

May 22, 1993  
9559 W Menadota Dr.  
Peoria, Az 85382

Dear Pete:

I'm sure that you will recall our conversation about your "LIFE IN STALAG IX B" and the notes that I recorded in my pay book and on Kraut paper from the Stalag. You suggested that when I get those notes transcribed, I send you a copy so that information can be compared.

I just did get this work finished. It took a pair of jewelers glasses to make out what I wrote with the purple German pencils we had. In any event I am attaching a print of those notes. I really couldn't believe that the small batch of fine print notes would take twelve pages.

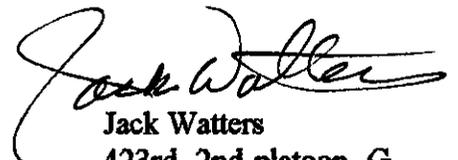
Also Pete, we talked about the ship we returned on. I recorded it as the *SS RICHARDSON*. You listed another vessel. You have probably read the recent issue of the *CUB*, but if not, I'm enclosing a copy of John Vezinas' letter that Kline reprinted. In it he notes he was on the first ship back from Lucky Strike arriving in the States April 28 on the *USS GENERAL RICHARDSON*. As you will note this is the same date and vessel that I recorded and I remember that we were the first ship load of POW to hit the States from Germany.

I also have probably 15 or 20 pages, when transcribed, of crazy recipes and things to eat that we recorded, as well as things each of us were going to exchange when we were freed. Maple syrup, pecans, candy bars, etc, etc. Some day I'll get that typed.

Dot and I did have a great experience in Tampa thanks to El, you and all the folks that put the reunion together. It helped fill in a lot of blanks and confirm vague recollections. I remembered that while in the box cars being bombed we were well off the ground but didn't really know how high we were till we saw such a car again at the dedication.

Thank you again and I hope this information is of value to you.

Sincerely,



Jack Watters  
423rd, 2nd platoon, G  
company

A TRANSCRIPT OF NOTES TAKEN  
IN STALAG IX B BAD ORB GERMANY  
DEC. 11, 1944 THROUGH APRIL 27, 1945  
BY  
PFC J H WATTERS ASN 15313223, POW N 26489

NOTE: See photo copy of calendar made on Soldier's Individual Pay Record attached.

- December 11, 1944 Arrived Born , Belgium after trucking across France from near Cheltenham, England. My unit shipped from Camp Miles Standish, Mass. about October 12, 1944 on the *QUEEN ELIZABETH*.
- December 16, 1944 Our unit, G Company, 2 platoon, 423 Regiment of the 106 th Division moved from reserve to the front as point. ( This is the day the German offensive named the BATTLE OF THE BULGE started. )
- December 17, 1944 With drew, dug in. Lots of snow on ground. We could see Krauts across an open field. There was much confusion and movement.
- December 18, 1944 We attack. Marched to woods at night. Walked off and on most of night No idea from where to where. Lots of 88 fire on hill.
- December 19, 1944 Attach, Morning in forest when 88 barrage with resulting tree burst begin. Many killed and wounded. Late in afternoon ordered to disable weapons and equipment. We were surrendered by Battalion commander at 14:10. We were turned over to the Germans and hiked to Bleialf where we were put in a church for the night.
- December 20, 1944 Hiked 40 KM to Gerolstein, Germany. No food. Broke ranks and pulled turnips from a field, didn't get shot. Several hundred of us were put in a large old, cold building after standing in a long line for a very long time. Nothing at the end of the line.
- December 21, 1944 1/2 loaf black bread and 1/4 can cheese. Found Jim Jones in the building. We stayed together.
- December 22, 1944 Got rations for what was to be the train trip. 1/2 loaf of black bread and 1/4 can of cheese. I trained out with Jim and 422 th H Company not knowing that 423, G went on another train to another Stalag.
- December 22 - 25 Moving on trains. No sanitation facilities, Floor of box car ( 40 & 8 ) about 4 feet above tracks. About sixty men in a car. Sky cleared on Christmas day and air force was out. Got strafed and bombed several times. From cracks in the car you could see the engine take off and guards running for the woods. We stayed in the car and prayed. Jim read the Twenty Third Psalm from his Bible. On the train we were given 1/6 loaf black bread and 1/6 can of meat to last for the whole trip.
- December 26, 1944 Arrived Bad Orb, Germany, Stalag IX B. for three meals a day, we thought.

At this point there are no entries until January 1, 1945. However, I do remember that we were placed in a white building at a low level in the compound. There were no beds or bunks. Each man found a spot on the floor where he could lay down. The only sanitation facilities was a barrel located at the inside entrance of the building. By this

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time dysentery had set in on most of us. This necessitated many trips , walking over people in the dark, to the barrel or honey bucket as it was later named. Many of the guys didn't make it in time and you could hear the groans and cussing in the dark. During this period December 26 to January 1, we were fed from the Russian kitchen and it was awful. It helped us lose weight quickly. Our pictures were taken , at least we stood in front of a camera and we were given a POW number. I felt better knowing that now there was a record of me here.

As near as I can recall, we were kept in that building about two or three day and then were moved to Building 43. This building had bunks three high, two wide and two long with a narrow isle between each set and a wide walk way in the center of the building. Jim and I were bunk mates, we doubled up to keep warm. The straw mattress didn't help much. Our two blankets and clothes kept us reasonably warm through the night. The positioning of these bunks was important as Jim and I found out the night of February 8, 1945. While the sanitation facilities were the same as those in the white building, now at least people were off of the floor and those who had to use the bucket at night could get there. During the day we made natures calls at a large open pit not far from #43 building. The Krauts provided a pole scaffold to sit on. If it broke, look out! Now back to the book:

January 1, 1945	Signed Red Cross Card.
January 2, 1945	Deloused, shower, first in twenty days. No soap.
January 4, 1945	G I's bad. May get to write letter.
January 5, 1945	Wrote letter. ( This letter was received by my folks many weeks later. It was the first news they had heard since the missing in action telegram)
January 6, 1945	G I's better.
January 7, 1945	Church in barracks, Good soup. Cold weather. News sounds good.
January 9, 1945	Wrote post card.
January 10, 1945	Good soup. G I's better. News good. Made menus.
January 11, 1945	Washed and shaved. ( The morning ersatz coffee had sugar one day and nothing the next day. When it had sugar we drank it and we washed in it when there was no sugar)
January 12, 1945	AMERICAN KITCHEN! Jam with bread. ( When we arrived, the Russians ran the kitchen. This was the day we took it over)
January 13, 1945	Good soup. Jam.
January 14, 1945	News reports very good. Meat in soup!

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- January 16, 1945 Wrote post card. News very good.
- January 17, 1945 Good soup, jam. News good.
- January 18, 1945 Wonderful day. Very thick gruel made of potatoes, 730 gm oats, meat with bread. GOOD! Brass hats visit camp. Rumor of Red Cross boxes.
- January 19, 1945 Good peas w/ carrots soup. No news. "Radio broken"
- January 20, 1945 No news. Thin pea soup. Good cheese with bread.
- January 21, 1945 Wonderful sermon, "Why do ye fear ye men of little faith". Good oats soup, liver sausage.
- January 22, 1945 No fuel all day. Sad 20 month anniversary. News good but old.
- January 23, 1945 Treatment for trench mouth. Light case. (It was through this French dental office that I later traded my watch.)
- January 24, 1945 Red Cross Inspectors, very thick pea soup, extra wood. Wrote post card. Not much news.
- January 25, 1945 New barracks. Traded watch for three packs Chesterfields. Sold 3 1/2 cigarettes for 1000 Francs. ( This entry puzzles me. I only remember moving once, from the white building to #43)
- January 26, 1945 News fair. Thick carrot soup. Lots of jam. Traded a cigarette for a pot of boiled potatoes, bread and butter.
- January 27, 1945 Sugar in the tea. News seems good. Heard Russians were 60 miles from Berlin.
- January 28, 1945 Very eventful day. 9:00 AM unlocked us and got everybody out. All American prisoners lined up in area and surrounded with guards, burp guns, potato masher grenades. Told that two Americans broke into kitchen between 6:45 and 7:17 ( AM or PM not noted) to steal food. Found by inspecting NCO, (German). One prisoner struck the NCO on the head 9 times with a hand ax. Until they were found, no food or fuel for us. After a long time in

the cold, we went back in the barracks, had a count, and locked us in. Around 3:00 PM rumor that the cooks were in the kitchen and they knew what barracks the men were from. Five in the afternoon the guards unlocked the door and Cosner said two men had given themselves up from #42, and we would get all the chow due us and fuel. Everyone happy. Lots of wood, full ration bread, butter and ration liver pudding. 1/2 liter thick oats soup w/ potatoes at 6:30. Made POW stew, meat sandwich. Traded cigarette for 2 rations meat. Ate more bread and meat. Saved some for the 29 th. Very full stomach, contented. B M. Heard Russians 90 miles from Berlin.

- January 29, 1945 Church service. Rumors of Red Cross Boxes. Good soup.
- January 30, 1945 Wrote letter. Good soup.
- January 31, 1945 Wrote Post card. Definitely heard of Red Cross Boxes.
- February 1, 1945 No news is good news. Shaved, showered. Some of the boys got R C Boxes. Good oats soup w/ potatoes
- February 2, 1945 Got our boxes. What a feast. Cheese, spam, chicken loaf, real butter, graham crackers, strawberry preserves, Camel Cigarettes, powdered milk, coffee, sugar, soap, 2 D rations. It was just like Christmas. No news reports at all. Four men to a box and on the 3 rd I still have some left. Meat & vegetable stew. 2 bombs landed close to here, shook everything.
- February 4, 1945 Church service in afternoon. Learned that big three was meeting. Thick oats soup, meat and bread.
- February 5, 1945 Rotten night. Felt like flue coming on. Got medicine. Rumor on R C Boxes the 10 th. News admits retreat on American front. Heard Russians shelling Berlin. Heard they were going to move us out. 400 going to IX C tomorrow. Pray we shall make a safe journey.
- February 6, 1945 Wrote post card. Heard something good was coming Sunday. The Air Corp came over just after chow in a dog fight. The 50's don't stop. Three of our boys were killed & eleven wounded with stray bullets.

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- February 8, 1945 Some one stole 1 1/2 packs of our cigarettes during the night. This was Jim's and my money!
- February 10, 1945 Bought 10 cigarettes for 1000 Francs. News sounds of big push. Bought a big pail of very thick pea soup from Kelly for two cigarettes. Added potatoes and bread. Split with Jim
- February 11, 1945 Snowed. Funeral for the five men that were killed and died from the strafing. Rumor of R C Boxes. No news. One cigarette & 150 Francs bought 1/2 ration thick soup with piece of meat. Rumor that Pattons in Frankfurt.
- February 12, 1945 Rumor that they may cut our rations. We all pray that it is false.
- February 13, 1945 Wrote letter & card. Bought five camels with my last 500 Francs. Bought 4 cigarettes for 500 Francs yesterday. Jim and I have ten cigarettes. Saved soup again for night. B M
- February 14, 1945 Today tells the tale on our bet. I pray that I shall lose.
- February 15, 1945 Won my bet but not happy about it. Jim bet we would be liberated by February 14. We smoked four cigarettes last night. Only two left. Hope my feeling that it will be over soon is right. Rumor of gigantic Russian push but no news of it. I think news held up for psychological reasons. Barracks leader brought news of our post war plans in this camp. All in all morale is very high and news ties in well.
- February 16, 1945 Very thin pea soup. No news. Jim and I smoked our last cigarette. Traded my extra sweater for 6 Elegant cigarettes. Happy day.
- February 17, 1945 Official news of American big push. Beautiful spring day out. Large ration of bread with good cheese soup I saved. Was best yet.
- February 18, 1945 Wonderful sermon on living as free men & under the laws of God. Choir was good. Meat at night.
- February 19, 1945 Went to Rec hall and played good ol' game of Monopoly. "Just like home". Good thick pea soup, no news. Jam. Rumor that 400 POWs on their way here from another camp. Woe is me. Out of cigarettes again. Jim is going to trade his pen. Saw ground flares last night. BM. ( At the recent POW reunion learned that the hospital had games, among them Monopoly. This answered a puzzling question of many years. Where did it come from?)

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- February 20, 1945      Delicious thick potato soup that made wonderful POW stew. Jim traded his pen for 15 American cigarettes. We smoke again.
- February 21, 1945      Pea soup, big ration bread, five men to a loaf. Jam. News sounds very, very good and encouraging. B-17 s passed over at noon for over an hour. Pea soup was very good and thick. We are all in pretty high spirits.
- February 22, 1945      Very good barley and potato soup. I got lots of potatoes. News continues to sound good. We all think it can't last many more days. Dive bombed and strafed Bad Orb.
- February 23, 1945      Beautiful spring day. No news is good news. 75 gm jam tonight but will trade 1/3 bread for a big potato and save jam for big bread ration tomorrow. Made the trade. Soup was good. Got piece of meat & big hunk of gristle. Strafed and bombed Bad Orb.
- February 24, 1945      Barley & potato, no meat. Official German news of American big push. Banquet of two baked spuds, one ration jam, one ration cheese one can POW stew, 1/2 ration bread plus two cigarettes. Full and happy.
- February 25, 1945      New choir gave program at church. Very good beautiful day out. Chaplain prayed for R C Boxes. Hope it means something. Shared pea soup, was good. Meat w/ bread. Big push seems to be going.
- February 26, 1945      Wrote letter and post card.
- February 27, 1945      Worked wood detail. Hard morning. A little afraid we would get shot or beat up. Easier afternoon with different guard. Food seconds were delicious. Barley soup. 200 POWs are arriving here each night. E Ms coming from a camp close to the front.
- February 28, 1945      All Western front pushing. Sounds wonderful. we eat at noon by squads.
- March 1, 1945          Russians still advancing. American front ablaze and on the go. More men came in. Told of terrible conditions. Seven to eight men died a day. One latrine for 7000 men. They buried a man that weighed 40 pounds.

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- March 2, 1945 Bomb dropped close by last night. News of six Russian and five American Divisions attack. Turkey and Egypt at war with Germany.
- March 3, 1945 Snowed, suppose to be good news. 9th Army across the Rhine five miles from Cologne. 3rd Army driving up.
- March 4, 1945 Still snowing. Three funerals for men that came in. Chaplain talked on keeping the vows that we made to God when we get back. Dentist sang Lullaby, beautiful. Heard French under ground rumor of Roosevelt's speech of the power of our armies and April 1 st rumor that 3 armies are across the Rhine.
- March 5, 1945 No news. No more salt. BM. Rumor that the 106th back on the line. Heard 400 men who left here were liberated.
- March 6, 1945 Deloused, wrote post card. News, moving Panzer Divisions from Western front to Eastern front. Paper changes attitude toward Americans.
- March 7, 1945 News continues good. Snow and cold. Extra bread. Another funeral. Get butter or jam but not both.
- March 8, 1945 Russians going like mad. Americans in Cologne. Moved into 42 A to make room for Russians that are to be deloused. Good soup with a piece of liver. Called the move off. Two cases of spinal meningitis show up. I pray to God it won't spread.
- March 9, 1945 Rumor Patton across the Rhine. News that Allies massed all along the Rhine river.
- March 10, 1945 Another death. Hear it was spinal meningitis. Don't know. Only one man died of S M. The other was a brain tumor.
- March 11, 1945 500 British troopers came in from Upper Silesia near Brestlau. Been hiking 31 days on 1/4 loaf of bread a day. They moved out on a Thursday and Russians moved in on Sunday. Say roads are jammed with POWs and slave labor. 80 killed and 120 wounded by strafing. Rumor Allies across the Rhine.
- March 12, 1945 Wonderful day. Started by washing and shower. Then Duke said

that R C Boxes were in Bad Orb. Then news that Russians are pushing again and we have three Rhine crossings. Rumor has it that everything is across finally. Cut to 250 gm bread and 20 boxes potatoes in the soup. Artillery fire close last night. Really took a cut in the food. Soup 300 gm potatoes, 35 gm grits, 28 gm meat, 250 gm bread, 15 gm butter and 6 gm sugar in the tea. Turned in extra blanket. Street fighting in Frankfort. BM

- March 13, 1945 News is the usual German crap. R C Boxes not up yet but should be soon. Heard artillery all night last night.
- March 14, 1945 Artillery all night. Get R C Boxes this afternoon. Three men to a box. News is usual German stuff. Very beautiful spring day. Makes me really think of home. Got the box. Better than the first. Cheese, butter, corn beef, two cans sardines, meat vegetable stew, chicken loaf, salt & pepper, vitamin pills, prunes, cigarettes, chocolate mix for drinks, sugar milk, crackers. Didn't sleep hardly any. Just sat up, ate, sang and talked. Also jam.
- March 15, 1945 One of the happiest days I have ever known here. It is one of those beautiful, Alabama sun bathed days. Four of us ate chow out side ala picnic. The soup was very, very thick with potatoes and six pieces of meat. We put lots of pepper and salt in the soup, ate that then mashed the spuds with lots of good R C butter and more salt and pepper. actually ate it with a fork. Now I'm writing listening to the choir sing in beautiful harmony with a cigarette. Everyone has a flighty happy feeling. The rumbling is sounding very close. Air activity about noon. News says bridge head widening. Can't get over wonderful day. Praise the Lord. Supper menu for tonight: Sardines, corn beef, cheese sandwich, meat & veg stew. Hot chocolate milk and cigarettes. Haze all over the place. May be smoke I hope. Band swinging out on Sweet Sue and Sheik of Araby. How wonderful music sounds after all this time. Bought chocolate drink for five cigarettes. BM
- March 16, 1945 Another beautiful day with mashed potatoes. News of 7th Army across the Rhine.
- March 17, 1945 False news about 7th Army. Still feel good, 210 gm bread & cheese.

- March 18, 1945 Mashed spuds again. News about the same. Chaplain spoke on father hood in the States and what it means. Bread ration small. Morale not so hot. Washed field jacket.
- March 19, 1945 No news. Rumor that Russians finally made break through. BM
- March 20, 1945 Started a beautiful day by bombing like mad. Sounds good. Our water was turned off. get a short ladle of soup.
- March 21, 1945 Beautiful spring day. No water yet. Get bread 10 and soup at 5. Water at 7:30.
- March 22, 1945 Been a wonderful, hot summer day. Soup just like gravy and full of spuds. Got five pieces of meat. Stayed out all day long in the sun. News that Koblenz has fallen. Artillery close all last night and all day. Had a funeral for last three days and three boys passed away today.
- March 23, 1945 Another beautiful day with good soup. Red Cross representative visited here. News sounds good. Noise of battle has swung to the East and not so loud. Rumor that Frankfurt has fallen.
- March 24, 1945 Beautiful day. Fair pea soup. Artillery very quiet. R C Box rumors thick. Last cigarette. News Patton across Rhine 20 km South of Frankfurt. Crossing 37 miles from us. Saw smoke flares in the distance. Guards all looking in the distance with glasses.
- March 25, 1945 Joe, our guard, came in and Duke asked him if he wanted a count. Quote, "To hell with the count, how many you got?" Three bridge heads in Rhine valley. Fighting on all fronts. Beautiful day. BM
- March 26, 1945 Started raining but cleared up. From the news it seems entire Western front moved across the Rhine and broken loose. Heard we are not to be evacuated and we are to be surrendered at Bad Orb. Air activity all day. Flares and tracers all last night. Most of us expect liberation in a matter of a few days. God grant it. Official news that R C Boxes are in. Cpl. Wise says they can see Yanks with glasses. Only a matter of hours.
- March 27, 1945 Beautiful day. Fighter activity all during the noon hour. No news. Found out that R C Boxes and 2000 loaves of bread were supposed

to have burned up. Got eleven men to a box, 9 1/11 cigarette. But had fun with it. Most of the guards left.

- March 28, 1945 Yanks supposed to be 12 km from here. Everyone confident and high. It seems almost over. Chaplain had Communion, first time since Camp Miles Standish.
- March 29, 1945 Movement in Bad Orb all last night, Jerry tanks. Official news two day old news that we've been bypassed and entire front moving East. Expect liberation any time.
- March 30, 1945 News sounds very good. Still seems a matter of time. Rumor says warehouse out of bread. Suppose to get potatoes instead. Good Friday Services 12:00 till 1:30. Very close artillery fire. Still think it's a matter of time. Potatoes instead of bread at 3:30 and saw American artillery burst just over the hill. Who knows, it may be tonight. I pray so. Cleaned out the R C Boxes. Got 20 men to a box. We were just out of cigarettes, now have five more. Sure they will last. Saw artillery burst over the hill.
- March 31, 1945 Beautiful day. Heard 30 & 50 caliber and BAR and 105 reports and burst. Saw Piper Cub. Two boys escaped, got one mile beyond Bad Orb and caught. Told troops would be here in a day. Fed and came back. Should be very soon. Two liters of soup today. Wonderful thick noon soup. Full stomach. Soup thicker this evening. Just as we went for chow came back with R C Box number four which is 2 packages French cigarette per man. Mine had just run out. Rumor that Bad Orb fell at 1:00 PM and we are free. I don't know. Got Jerry tooth powder to day. Rumor French bread, apples, two men to a 10 box and two ladles of soup. "Happy Easter". Liberation rumor false.
- April 1, 1945 Guns still booming. Raining. Supposed to get thick pea soup and bread today. BM. Barrage on Bad Orb about 6:00 PM for about one hour. About 10:00 PM word came up that Jerry had withdrawn and liberation was certain.
- APRIL 2, 1945 LIBERATION WAS AT 7:45 LAST NIGHT. HAPPY EASTER. G Is from 71st Recon outfit came up with tanks and Jeeps. The place went wild. We all thank God.

I got 1/2 a K ration biscuit. Tasted like cake. Also a 50 cal. round. One of the Recon drivers was from Elgin. Early soup of very thick potatoes and rye flour. It was delicious. Gave some to one GI and he spit it out, couldn't take it. At noon three ambulances came up and took some of the critical boys out of the hospital. Brought up some C rations. Word received that rations will be in tonight and transportation to morrow. More GIs this afternoon. I got about 1/2 pack of Luckies, first in three months. Salt, crapper paper, precooked cereal. They may fly us out of here. 150 planes flying gas in.

April 3, 1945

Trucks and chow didn't get up yet. Hospital is empty. Had soup again at noon but it was so thick you could cut it. Cleaned up British R C Boxes. One box to 40 men. We drew green peas and tea. Our squad also drew a can of salmon that Bowers drew. Still expecting rations and trucks. When they get here start evacuation. Have hopes of being home for Mothers Day. One guy got a paper from his home town dated March 1st saying that last week word was received that he was a POW. That is a long wait. C rations came in. First GI chow in 106 days and I owe 1/2 can on a bet. Woe is me.

April 4, 1945

Breakfast of meat and beans. C rations for the first time in 106 days. Funeral for 2 men. (At the 1993 Stalag 9A, 9B, 9C reunion in Tampa I saw 16 mm silent movies of this Funeral taken by a liberating GI who had a movie camera with him. I'm sure I was in the line but could not find myself.) Dinner, meat and beans, Heinie bread, two rations butter, one baked potato, one milk can boiled potatoes, one raw spud. At noon Eddy came through and said we were first to be evacuated. I'm in second group. First bunch of 75 are to fly. We may also go out to day. Signed for cablegram that we're liberated. Am really full. They turned this place from a P W camp to an Army Camp over night. Hurrah! We made it! Supposed to be in Paris tonight by C-47. Evacuation at 1600, 25 men to a 2-1/2, eight miles to a captured Jerry air port. There were droves of C-47s that came in like cars on a highway. Treated wonderful, even asked if we wanted to eat or be deloused first. We ate. Then get rid of these damn lice and fleas. Taken to a hospital given all the blankets we wanted, candy, cigarettes, YANK and STARS AND STRIPES, a rest tablet and then had the most wonderful sleep since England, also GI coffee, cream and sugar.

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- April 5, 1945 C rations for breakfast, coffee with cream and sugar. We may receive showers and clothes before we leave, at any rate we fly to France. More candy this morning and pockets full of cigarettes again. We went to sleep last night listening to the Andrew Sisters on the radio. The Lord be praised for his wonderful work. It's a glorious world!
- April 6, 1945 Got sick last night on food. (The medics came through and said they knew we were begging food but just lay off the cheese. I had already loaded up on cheese. Got sick in the food bucket I was bringing home. Had to leave it.) Flew from Germany to just outside Paris. While waiting on busses, they put an armed guard around us, just like in Germany. Got busses 2-1/2 miles to Paris and train to Le Havre. Ate a steak in Paris. Major says we may have to wait a week. Red Cross wonderful. Trains at 2300 for Le Havre.
- April 7, 1945 Rode trains till 3:00 PM, ambulance to Lucky Strike. Food, blankets, candles and everything.
- April 8, 1945 Still no shower. Movies, all the food we want and good. R C Returnees box, cigarettes, radio and magazines. Boys that came in last night were issued cloths, E T O s and paid to day. Hope we get it tomorrow.
- April 14, 1945 Came aboard S S Richardson at Le Havre. Left harbor and dropped anchor in the channel. Set sail for England at night to pick up Air Corp Officers. Chow is wonderful and coffee is better.
- April 15, 1945 South Hampton, England
- April 16, 1945 2000 hours, set sail for U S A!
- April 27, 1945 2000 Hours, arrive in Good ol' U S A. A boy died last night, what a shame.

The original document, written in an Army pay book and on German shipping paper is in my lock box. This transcription was completed May 22, 1993, 50 years after I entered active duty at Camp Grant, Rockford, Illinois.

Jack H. Watters

