

81-4  
Newark, Ohio.  
October 9th 1941.

Rec'd Oct 16

Dear William:

Your cable came yesterday afternoon around 3.30 telling of your assignment. It certainly sounds bad and looks worse when you look at the map. From calculating the map it looks to be about 1200 hundred miles east and south of Dakar and about four hundred miles north of the equator. I imagine that it will be just plain hot down there, but not as "hot a spot" as Dakar would or might have been,

I have had no chance to read or inquire about Nigeria, but from the map it looks as though it might be an independent country. We are wondering how you will get there. By boat it would be quite a long trip and I doubt if they have a railroad running all the way down. So you will have to tell us all about it when you get there. The postal guide says it takes mail thirty one days from New York via boat to reach Lagos.

It is a question whether or not you will receive this letter but I thought we would make a try of it and it can possibly be forwarded to you. If you do receive this before you leave, I wish you would cable and say that you are leaving and then we will be sure that you on on the way.

Before I forget it, I read in the paper that John Montgomery has been admitted to an officers cavalry school at Fort Riley, Kansas. John was getting mighty tired of being a truck driver and delivery boy and welcomed the chance to get in the officers school. He will have to stay in one year of he is through the school which will make it six months longer than it would have been otherwise. I talked with Merrill on Tuesday and he gave the the dope

Our Community Chest drive is on this week and there is plenty to do, we hope to go over the goal by Friday evening when the Victory dinner is planned.

Had a letter from Janie last week and she is getting along just about the same, still with the Stern Company in the drapery dept., I am so sorry that she did not prepare herself for school work. Betty Sherwood and Pearly both have fine jobs and really nothing to worry about. I felt rather certain the the Interior Decorating would not be so hot, but Janie had her mind made up otherwise and consequently is working for \$15.00 per week. Let us hope that something better will turn up for her.

Pa went back to Michigan last Sunday after being in these parts for about three or four weeks, he seemed glad to go back for he said that Mary needed him. He does very well for his age as he will be 84 on the 25th of this month.

We had quite a storm or blow a couple of weeks ago and it about cleaned the apples from the trees. Stayman and Rome were all that were left on the trees and it took about 80% of them.

I have not heard from Lillian lately but she was getting a long all OK last letter I had. Betty is just about the same, we were out last Friday night. Sarah is having quite a time with the Spanish, German and French and gets rather discouraged at times. We have been busy at the farms getting things ready for winter. God bless you and bring you home safe to us. Love and best wishes,

Laddy.

[On back]  
Your  
letter of  
Sept-20<sup>th</sup>  
arrived  
Oct-6<sup>th</sup>