

## Sgt. Walter Newman Writes From Germany

April 23, 1945.

Somewhere in Germany.

"In spite of the fact that I have had very little time for writing, I want you to know that I often think of you people back there in Tryon. As you probably know I am now somewhere in Germany and have been for quite some time. You probably know by the radio news and the newspaper headlines what we have been doing over here. For quite some time I was not allowed to tell what army I was with, but now I am allowed to do so. I have been with the First Army ever since I came to Europe. We helped straighten out the battle of the Bulge in the Ardeens Forest and push to the town of Bonn on the Rhine. We helped with the battle of the Ruhr and crossed the Rhine around the Nemagin bridge.

"We spearheaded the drive around Castle, Germany, and numerous others which I can not mention at present but, perhaps you have heard of some of the battles in news broadcasts. Perhaps a little later on I will be able to tell you more about them. I can only thank God that I am still alive and that is all I can say for now. We are now back for a rest period and this giving me an opportunity to write you. I had the first bath yesterday I had in seven weeks, so you can see what we have been through. There are numerous things I could mention but I will tell you about it all when I get home. We have freed thousands of G. I. soldiers (P.W. S.) and numbers of slave laborers and I never have seen so many happy people in all my life. In spite of the war side there are still beautiful scenes to look at here.

"The trees are blooming with their outburst of spring, giving out both fragrance and beauty. There are a lot of pretty girls; some waving happily and others looking at us with scorn. All the kids are looking at our tanks and are amazed at our night. We hit some towns so fast they were wondering where we came from. There

was one place where my platoon of men was guarding two thousand prisoners and there was one English speaking non-com in the bunch. I used him to give the orders I wished him to carry out. In the meantime he said to me, 'The war is going awfully fast isn't it?' I told him I didn't know, did he really think so? And he said, 'Well! You hit us with such surprise we didn't know you were near or where you came from.'

The Germans are fighting plenty hard though, and I have no idea when it will all be over. I hope all the many people I know there in Tryon are O. K. Give my best regards to every one and here's hoping it won't be too long before it will all be over.

Walter Newman.

P. S. Here are a couple of pieces of money for souvenirs. Hq. Co. 777th TK. Bn., Apo. 230, care P. M., New York, N. Y.

Mrs. G. E. Metcalf is a patient at St. Luke's hospital.

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