

Norman E. Clarke Had Lot of Fun, Work and Close Calls Driving Army Truck On Final Campaigns Of War Up Through Germany

Corporal Norman E. Clarke, Jr., writes his parents, Dr. and Mrs. Norman E. Clarke, 1676 Glenhurst, of thrilling days as the American Army drove through Germany during the last days of the war.

His letter follows:

Germany, May 21, 1945.

Dear Folks:

Well, here is a letter in which I can send you any kind of information I wish; it will not be censored. Censorship is off now, happy day.

I don't think I will be able to fit all the things I couldn't, in the past but I shall start.

We arrived at Liverpool, Eng-

land, the 12th of October in the night and we were escorted into the harbor the following morning. Around noon we disembarked. We took a train and arrived in the south of England at Shillington around midnight. There we lived in Nissen huts and more or less the town. Saw Bill Brewster at 2nd morning. I loaded up my truck with radio supplies and left with the Co. advance. Drove to Westmouth and boarded an LST about noon. While waiting to go on we were given coffee and doughnuts by real American Red Cross girls. We never expected to see any of

them again, but we've seen them all over the battle fronts.

On the LST I slept in my truck put on deck and swiped the soldiers blue of all the food we could find, also jackets. On the morning of Nov. 3rd we guided past mines and sunken ships and beached on the shores of the harbor of La Havre, France. Then the drive across France and Belgium to Aubeil where we stayed in the woods for about a week. A couple of men were killed on this drive because of night driving. We could hear the front from these woods.

Around Nov. 11th we went on the lines, moved to Butzenbach, Belgium, where Div. Headquarters were. We lived about 2 miles from the town and had a good life. The lines were quiet. I used to make a few trips up to the regiment and I operated with Sgt. Kollerberger near the German border. Luckily I went back to Div. about a week before the "break thru" because our boys there were cut off and had to fight their way out. On the morning of Dec. 15th there was a hustle in the air and we were told to get ready to pull out on a moment's notice. Around noon it rained and we pulled out. As we pulled out of our house we received a few fastwees about 100 yds. from the street where some Jerry had sneaked in during the night. We pulled back about five miles to Camp Ellenborn. That was the first time I was afraid. I saw the first tank in but all I could do was hold on to the wheel and watch the bullets rip along about two or three yards from the truck.

We reached Ellenborn and found some good thick walls to sleep under. For a couple of weeks until Jan. 4th, taking the 88s and bombing and strafing, then the 2nd Division took over Ellenborn and we moved back another couple miles to St. Gertrud and set tight until Feb. 2nd. We got some shells the first morning there. Had the dickies scared out of me again. I had in my truck during this time and was quite happy to have such a good place, as many of the fellows slept with wives.

On the 14th of February we went to Aubeil, Belgium, and had a swell rest. On the 25th we moved out and entered Germany by way of Aachen and Duren, two towns that don't even have shells of buildings left. This came the change to Cologne across the plain. The first night we stopped at Elsfort and had the dickies bomb out of us. Lost four trucks and a few men, but we moved on the next day. We went like mad until Gehr where we stopped, our troops had hit the Rhine above Cologne. On the night of Mar. 13th I drove for 6 solid hours in a black-out. We moved our whole Division about 70 miles in about 10 hours to Mechtingen. The First had crossed the Rhine at the wrong place and so we were rushed into position to cross at Remagen. On the morning of March 14th we left for Remagen, one vehicle at a time, down that long winding road to the Bridge, and a few yards of ground on the "left" side. For the last mile we crept in under deadly shell fire. The medics crouched by the road ready to pick us up. Sgt. Curt and myself were eating cigarettes and sweating it out. Then there was Landwehr, like a hattered giant, feeding a struggling few men on the other side of the Rhine. We got some shells but they couldn't do it. They put one of our boys there, he was an MP, matching gun.

Then came the chase. We had them on the run, their last run, up from the Rhine to the hills. We went like mad and stopped just short of Kassel. From there they tried to knock out old Landwehr and the postons bridge, but they couldn't do it. They put one of our boys there, he was an MP, matching gun.

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NOW ALL TOGETHER

LET'S RAISE THE FLAG!

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So You'll Find Them Open When You Go to Your FAVORITE EATING PLACES

Knowing that you do not want to waste time, gasoline and tips, the restaurants listed in this advertisement are letting you know what days they are closed and what hours of other days they will be open to serve you. Check the list carefully when you also see your dinner engagements.

THE NORMANDY LUNCHEONS • DINNERS S. W. Corner of Woodward and 10-Mile Rd. PLEASANT RIDGE Daily Hours, including Sunday Luncheon 11:30 A. M. to 2:30 P. M. CLOSED ALL DAY ON TUESDAYS	CORNING'S (LIL PATIO) Woodward Ave. at Coolidge Highway Near Birmingham "It's always Dinner Here at Corning's" Cheese and Ale-Served Open at Noon Daily and Sunday Phone Royal Oak 9722
BROOK'S COFFEE BAR Closed Until Further Notice	MINTS ICE CREAM CO. 1360 S. Woodward, Birmingham WEEK DAYS 11 A. M. to 8 P. M. including Saturdays CLOSED ON SUNDAYS
EDX AND HOUNDS INN JOHN INGLETON, Prop. Birmingham Woodward at Long Lake Rd. SERVING DINNERS Sunday—12:00 until 2:00 a.m. Week days—5:30 until midnight Reservations—Closed—Good Food—Phone When 9099	KINGSLEY INN N. WOODWARD at Long Lake Rd. Open Daily from 12 Noon to 2:00 a.m. CLOSED ALL DAY SUNDAYS For Reservations Phone B'ham 9039

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Fresh Fruits & Vegetables

LUSCIOUS RED RIPE GEORGIA WATERMELON

Quarter, Half or Whole Lb. **5c**

CUCUMBERS

OUTDOOR-GROWN **2 Lbs. 23c**

TOMATOES

HOT HOUSE **5 Lbs. 28c**

CALIFORNIA NEW **2 Lbs. 29c**

RIPE FOR SLICING **2 Lbs. 47c**

OUTDOOR-GROWN **2 Lbs. 47c**

WESTERN WINEAPPLE Apples 2 Lbs. 25c
CALIFORNIA Carrots 3 Bunches 25c
FRESH TENDER Green Beans 2 Lbs. 35c
TEXAS Yellow Onions 3 Lbs. 27c
CALIFORNIA ORANGES 1 Bunch 12c
HOT-GROWN ASPARAGUS 2 Bunches 21c
FRESH GREEN PEPPERS 1 Doz. 13c
Lettuce 1 Doz. 10c

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- SUPER QUALITY
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3 Lb. 59c 2 1/2 Lb. 47c 3 Bag. 75c

STOKELY'S TOMATO JUICE 47 Oz. 22c
DEL. MONTÉ DELUXE 29 Oz. 21c
SUNNYFIELD CAKE FLOUR 2 1/2 Lb. 19c

WIKES Tag Soap 2 Bars 11c
SOAP 23c
MILKMAKERS 23-Lb. 1.25
MORTONS Salt 8c
A-PENN WINDOW Cleaner 21c
4-OZ. BOTTLE Remover 17c
MRS STEWART'S BING 9c
SHOE SOAP 2 Bars 15c
A-PENN BOOT Dishes 2 17c
LIQUID WAX 37c
DAIY KIBBLER Dog Biscuit 45c

5 TEMPTING VARIETIES...
All tasty and tender! Swell for picnics too!
DATED "FRESH" DAILY
3 Loaves 32c

LIBBY'S BABY FOOD 6 Cans 42c
VEGETABLE SHORTENING SPRY 3 Lb. 68c
TOILET SOAP LIFEBOUY 3 Bars 20c
LUX FLAKES Large Pkg. 23c
MIGHTY SOFT NORTHERN TISSUE 4 Rolls 18c

IONA FAMILY FLOUR

25-lb. Bag **97c**

KEYKO MARGARINE

lb. **23c**

MARVEL Variety BREADS

LIBBY'S BABY FOOD 6 Cans 42c
VEGETABLE SHORTENING SPRY 3 Lb. 68c
TOILET SOAP LIFEBOUY 3 Bars 20c
LUX FLAKES Large Pkg. 23c
MIGHTY SOFT NORTHERN TISSUE 4 Rolls 18c