Newark Ohio. May 29th 1940.

## Dear William:

Your letter of April 17th just arrived today. Evidently the courier carried it back with him on the first trip and mailed it yesterday upon the arrival of the Washington. Your letter of April 27th came through in the pouch and was received on May 17th. We talked with Betty Lou last night over the phone. Curt and Mary met her at the boat and they went straight to Washington. She is mailing the letter you sent over but it has not as yet arrived, so I thought I would start this one to you. Betty had a good trip and seemed very glad to be back in God's country. We will go through Washington on our way back from Havana and possibly bring her home with us.

We were sure glad to get your letter to learn how you are getting along. You were quite fortunate in making the exchange of lire as it will be quite a help to you and cuts the living just in half. Hope you will have another opportunity to make the exchange. I do not know how the mail will get through to you now as the Washington is going to Lisbon, Portugal, I heard this over the radio this morning,

Things are in terrible shape on your side of the water and I would not be surprised to hear that Italy is in the fray by the time or before you receive this letter. The Belgium let down was sure a big surprise to the people in this country.

I am being interrupted quite a bit writing this so do not be surprised if It seems rather disconnected. Mr. Frank Hall died on the 16th of May, you will remember that I mentioned to you that he had broken his hip. I think I told you that Eugene Fletcher died two weeks before. The two boys in the store, Roy Toothma and Kenneth Kreager bought the store.

Betty went to Baltimore today to see a doctor, with the hope that they many do something for her, but I doubt it very much. Grandpa is here and will stay with us while they are away. I will have to drop this now and try to finish it later,

June 3rd 8 A.M.

With the end of the month and Decoration day etc., I have just had so much to do that I could not get finished. Betty arrived as I told you and your letter came on Decoration day morning. I hope that she will get the idea's out of her head soon. We will ask her to come to Newark with us when we return from Havana.

We have had so much rain that very little could be done on the outside. Rained all of Decoration day and on the two Sundays preceding that. Yesterday was a nice day and we went early to the farm and I get the glads finished and the dahlia's in.

## COPY

Janie is quite busy with the school activities and we have not seen very much of her. She went to the farm with us on the 31st and we had Grandpa and the Hughes family.

Betty got back from Baltimore yesterday and found that there was not much that could be done. It is such a pity as she still looks forward that something might be done.

Dorothy sold the house and called me and told me that she had deposited the money in the bank she had borrowed from you and that it is in her name. If you have the note I would think it would be well to send it to her and have her put it in your name. The news that we receive would indicate that Italy will join Germany in the war. I wonder from your statement how Italy can afford to go to war.

It is just a shame that your letter of the 17th of April was carried back with the Washington. We could have had the stamps and your clothes on the way long ago. We will get your things off to you today or tomorrow and I imagine it will be hard to tell when you will receive them.

Have so much to do to get ready to leave on Wednesday night for our trip. It would not be so bad if Sarah did not have to stay in school until Wednesday afternoon. I ordered and have received a new suit. I had it made in Columbus and it fits me like no suit has for years. I was beginning to think that no one could ever make a suit to fit me, but this is just fine and will be worth the extra money it cost in satisfaction.

I know there are many things I had on my mind to tell you but with the press of business they leave me. If you have a chance you might collect a few stamps for Harry Woltjen. Ray Loring sure appreciated the stamps you sent for him. Just called the Post Office and they are receiving air mail, so I am going to send this that way with the hope that it will reach you in better time. Let me know how they come through.

All I can say is that I hope that you will be safe. Take good care of yourself and God bless you and bring you back to us.

Love and best wishes,

Daddy

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Love and best wishes,

Sladdy

After 5 days, return to THE CRANE-KRIEG-FLORY CO., No. 11 South Park Place, NEWARK, OHIO.



Italy.

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1930/2 ME

Air Mail

Milan,



FORM 2978

## c/o American Consulate.

