

Wednesday, July 4, 1945

Dear Joan,

I haven't been in the mood to write anybody the last few days, in fact I owe about 5.

This week end, a couple of us went to New Orleans. We sure had a lot of fun. Saturday evening we took in the French Quarter. It sure is full of atmosphere. It's just like Paris in a lot of ways. Most of it hasn't been changed in 150 years. That night we stayed in the Charity Hospital, which gives all its open beds to service men. I slept on an operating table. I wasn't sure whether I would wake up in one piece the next morning. It was big and soft though so I slept good. Sunday afternoon we went swimming in a big lake (which is really part of the Gulf) It started raining as soon as we got in. The water was real warm and felt good in the chilly rain. As soon as we got out the sun came out. That's the way it is down here, one doesn't know what will happen next. We had a fine time altogether.

I made a rough copy of that melody, but nobody could read it except myself. If I can get a hold of some music manuscripts I will make a good copy for you. I would like to get it copywrited, but don't know just how to go about it. I got inspiration the other morning and thought up another ditty. It was sad, but that's the way I felt. I just turned the radio on, and their playing "There I've said it again". I think that we wore that record out at the BlueBucket.

We still aren't training anyone and it doesn't look like we will. They had us all shipping to Texas the other day, but it was just a rumor. (I hope) Louisiana is bad enough without going to Texas. I am working on a close combat course now. It's a pretty good job, but it gets a little boring after a while.

Mother seems to be happy and feeling good. She is working hard now, and always feels good when she works. I'm just hoping and praying that everything will be all right by the time I get home again.

This letter probably sounds kind of silly. It's a wonder that I get more than 4 words in a sentence. Maybe it's the heat, I don't know. I'll try to do better next time.

I'll sign off for now and try to get some sleep. Give all your family my best wishes

Jack