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Jack P. Bell Second World War correspondence

CAWL Archives: Second World War

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4-26-1943

## 1943-04-26, Jack to Evabel

Jack P. Bell

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## Subject Terms

Jack P. Bell; Evabel Bell; April 26, 1943; World War, 1939 - 1945; World War II; World War Two; United States; War and Civilization – History – 20th Century; United States. Army; United States. Army. 78th Infantry Division; United States. Regimental histories 78th Signal Company; United States. Regimental histories 78th Infantry Division; Elyria (Ohio) – History – 20th Century; Women - History - 20th Century; Nineteen Forties; World War, 1939 – 1945 – Soldiers; World War, 1939 – 1945 – Women; Camp Butner (N.C.) - History - 20th Century; World War, 1939 – 1945 – Camp Butner (N.C.); Africa

## Keywords

April, 1943; 1943; United States; Camp Butner, N.C.; Elyria, Ohio; army; soldiers; troops; signal corps; correspondence; letterhead; postal service; wife; husband; women at home; women; love; romance; weather; spring weather; barracks; friendship; health and sickness; animals; quarantine; medical treatment; medicine; duty; leave; assignment; boredom; Africa; morale; landscapes; plants; radio; communications; examination; Morse code; infantry; job

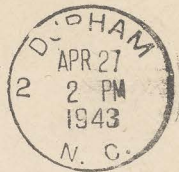
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Pvt. J. P. Bell  
78th. Sig. Co. A.P.O. 78  
Camp Butner, N.C.



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

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Camp Butner, NORTH CAROLINA

April 26, 1943

Darling Wife,

I'm writing you an outdoor letter this beautiful spring evening. That is, I'm sitting on the back porch of the barracks. It's sure swell out. I guess winter's over for sure now.

Mail call treated me good today. A letter from my baby this noon, and one from Sena tonite. So I think I'll get real ambitious, and answer Sena's tonite too. She writes a swell letter, and I thought it was very nice of her to write to me. All I sent was a post card.

you said you were going to do a little walking for reducing purposes. You aren't worrying about a little weight, are you darling? I told you the more there is of you, the more I'll have to love. I'll probably be a little heftier too when I come home. What's a little weight between lovers? Just so we both have good health. That's the most valuable possession anyone can have.

Sena told me about Shelly throwing Aunt Celia's dog down the stairs. He sure must be a rip-snorter. How is the dog now?

I'm really getting anxious for this quarantine to end, and hoping I don't get any more detail for a while after that so I can get a pass, and get off the post for a few hours. Everything is getting kind of stale and monotonous. I haven't been off the damn ball since the day the bus hauled me into Camp Perry six weeks ago today. I imagine Genevieve was pretty disappointed that I couldn't make it.

yesterday. Thirty three miles away, and it's going to take me two months to get there. I guess I ought to be ashamed of myself, squawking like this. The boys in Africa aren't getting any time off these days, and they're a heck of a lot further away from home than I am. Oh well, if I didn't gripe a little I'd be a poor soldier, so don't mind me.

We have mostly pine trees around here, but the few other kinds there are, are all leafed out. They just seemed to spring out the last few days.

Everything's going along pretty well in school these days. I took a test on a radio the other day, and got 90% on it. I could have made a 100, but I marked one of the ten answers wrong. I knew the correct answer, it was a yes or no <sup>question</sup>, but I got twisted up, and zigged when I should have zagged. (No excuses, Bell.) Well anyhow, -

I'm really swinging on code group no. 3. That's 1-2 and 3 all together. I'll know the whole alphabet by the end of the week. Maybe all the numbers too. That's funny stuff. You get a group all learned, then start the next with all those you've already learned thrown in. For a while you're all screwed up, and forget all those you've learned too. Then as you keep on listening, all of a sudden they start coming to you, and you have another batch learned. It's a darn sight better than infantry. They walk about twenty miles away, and don't get a chance to learn anything like this.

Sweetheart, I guess I've told you everything I know, but the most important which I've saved for last. I love you, dearest one. So long till tomorrow, all my love and millions of kisses,

Your own,  
Jack

[JACK P. BELL CORRESPONDENCE MARCH 1943 – APRIL 1943 #21]

[Page 1 – Envelope]

Pvt. J.P. Bell

[Free]

78th. Sig. Co. A.P.O. 78

Camp Butner, N.C.

[[Image: Military post-mark  
stamp, with print text  
“2 D[UR]HAM / N.C”  
encircling date:  
“APR 27 / 2 PM / 1943”]]

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

[Page 2 – Letter]

[[Image: Large, circled number “4”.]]

[[Image: Grayscale image of a group of soldiers fighting/training with jeeps, artillery, rifles.

Situated above text: “Camp Butner, NORTH CAROLINA”]]

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[Page 3 – Letter continued]

- 2 -

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