

Editors Note: Bubba is David E Denney (D) 824 Sq, the father of member Daniel L Denney who sent in these two wartime letters :

Italy  
Jan 2, 1945  
Dear Family:

It is snowy and rainy. Woke up this morning to find the ground frozen hard and just beginning to snow. It was 1/2 inches deep in just 30 minutes. It has been snowing on and off since then and the mud is back again.

Some snow still remains and the clouds are still up there, so may have more snow. Had a little football game a while ago out in the field in front of our tent. Went down to the line to get some gas for the stove. An Italian there told me this snow was the first in seven years.

The snow made a white blanket on the runway and on the ships. Last night was New Years and we had a big dinner of turkey and dressing, about the same as we had for Thanksgiving. Saw a show called "Adventure in Drag," but it wasn't very good.

Took some pictures today, but it will probably take a couple of months to get them developed. I drew a picture of me as I used to look when Conway snapped a picture of me, the face doesn't look like me though, thank goodness. I'm no good at drawing portraits. Sending a copy of a poem I wrote that was finished on Christmas Eve for the boys in the tent. One laid off drinking on Christmas day, so I am very satisfied.

Sent some money home by the government today, should be there in ten days to three weeks. The shoes you sent me feel better every day, I wear them most of all when I'm in the tent. If snow falls again tonight, I'm going rabbit hunting in the morning. I wonder if it's snowing at home, I would like to have been there with all the snow. I wrote you what was in the boxes I sent, that you received so I can check up on anything that is missing.

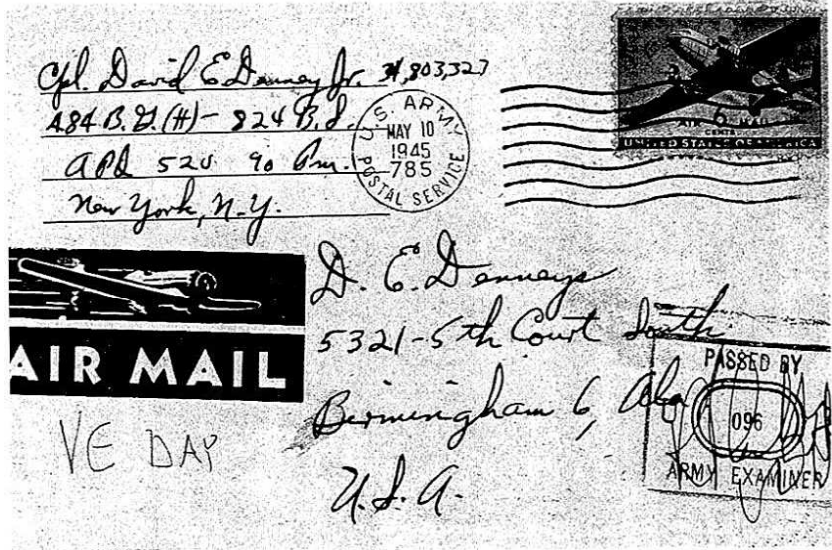
Much love to you all,  
Bubba

PS Received the Christmas card signed by Mom and Pop and the one signed Sis. They were the two most beautiful I have ever received and I like the inscriptions on each one. I have two of Charley's Santa Clauses pinned on my wall.

Italy  
May 7, 1945  
Dear family:

Today is VE day, the day we have been waiting for, almost 6 years now. I was in town when I heard the news. For everyone it hard to believe that the Germans had completely surrendered in Norway as well as the other hold outs.

The Colonel has just spoken to us, and only a few guys are drunk. Most of the fellows felt elated I know, but their hopes are for getting back to the states. The news broadcast of the BBC



gave some of the details of the surrender and also how the news was accepted in the various capitals of the allied nations. Write me all about what went on there.

We had a picture taken when in town today. Enclosing it. Got some good unusual Italian postage stamps at the local post office. Tried to get an accordion case today, but they wanted \$40.00 US. Boy! the prices now.

Got your letter of April 27 mom. Tell uncle Don hello for me. Hope to see you before long. Much Love

Bubba

Bud Markel  
Millville, NJ

Dear Bud:

After reading, "The End of World War Two" article by Jud Suddarth in the Fall- Winter issue of the "Torretta Flyer", I broke out my diskette that contains sort of an addendum to his interesting outline concerning memories by Grandpa, relating to the 827th Squadron.

Enclosed is the typed copy lifted off the diskette that might be of interest. Due to my previous inputs to the Flyer, some of it might be repetitious, but I couldn't edit it efficiently. Use it anyway you see fit. (Story on Page 19)

Did you and your staff make it to the B-24 "Liberator Celebration" that was held in San Diego, last December? Reference also to the November issue of the Air Classics magazine, page 4.

Best wishes,  
William L.(Bill) Hogan 827Sq

*Interesting Fact:*

Marge was the name of Richard Bong's P-38. He was the top scoring American Ace in WWII with 40 Victories.