, 1943; 1943; United States; Camp Butner, N.C.; Elyria, Ohio; army; soldiers; troops; signal corps; correspondence; postal service; letterhead; wife; husband; women at home; women; love; romance; rules and regulations; inspection; marching and drill; training; weather; warm weather; war work; employment; job; health and sickness; assignment; friendship; promotion; kitchen police; K.P.; discipline and punishment; birthday; gifts; money; finances; celebration; brother; leave; recreation and entertainment; servicemen club; food; cooking; theatre; United Service Organization; societies and organizations; U.S.O.; quarantine; leisure; barracks; wages; pay; budget; rations

### Identifier

2014.160.w.r\_Bell\_worldwartwo\_1943-04-09\_013

Pvt. Jack Bell  
78th Sig. Co., 78th Div.,  
Camp Butner, N.C.  
A. P. O. 78



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



78<sup>TH</sup> DIVISION  
CAMP BUTNER, NORTH CAROLINA

April 9, 1943

Darling,

It's Friday noon, and I have a few minutes before we fall in for the afternoon so I'll write a few lines. I won't get a chance tonight. Friday night is barracks clean-up night. Big inspection Saturday.

Haven't had my interview yet, but should have it pretty soon. There's talk going on of a hike this afternoon. It's a nice day for it. Just warm enough. Not hot.

Your sitting down job makes your shoulders sore, huh, baby? Can't you get a cushion to sit on? That usually helps. You spend a lot of your time working so you might as well be comfortable.

Saturday afternoon.

Back again, darling. I didn't have as much time yesterday as I thought I would have. The barracks is empty now except for about four of us. We're room orderlies for today. Everyone else is out for games. (Compulsory.) Like we played football last Saturday. I'd rather be in here doing what I want to do.

I got your letter today, darling. The one you wrote at Sena's. I haven't written to them yet, but I guess everyone understands that rookies don't have much time for themselves. Say hello for me.

Thursday is graduation day. That day we become full fledged buck privates, assigned to a section. I winner, I winner.

It may be quite a while before I pull K P again. A lot of fellows are getting gipped for failing to pass inspection. Knockwood. I haven't had any gigs yet.

I was over at the big PX last Sunday nite. I kind of wanted to get something for your birthday. Anything there decent costs around \$25.00 the stuff they have for five or six is pure shmatay. Did I spell it right? So here's what I figure. When I come home will celebrate your birthday together no matter what time of year it is. Birthday cake and everything. How about it, darling? O.K. It's a date. Figure out where you want to go, and what you want to do.

I got a swell letter from Chuck today. I sure wish we could get furloughs at the same time. It would be swell if we were all home at the same time. Just like old times.

Forite Jim Kuntz, Coley, (Menton Coleman) and I are going to have a little fun. First since we've been in the army. We're going to the service club for supper, and then to the show. Tell you about it next time I write. I haven't been to any U. S. O. dances. Couldn't when <sup>we</sup> were quarantined, and haven't had time since, but I might go some nite when they have one. A couple of fellows in our barracks, both married too, decided that they weren't going to wait till quarantine was up to go to the dance. They got caught, and they're still getting extra duty every day. That was over two weeks ago.



78<sup>TH</sup> DIVISION  
CAMP BUTNER, NORTH CAROLINA

- 3 -

Today is April 10, and do you realize, honey that this is the first time in over two years that we didn't have something to make a payment on? It sure seems good doesn't it?

I guess we get paid here between the 15th, and 20th. I'll have \$9. or \$10. coming I figure. It's a half months pay. I'm still fairly well healed so I guess I'll survive, and if I ever run short I'll let you know as you told me to.

How is the grocery situation, honey. Do you folks back home always get enough to eat? From the snatches I get at newspapers it seems as if everything is rationed.

Does our little shower still work good? It may seem sort of silly writing things like this, but I like to know how things are in our little home. I can see the whole place in my minds eye just as if I were right there. Do you use the bolt lock at nite? Boy, it will sure be nice when I come home, and we start living our domestic life again. The way things are going now I don't think it will be too long. How are our good neighbors? Are Skinny and V's still thinking of moving? We'll miss them if they do. Bill and Helen seemed like awfully nice folks too. I didn't have much chance to get acquainted with them.

I'm all run down again, honey so I'll quit. All my love, baby.  
Your own,  
Jack

[JACK P. BELL CORRESPONDENCE MARCH 1943 – APRIL 1943 #13]

[Page 1 – Envelope]

Pvt. J.P. Bell

Free

78th. Sig. Co. 78th. Div.

[[Image: Military post-mark

Camp Butner, N.C.

stamp, with print text

A.P.O. 78

“CAMP BUTNER / N.C”

encircling date:

“APR 11 / 3 PM / 194[3]”]]

Mrs. Jack Bell

345 W. River St.

Elyria, Ohio

[Page 2 – Letter]

[[Image: 78th Division insignia: red semicircle with a streak of lightning across it.

Situated above typed red text: “78<sup>TH</sup> DIVISION / CAMP BUTNER, NORTH CAROLINA”]]

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[Page 3 – Letter continued]

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[Page 4 – Letter continued]

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[[underscore]] Jack [[/underscore]]