

War Era Story Project 2012

Submitted by: Kathleen Anderson
Current home town: Bellville, Ohio
Age: Not given

My father and his brother entered the Army months apart in 1943. Dad was 19 and my Uncle Dick was 18. By Feb. 1944, my uncle wrote Dad while he was aboard a ship. The letter came in the form of a V-Mail letter. I found out that the military would microfilm specially designed letter sheets, then instead of using cargo space to ship whole letters overseas, they sent microfilmed copies that were then "blown up" at an overseas destination before being delivered to military personnel.

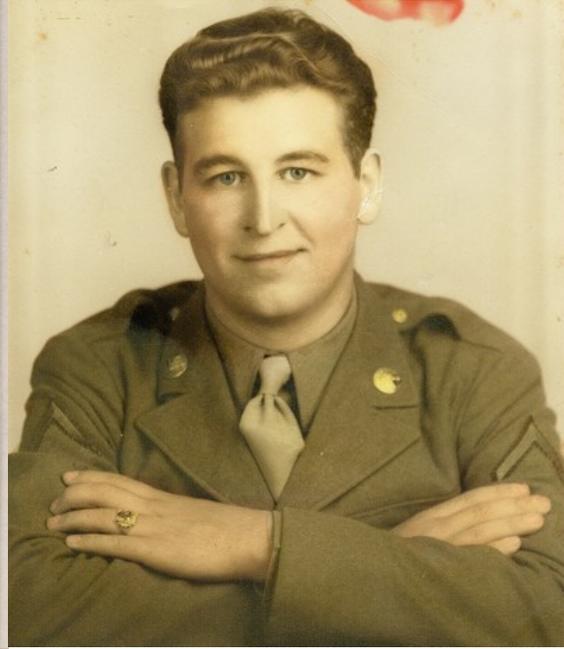
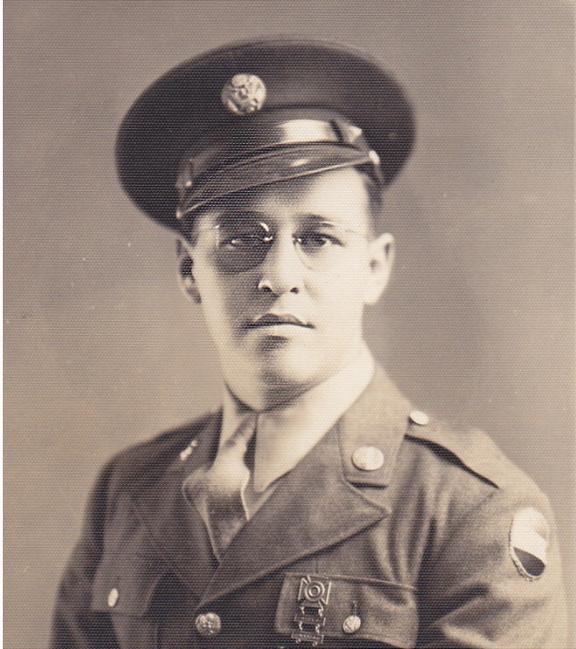
Between Brothers

I remember my Dad being very proud to have served in the Army during WWII. In January 1943, at 19, Dad, who went by "Junior," entered the Army. A few months later, in May, his brother Dick, age 18, also entered the Army. Both were honorably discharged early 1946. Looking through letters he had saved, I came across a V - MAIL posted February 24, 1944, to Dad from his brother Dick. The inspected letter was sent to Pvt. Junior Bishop, Prisoner of War Camp, Como Miss, sent from Pvt. Richard Bishop, APO San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Skip

*Well I guess I will write you a few lines to let you know I am still alive and going strong. I sure did have a swell time on the boat. For my first time it was not so bad. I got sick the first day. But after I got on deck it was not so bad. It makes you drunk as hell. The way you rock with the boat. It was very hot at the time. Lord we sleep on deck every time it did not rain. It sure did rain a lot at first. And after a long time we finally saw land. It was sure swell. There was just some small islands here and there. And they were green and nice to look at. After looking at the desert and water. There are a few natives here and there. Some of them work and some just walk around. I saw their women they sure look wild. But they say they will look right after we are here for a long time. Have you been home yet. I sure run the motor a lot. I put a 1,000 miles on it. Not bad. I was every place. Well I will sign off in telling you where I am. I am somewhere in New Guinea. Good luck
Dick*

(Continued)



Print the complete address in plain block letters in the post office, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. _____

From ^{SEND HERE} Pvt Richard Bishop
(Sender's name)
47 Del 170 Ord Am Bn
(Sender's address)
APO 928 97 M. San.
FRANCISCO, Calif.
(Date)

PASSED BY
 U 25076 S
 ARMY CENSOR
 XPL
(CENSOR'S STAMP)

To Pvt Junior Bishop
588. M.P.E.B. Co.
Prisoner Of War Camp
Como Miss.

Dear Alia

Well I guess I will write you a few lines to let you know I am still alive and going strong. I sure did have a swell time on the boat. The first time it was not so bad. I got sick the first day. But after I got on deck it was not so bad. It makes you stand as tall. The way you rock with the boat. It was very hot but time. And we sleep on deck every time. It did not rain. It sure did rain alot at first. And after a long time we finally saw land. It was sure swell. There was just some small island here and there. And there was green and nice to look at. After looking at the desert and and water. There is a few natives here and there. Some of them work and some just walk around. I saw three woman the same look wild. But they say they will look wite after we are here for a long time. Have you been home yet. I sure had a swell time when I was home. I sure run the motor alot. I put a 1,000 miles on it. Not bad. I was pretty plain. Well I will sign off in telling you where I am. I am some well in this. I will. God bless Dick.

V-MAIL

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT PERMIT NO. _____