

A.S.N. 31297715



Miss MARGARET Applegate  
R.R. 12, Box 120  
Indianapolis 46 IND.

P.F.C. LESTER BASSILL

TH

A.T. CO.

387 INF

APO

445

US ARMY

CAMP SWIFT

TEXAS

Received  
Monday, October 4, 1943

A. P. O. 445



COMPANY A.I.  
387th INF. REG.

Hello Margaret,

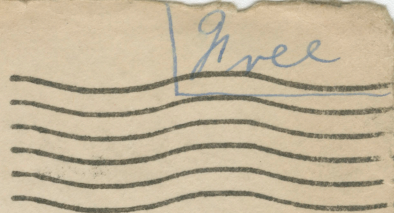
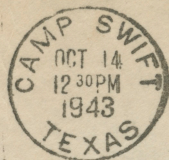
I dont know just what to say  
but Ill make a half hearted try.  
Jeff, thats what we all call him  
asked me to write to you. Im  
one feller in the Army thats writes  
very little and he said that you  
dont mix with fellers very much so  
that makes it kind of mutual (dont  
you think). When Jeff and I met seven  
months ago we seemed to have a  
lot in common and have been about  
the best of friends ever since.

This company were in is being all  
broke up and is about the most  
complicated affair you would want  
to see. The company is so small  
that we get about twice the work  
we are supposed to with all the  
men gone, thats why Ill be glad  
when the rest of us get are orders  
to move. As to myseff Im from  
Boston, Mass, free, white and 21.  
Im not much for writing letters so  
there isn't much I can add to  
this. Till I hear from you I  
think Ill say so long.

Waiting to hear from you

Les

A.S.N 31297715



MISS MARGARET APPLGATE

R.R. 12 Box 120

INDIANAPOLIS 44 INDIANA

P.F.C. LESTER BASSILL

AT. Co. 387 INF

A.P.O. 445 U.S. ARMY

CAMP SWIFT

TEXAS

Received  
Saturday, October 16, 1942



CAMP SWIFT, TEXAS

Oct 12, 1943

Dear Peggy,

I would have answered your letter sooner but I have been out on the field for a few days and when your out there you dont have much time for writing letters. Well how is everything ind Indianapolis? On my way home on furlough I passed through your fair city and from what I seen of it, it seemed to be a nice place to make your home. Peggy I think you have me mixed up with some one else because Im only 5'10" tall and have blond wavy hair, blue eyes and

a lot of people tell me I resemble Robert Taylor a little. (I'm not bragging but just using other peoples opinion). Before I come into the service I was a ship-fitter at the Boston Navy Yard, and am a great fellow for sports especidly hockey and baseball. I never was much for playing music but make a great listener for waltzes. I really think you would like New-England because of its beautiful countryside, lakes and mountains, I know all people that come to that part the country really enjoy it. Before I forget Peggy dont answer this letter because we are moving out to Louisiana soon and your letter wouldn't get to me. Till you hear from me again so long and lots of luck in your education. Les,

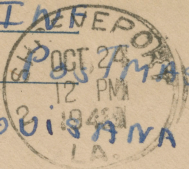


FROM P.F.C. LESTER BASSILL 31297715

A.T. Co. 387 THEVEPORT

A.P.O. 445 c/o POSTMASTER

SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA



Miss MARGARET APPLE GATE

R.R. 12, Box 120

INDIANAPOLIS 44

INDIANA



Received  
Tuesday October 26, 1943



Oct. 23, 1943

Dear Peggy,

I'm finally getting around  
to writing a letter after that  
trip here to Louisiana. I'm writing  
this in my tent out in the woods.  
(by candle light) We had a lot  
of fun coming here though, they  
picked 35 men and placed them  
in towns all the way from Camp  
Swift to where we are now and  
I was one of them. We had to  
stay and guide the convoy when  
it came through, the people

**IDLE GOSSIP SINKS SHIPS**

we pretty nice though they brought me food and drinks while I was waiting. This is a nice state, the weather here is hot in the day and very cold at night. Peggy I know we haven't been writing to each other very long but would you send me a picture of yourself I would like one very much.

Jeff didn't come down by truck he and a few others came by train, he is sleeping in the next tent to mine. Being as it is getting dark and I have no light I think I'll close. Waiting to hear from you. So long  
Les

P.F.C. LESTER BASSILL 31297715

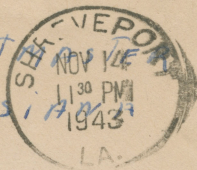
A.T. Co. 387 INF

APO 445

c/o POST

SHREVEPORT

LOUISIANA



Miss MARGARET AppleGATE

RR. 12 Box 120

Indianapolis 44 INDIANA

Received  
Tuesday Nov. 16, 1943



Nov 12, 1943

Dear Peggy,

We are having a break in our maneuvers so I thought I'd drop you a line while I had a chance. I was wondering what happened to you when I didn't hear from you, but I suppose all those studies and practicing for that play does just about take up all your time. Yes I can just about

**IDLE GOSSIP SINKS SHIPS**







2

picture you from what you write and what Jeff has told me of you. I wouldn't call you so little in comparison with me because I'm only 5'10" myself. I'm glad to hear that you spent your holiday having fun because where I am at holidays are just a routine day. After this war is over I promised to go home with Jeff and meet all his folks so when and if I do I would like to meet

**IDLE GOSSIP SINKS SHIPS**





(3)

you while I am there, if you  
wouldn't mind. We have been  
having some pretty cold nights  
down here and to make it  
all the more miserable we have  
to stand a lot of guard at  
night. Well Peggy I think I  
will have to close for now  
for I have to take over a tel-  
ephone operators job for the rest  
of the night. So long and waiting  
to hear from you.

Your friend

Les

**IDLE GOSSIP SINKS SHIPS**

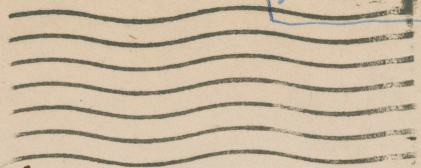
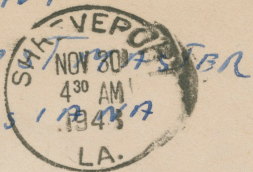


P.F.C LESTER BASSILL 31297715

A.T. Co 387 INA

APO445 %000

SHNEVAPORT Louis 1947



Free

Miss MARGARET APPLE GATE

R.R. 12, Box 120

INDIANAPOLIS 44 IND.

Received  
December 21, 1943



Nov. 28, 1943

Dear Peggy,

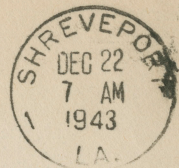
I'm sorry I haven't written you but I've been so busy I haven't had a chance to turn around. Well I spent my thanksgiving almost as good as if I had been home, we had turkey and about everything that went along with it. Thanks an awful for that candy that you sent me it was awfully nice of you to send it to me.

**IDLE GOSSIP SINKS SHIPS**

I'll try to in the near future  
return that gift to you. From  
that picture that you sent me  
I would say you a nice looking  
girl and hope to get around to  
meeting you personally. (I hope) As  
soon as I get into Garrison which  
is very shortly I'm going to have  
some pictures taken then I'll  
send you one, then you can scare  
all the children around your  
home to bed. The weather down  
here is getting almost so you can't  
stand it, cold and wet. We are  
going out on another problem in  
about an hour, so I'll have to cut  
this short, but will write you  
very soon.  
Your friend  
Les.



P.E.C. LESTER Bass. 11 31297710  
A.T. CO. 387 INE  
APO 445 %POSTMASTER  
SHREVEPORT LOUISIANA



Miss MARGARETTE APPLEGATE  
R.R. 12 Box 120  
INDIANAPOLIS 44 INDIANA

Received  
December 27, 1911



MERRY CHRISTMAS

and

HAPPY NEW YEAR



from the field

Merry Xmas

Peggy



802

P.F.C. LESTER BASSLI  
A.T. Co 387 INF  
APO 445 US. ARMY  
FORT LEONARD WOOD  
MISSOURI



FREE

MISS MARGARETTE APPELGATE

R.R. 12 BOX 120

7604 PENDLETON PIKE  
INDIANAPOLIS 44 INDIANA

Received  
March 21, 1944

MARCH 19, 1944

Dear Peggy,

I hello and how have you been. Please let me apologize for not writing because there are times when I get into a mood that I just cant write letters and Im just getting out of that mood now, Ive been like that all of my life, I just got back of furlough and I never spent a better few days of my life than when I was home. I dont know whether you have seen the ice gollies or





(2)

not but sometime if it should stop in Indianapolis you should go an see it because its about the best thing there is when it comes to ice skating.

I went and seen while I was home and they put on quite a show. As soon as came back of of fur-lough they went on a 25 mile hike and it pretty near knocked me out because I didnt get much sleep while I was home. Right now there is a nice snow storm in progress outside and Id like to see it



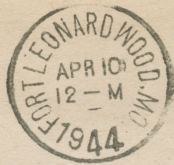
(3)

pile up nice and high  
because it takes me  
back home when I used  
to have fun in it. How  
are you getting along in  
your schooling and how  
is that basketball team  
doing? Well Peggy its  
just about time to close  
so I'll say long.

As Ever  
Lester



PFC. LESTER BASSILL  
AT. Co. 387 INF  
APO 445 U.S. ARMY  
FORT LEONARD WOOD  
MISSOURI



Miss MARGARETTE AppleGATE  
R.R. 12 Box 120  
7604 PENDELTON Pike  
Indianapolis 44 Ind.



Received  
April 11, 1944

April 9, 1944

Dear Peggy,

Hello and how have you been, okay I hope. Those pictures you sent me of yourself were real nice thanks alot. And talking about pictures I went into town the other night and had some taken its not the best picture I can take but Im sending you one anyhow and





(2)

when I have some better ones taken I'll send you one of those okay. And Peggy I want to thank you and afe awful lot for that candy you sent me its was delicious. Thanks an million. The weather here of late has been like June its been nice and warm and sunny.

Well Peg I think I'll close and wait to hear from you Good bye  
As Ever  
Les

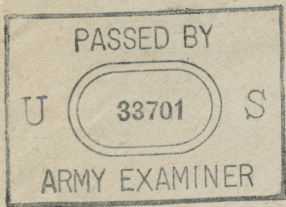
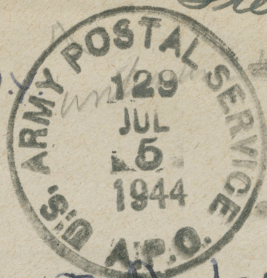


PFC LESTER Bassill  
*Pfc. Lester Bassill*  
A.S.N. 31297215

INF Co. B APO 15309

1/2 POSTMASTER N.Y. N.Y.

~~FIVE~~  
Free



Miss MARGARET APPEGATE

R.R. 12 Box 120

INDIANAPOLIS IND.

*Robert W. [unclear]*  
1st Lt 1944

Received

July  
18, 1944

SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND

JUNE 25, 1944

Dear Peggy,

Hello and how have you been all this time. I want to apologize for not writing to you but I have been on the move since the last time I wrote to you that I haven't had time to write. Yes Peggy I didn't like leaving Jeff but that's the Army for you here one minute and gone



the next. But when its  
all over and I come out  
of it okay, Ill be over  
that way to see all of you.  
When I first got here I  
had trouble with the  
English money but have  
got it all figured out  
now. And another thing  
over here is the day -  
light situation it doesn't  
get dark till about mid-  
night over here and that  
is another thing I had  
to get used to. Oh by





the way how did you come  
out on that Civil Service  
test that you were sup-  
posed to take? No Peggy  
I haven't heard from Ed since  
I left the states, I went  
to the same place he did  
on the Eastern coast and  
went home on pass a couple  
of times. You asked about  
my birthday well Peggy it  
is on Dec. 5, I'm getting  
older every day. Well Peggy  
it's about time to close so  
I'll say so long.

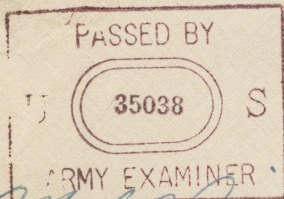
Loads of Love  
Lee.

the way has been  
out on that but  
- that you were  
- passed to the  
I haven't heard from  
I left the station  
to the same place  
on the Eastern coast  
went for a year or  
of time for which  
my father will pay  
in a few days  
which will pay  
to about time to  
all my work  
back of four

AFC LESTER BASSILL  
HQ Co 2nd BN 329 IZ  
APO 83 6/PM NY, NY.



MISS MARGARET APPELEGATE  
R.R. 12, BOX 120  
IND 44 INDIANA



*M. H. [Signature]*

Received

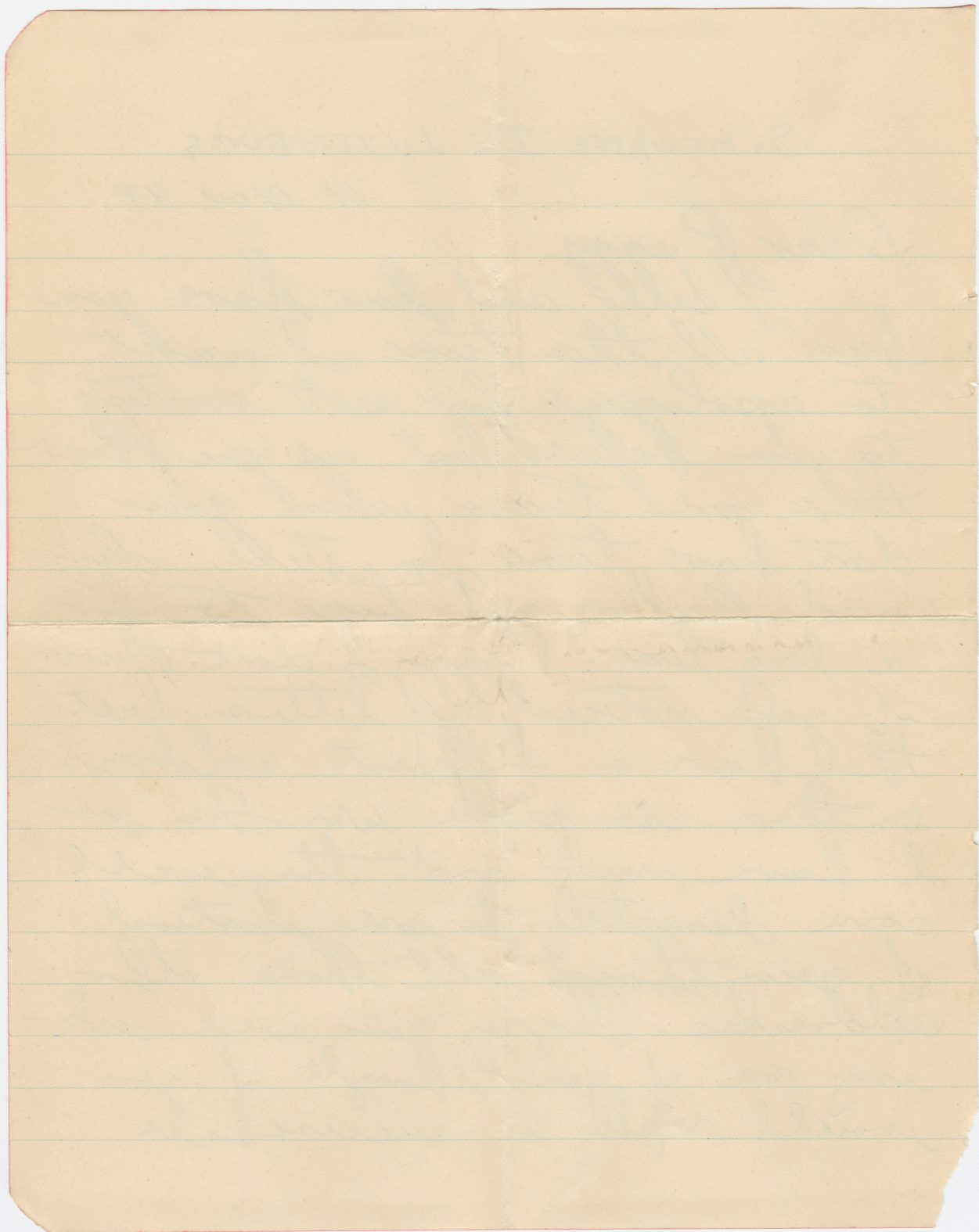
December 6, 1944

SOMEWHERE IN LUXEMBURG

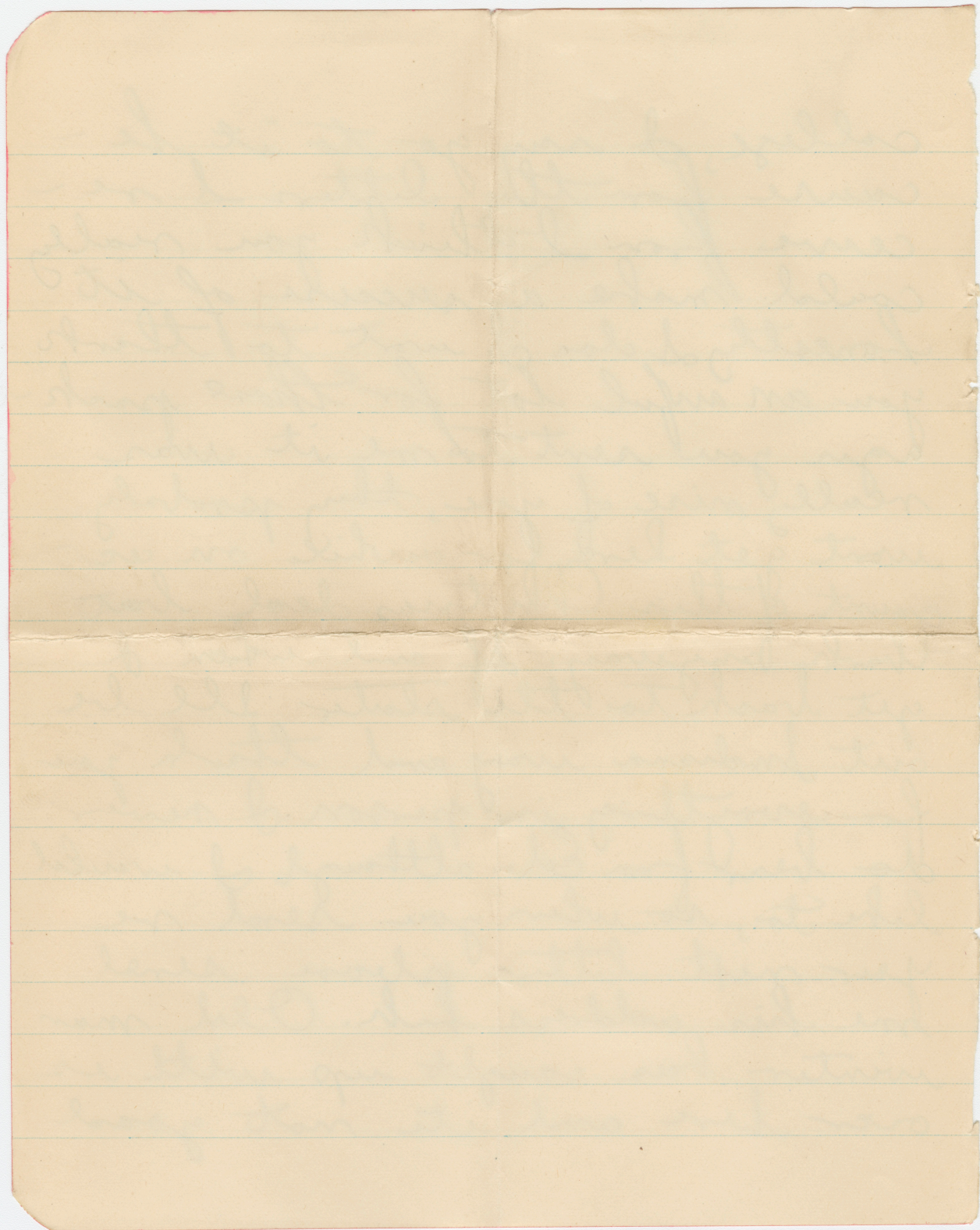
11 NOV 44

Dear Peggy

I hello and how have you been all this time. I want to apologize for not writing to you before but as you know there are times when you dont have time. Im still alive and kicking and hope to for a long time. Peggy I dont know if you noticed my letters but they have a different address on them so please use the one I have now and they will come directly to me instead of going through all those other addresses. Peggy you were asking me if you thought if you would make a success in



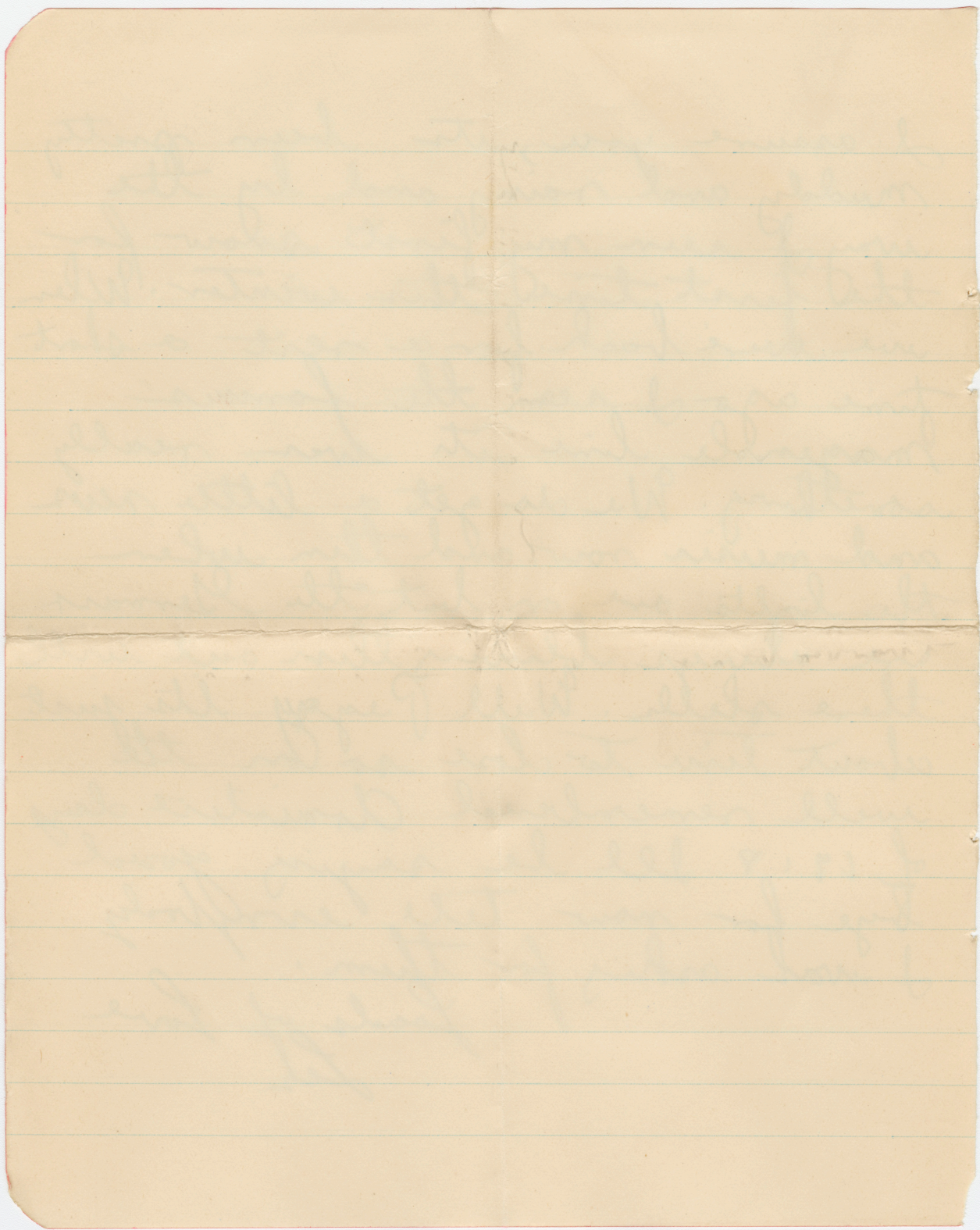
college, I may go to it be-  
cause from the letters I re-  
ceive from I think you really  
could make a success of it  
honestly I don't want to thank  
you an awful lot for those pack-  
ages you sent to me it was  
really nice of you, they probably  
won't get here for awhile on ac-  
count of this Christmas deal but  
thereby anyway. If and when I  
get back to the states I'll be  
out Indiana way and thank you  
for everything in person. I never  
do hear from Ed. although I would  
like to, so when you send me  
your next letter please send  
me his address huh. Old man  
winter has caught up with us  
over here and its not good



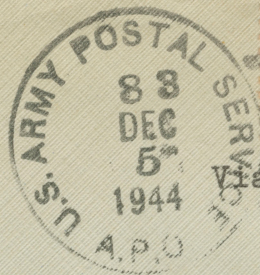


I assure you, its been pretty  
muddy and rainy and by the  
way I seen my first snow for  
the first time this winter. When  
we were back for a rest a short  
time ago I seen the famous  
Imagendle line its was really  
something. We do get a little news  
and music now and then when  
the lights are on but the Germans  
are always blowing them out with  
their shells. Well Peggy its just  
about time to close so on the  
well remembered Armistice day  
of 1918 Ill be saying good  
bye for now tell everybody  
I was asking for them.

Loads of love  
Les

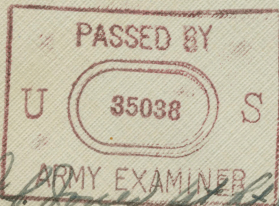


Pfc. Lester Bassill 31297715  
Hq. Co. 2nd Bn. 329th Inf.  
A.P.O. 83 c/o Postmaster  
New York, New York.



Via Air Mail

Miss Margarett Applegate  
R.R. 12 Box 120  
Indianapolis, Indiana.



*[Handwritten signature]*

Received  
December 19, 1944

SOMEWHERE IN LUXEMBOURG

SUNDAY 3 DEC 44

Dear Peggy,

Hello and here I am after a short relapse how have you been all this time fine I hope. I'm in the best of health and hope to stay that way till this thing is over.

By the way how did you enjoy your Thanksgiving dinner. For combat troops we really had a nice dinner, right from the turkey on down and even ate in a building. But I hope

by next year at this time I can  
be back in the states and have  
it the old New England style.  
Do you ever hear from Jeff if  
you do tell him to write to  
me because I'd like to hear  
from him. The weather here has  
been pretty bad of late all it  
seems to want to do is rain.  
You mentioned you wanted some  
coins well I'll do my best to  
send some to you, I have the coins  
but you don't have much chance to  
send them. Well Peggy its just  
about time to close so I'll say  
long. Tell everybody hello for me  
will you.  
always  
Tex.

PRC LESTER BASSILL 31297715  
HQ Co 2nd BN 329 I  
APO 83 40 PM N.Y. N.Y.

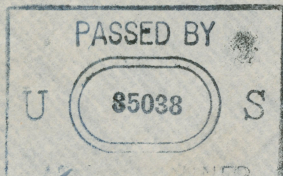


TO GET A LETTER WRITE A LETTER VIA AIR MAIL

Miss MARGARETE APPLEGATE

R.R. 12 Box 120

INDIANAPOLIS IND.



*Webster Center*

Received  
Feb. 10, 1945



SOMEWHERE IN BELGIUM

JAN 23 1945

Dear Peggy,

I am writing to apologize for not writing for such a long time but I wasn't in much a position to do any writing as we were in the forest here in Belgium and we were lived in foxholes with plenty of snow and cold weather so you see my chance of writing weren't very good. By the way I want to thank you an awful lot for that lovely box you sent me for Christmas, and talking of Christmas how did you spend yours pray I hope. Have you heard from Jeff lately and if you have how is he, I've wrote him

20 MEWREVE IN BELGIUM

JAN 23 1842

Dear Papa,

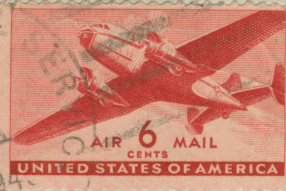
I am writing to apologise for not  
 writing for such a long time but I  
 mean, it is much - positive to be out  
 in the winter in the forest here  
 in Belgium and we were here in  
 fact with plenty of snow and  
 cold weather as you see my choice  
 of winter means to my good. Of  
 the more I want to thank you  
 for that lovely hat for Christmas  
 and for best of all for Christmas  
 talking of Christmas how did you  
 spend your days of love. I have for  
 heard for long lately and if you  
 have been in it, I will write him

a couple of times but have re-  
ceived no answer, I sure would  
like to hear from him as we were  
always the best of friends when we  
were together. I has Ed ever told  
you where he is yet if so let  
me know will you. As soon as  
I get a chance I'll send you those  
coins you asked for because I  
<sup>have</sup> a great number of them now as  
I've went from country to country over  
here. Well Peggy I think I'll  
close for now as I've just about  
run out of words. Good bye for  
now, tell everybody I was asking  
for them.

As Ever  
Liza

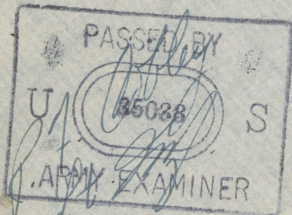
- on each the point of a couple of  
blows and b, several on lower  
side to hear from him or we were  
always the best of friends when we  
were together. P. Bar Cal our table  
tell us if you are in yet if so let  
us know will you. We have so  
I get a house all real your that  
I cannot for because I  
a great number of them know us  
but next four coming to another one  
here. Well I enjoy to think all  
last for now or the first about  
of you had. Above of the new  
just now I probably I was  
for them. with you  
as  
the

PFC LESTER BASSILL 31297715  
HQ Co 2nd BN 329 I  
APO 83 70 PM N.Y. N.Y.



MISS MARGARETTE APPEGATE  
R.R. 12 BOX 120

INDIANAPOLIS 44 IND  
U.S.A.



Received  
1/22/1945

SOMEWHERE IN BELGIUM

FEB 12 1945

Dear Peggy

Just a few short lines to let you know I'm still okay and doing pretty good. I just came back from seeing the movie "Marie goes to Reno" have you seen it? We are in a rest area that is why we are able to see the movies. Now I haven't seen heard from Ed in a long time but sure would like to get a letter from him. The weather has kind of been in our favor except a little rain. Yes Peggy I hope to get back safe and sound to because I'm looking forward to that meeting in Indianapolis. Well Peggy I'm going on guard in a few minutes so I'll close for now.  
As Ever  
God bye.  
Les

20 MEMBERS IN BELGIUM

FEB 12 1945

Dear Peggy

Just a few short lines to let you  
 know the state of my mind and how  
 good I just came back from being  
 the movie "Passions" for the "New" hour  
 you see it? We are in a great  
 area that is why we are able to  
 see the movies. You know, I see  
 heard from Ed in a long time but  
 sure would like to get a letter from  
 him. The weather has kind of been  
 in our favor except a little rain  
 after I stopped hope to get back safe  
 and sound to because the looking  
 forward to that meeting in Amsterdam.  
 Well I hope in your or grand in a  
 few minutes as all best for now  
 the