

Kansas Memory



Carrol Victor Christian to Floriene Olive Graham Christian correspondence

Section 29, Pages 841 - 870

A collection of 198 letters written by Carrol Victor Christian (also known as Bob Christian) to his wife Floriene Olive Graham Christian (also known as Fluffy). Carrol Christian was born October 22, 1906, in Clyde, Kansas, and his parents were Winfield Clark Christian and Mary Dorothea Bottger Christian. Carrol Christian spent his youth in Clyde and graduated from Clyde High School. He married Floriene Olive Graham on April 6, 1935, and they had two sons Keith W. Christian and Carrol R. Christian. On December 23, 1942 Carrol Christian was drafted into the Army Air Corp and served as a corporal in the Air Transportation Command in India and Burma where he was a cook. He was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, WWII Victory Medal, Pacific Campaign Medal (with two service stars), Distinguished Unit Badge and the China War Memorial Medal. After the war, Christian and his wife moved to Russell, Kansas, where he worked in the oil fields, a grain elevator and a lumber yard until he retired at age 65.

Creator: Christian, Carrol Victor

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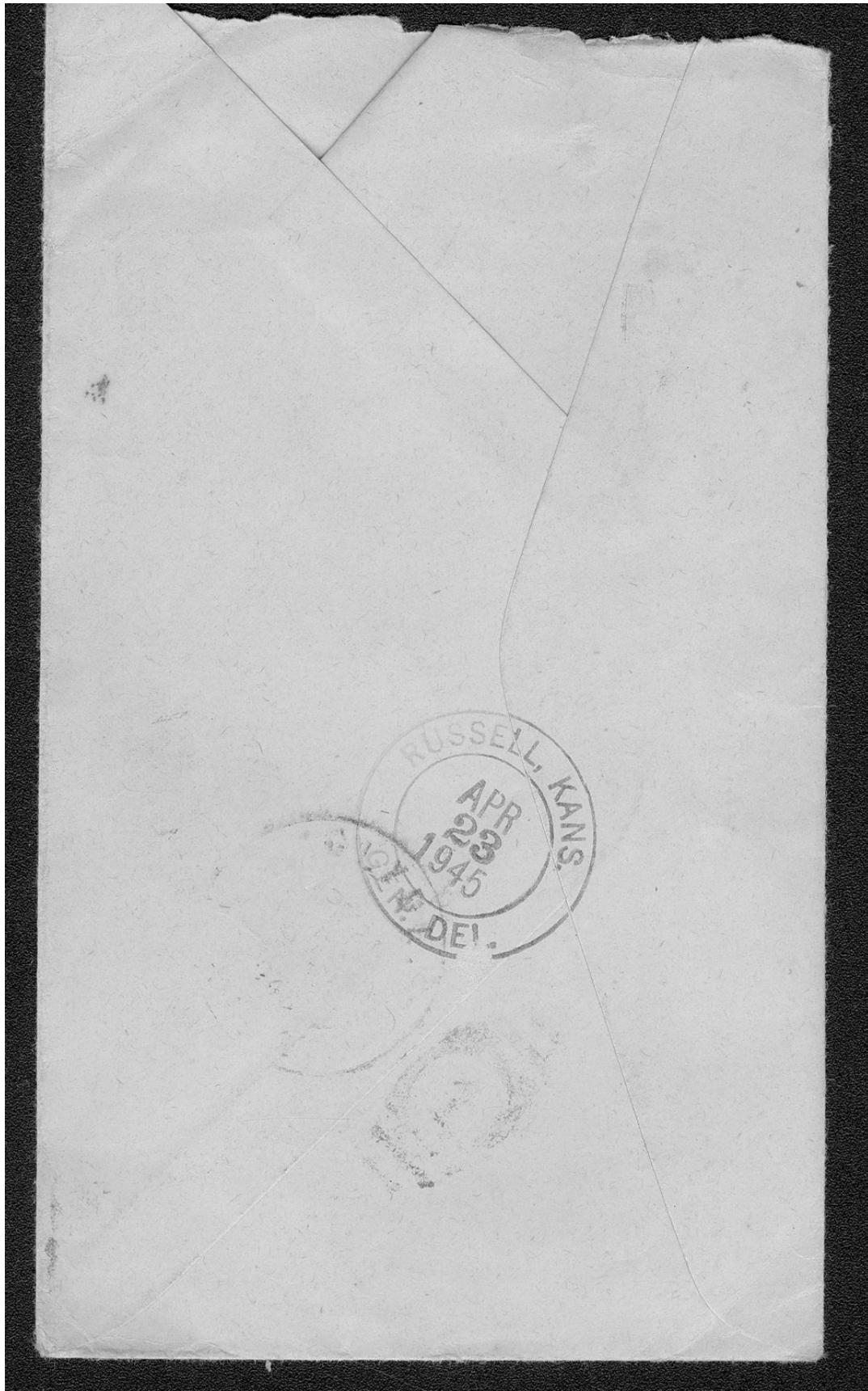


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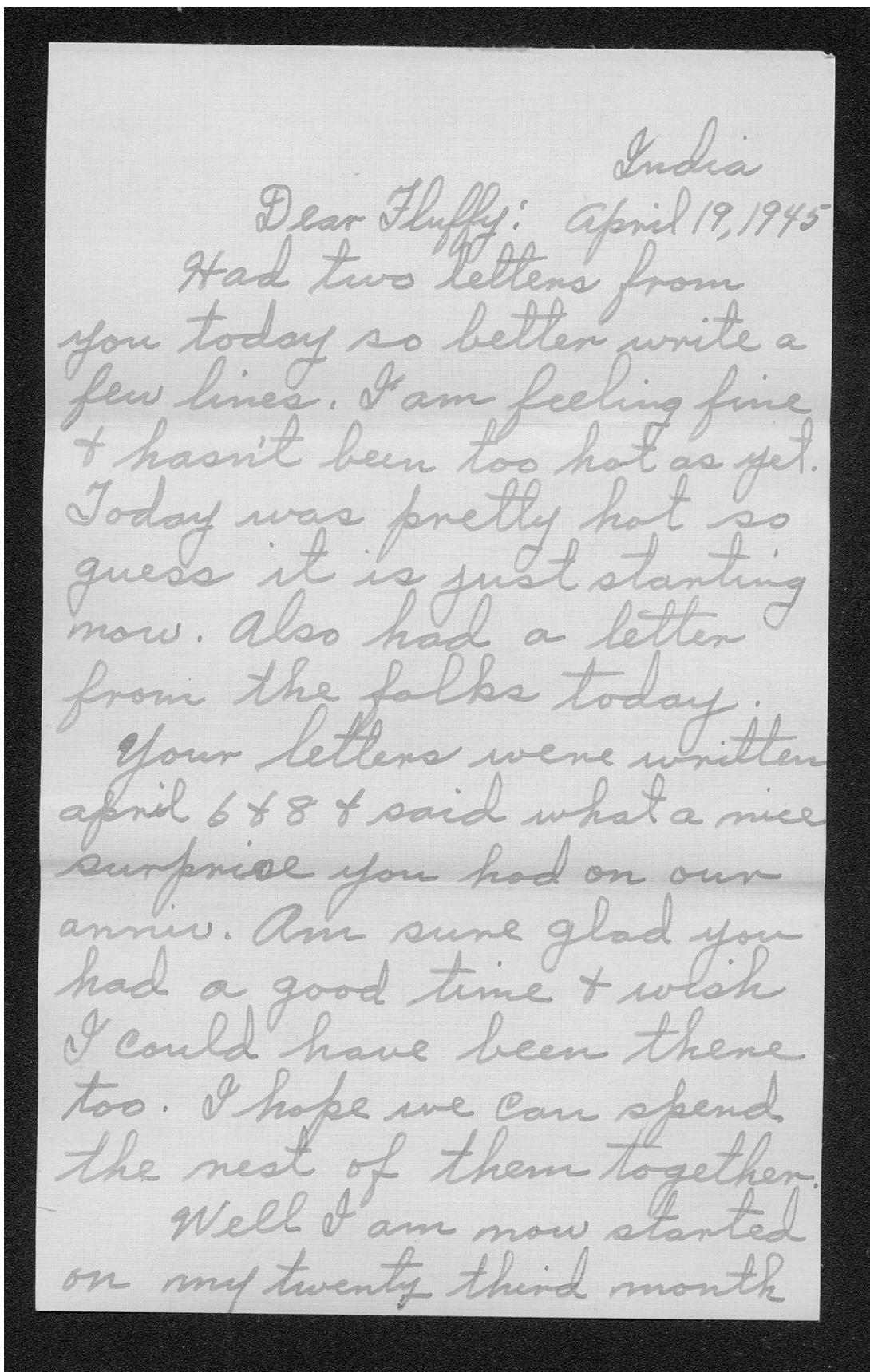


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& it seems like each month goes by slower than the one before. Guess I am getting anxious to get back to God's country. Won't know how to act when I do get back as I haven't been off of this base since we got back from the nest camp along last July.

The folks were all well but said they had a bad storm & thought it had killed most of the fruit. Will be glad when they get moved & things fixed up so they can take things a little bit easier.

So you had a slight accident? You say that you fell down & bumped your

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Chin, I bet you got smart.
& somebody socked you.(ha)
Would like to have a picture
of you with that chin & all.

Better be careful or you will
knock that second chin off.(ha)

Was sure surprised when
the news of the president's
death came. His death came
at a very bad time.

Had a g.v. stage show this
week was pretty good. The show
last night was, "Murder, my
Sweet" with Dick Powell. He
played the part of a private
detective first time I have seen
him in that kind of role.

Well bid no more & the sweet
is falling off so will close.

With lots of love, Bob.

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India

Dear Fluffy: April 24, 1945
Just finished supper so
will drop you a few lines.
Haven't had any mail for
five days now so not much
to write about only to let
you know I am ok & still
able to get about. (ha)

How are you getting along
with the farm work by now?
guess when I get home will
have to move on a farm &
have a lot of hogs, cows, &
chickens for you to take care
of. (ha)

My arms are slightly sore
tonight. Had a shot for cholera
in one & a shot for typhus
& a small pox vaccination

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in the other one. I have took so many shots that my shot record is beginning to look like a story book. However I haven't been sick a single day so guess they must do some good.

Well another month is almost gone & will soon have twenty three months over here.

Don't know how many more I will have to put in but shouldn't be too long now till I can come back home & be with you again for a while. Believe me that will be a great day & am sure looking forward for it to come. according to the news today the russians

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are in Berlin & with all the armies advancing don't see how the Germans can last much longer. Maybe it will be over by the time I get back to the States & will be able to get out of the army.

Went to the show last night it was, "There is a Family," & boy what a family it was. All the women were having babies & at the end even the goldfish had a whole bowl of little ones. Of course it all happened in war time. (ha)

Well no more news so will close. Hope this finds you all well & will be seeing you all one of these days.

With lots of love
Your Husband. Bob.

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Dear Fluffy:

May 1, 1945

Just got off duty had a shower, went to the P.X. & got my beer ration now I haven't anything to do so will write you a few lines. We got one case of budweiser this month & as we get some ice at the mess hall manage to have cold beer part of the time.

Had two letters from you yesterday & sounds like you have been having some funny weather for this time of year. You said babe was sending me a picture of James so will be looking forward to see what he looks like. George must have something pretty bad if they are planning to operate on his lungs, doesn't sound very good to me.

I went to the show last night it was, "Blonde Fever," a pretty good comedy but was a short show.

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I guess they are really cleaning up in Germany now, looks like it wouldn't last long now. When it is finished there & they get all those men & supplies over here I don't think Japan will last very long.

Some more of the boys got their orders to go home on rotation, they had been here about 25 months so guess about two more months & I can start looking for my orders.

One day this week I went to the mail room & found half of one of the letters I had wrote to the folks hanging on the mail room window. Must have left it out when they censored the letter. I suppose the folks will think I am a little bit off my nut when they get the letter.

Well no news only I am feeling fine & hope you are all well. Am looking forward to the day when I can see you all again. With lots of love Bob.

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Dear Fluffy:

May 7, 1945

Just finished eating breakfast so will write a few lines to let you know I am ok & feeling fine. Was going to write last night but the medican & I got to playing checkers so didn't get to write. He came out about six games ahead of me & you should have heard him razz me. There has only been about four or five times in the 23 months that he has come out ahead & he sure gets a kick out of it when he beats me.

Haven't had any mail from you for some time now but had a letter from the folks wrote April 23 saying you were in Clyde. I suppose you have been too busy visiting to write. Mom said you were sure looking good & was very glad to hear it.

Well kid, just nine more days & I will be starting on the last long month to make my two years here.

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Will be glad when that month rolls by, at least I can start bitching because they don't send me back. (ha) I have my hopes set on getting out of here some time in July of course you know hopes don't always come as you want them.

They explained the point system for demobilizing after the war over the radio last week. I didn't go hear it but from what others said I should be about ready for the old people's home by the time I get out of the army. (ha)

Mom said they had sent George to Texas to a hospital & that babe was coming home in a couple of weeks, guess they are pretty anxious to see the baby.

From the news I guess the Germans are just about finished. Now if we had all those men & equipment moved over here I don't think the Japs would last very long.

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Went to the show night before last, it was, "Bring on the girls." It was a very good show with lots of pretty girls maybe that is why I thought it was so good. (ha) anyway if you get the chance be sure to see it am sure you would enjoy it.

How is rudolph getting along by now? Does he have someone staying with him? Betts has never answered the last letter I wrote to him guess he doesn't like the idea of writing very well & I am the same way so can't blame him too much.

Well bid hope you have a nice time on your visit & hope it isn't too long before we can be there together. Will close hoping you are all well & write & tell me all the latest news from Clyde.

With Lots of Love
Your Husband Bob.

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India

May 12, 1945

Dear Fluffy:

Dont really have much to write about but will drop you a few lines so you will know I am ok. No mail the past three days but had one letter from you wednesday it had been wrote April 29 & you were still in Clyde.

Would sure like to be there with you am getting pretty lonesome for the old home town & everybody. Cant imagine Betts as being thin he must not be drinking enough beer. (ha) oh, by the way I got weighed about a week ago & weigh 139 lbs. They had a pair of scales at the mess office so went over & weighed. I have lost some weight but considering that I have spent 23 months in india guess I haven't done too bad.

Had a busy day today, went to work at five this morning & had to go out for a retreat parade this

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afternoon so missed out on my nap.
Feel kind of sleepy now guess I will
go to bed pretty early.

Well the Germans finally surrendered
but they are still fighting some I guess.
Sure had some noise here the night
it happened, beating on cans ringing
bells & whistling & hollering till we
didn't get much sleep. Now they come
out with a point system for discharging
some of the men. As near as I can
figure out according to it I will get
out sometime around my seventieth
birthday if I last that long! (ha)

Well bid nothing new so will close.
Hope you are all well & have a good
time on your visit at Clyde.

Will be seeing you all some of
these days, I hope.

With lots of love
Your Husband. Bob.

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India

Dear Fluffy: May 20, 1945

I haven't wrote any letters for over a week so guess I better drop you a few lines. Made up my mind not to write until I got some mail & had about decided I wasn't going to get any more. After so long a time finally got one little letter from you this afternoon & one from the folks. Some more mail came in late this afternoon & they haven't got it sorted out as yet, maybe I might get another letter if I am lucky.

I am feeling fine only it is pretty hot here now & am getting anxious for the day when I can start back to the states. Only 41 more days & my two years will be up but the way they keep changing things don't know when we will get out of here.

We had a big celebration here yesterday afternoon & evening. All of the mess

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halls fixed some stuff & had the supper served out doors for all the men, officers & colored troops. We had buns, barbecued beef & pork, cheese, pickles, mustard & free beer, (ice cold). With all those men you can imagine what a mess it was.

You have seen a bunch of hungry hogs when you go to feed them, well they never had anything on this bunch. They ate everything we had fixed & then licked out the pots & pans.

Just went over to the mail room but no mail since don't know what is the matter.

Had a J. V. stage show right before last & also one last night. The one was pretty good but last night it wasn't so hot, I stayed about 15 minutes & then left. They have quit showing news reels during the week now. & then they show them on sunday nights. It is a very good idea as it gives us something to do besides sitting

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around & thinking about other things.

Mom said babe was coming home & you were going to stay until she came so you could see the baby. Never have got the picture babe sent me of the baby.

How is old rudy getting along by now? would sure like to see the old cuss again. I suppose he still drinks as much as he used to. (ha)

Well kid, I want to write the folks a few lines before show time so better close. Hope this finds you all well & you better start writing about twice every day so I get some mail or I am going to throw away this pen & quit writing until I get back in the states. (ha) Hoping to see you all soon.

With lots of love,
Your Husband. Bob.

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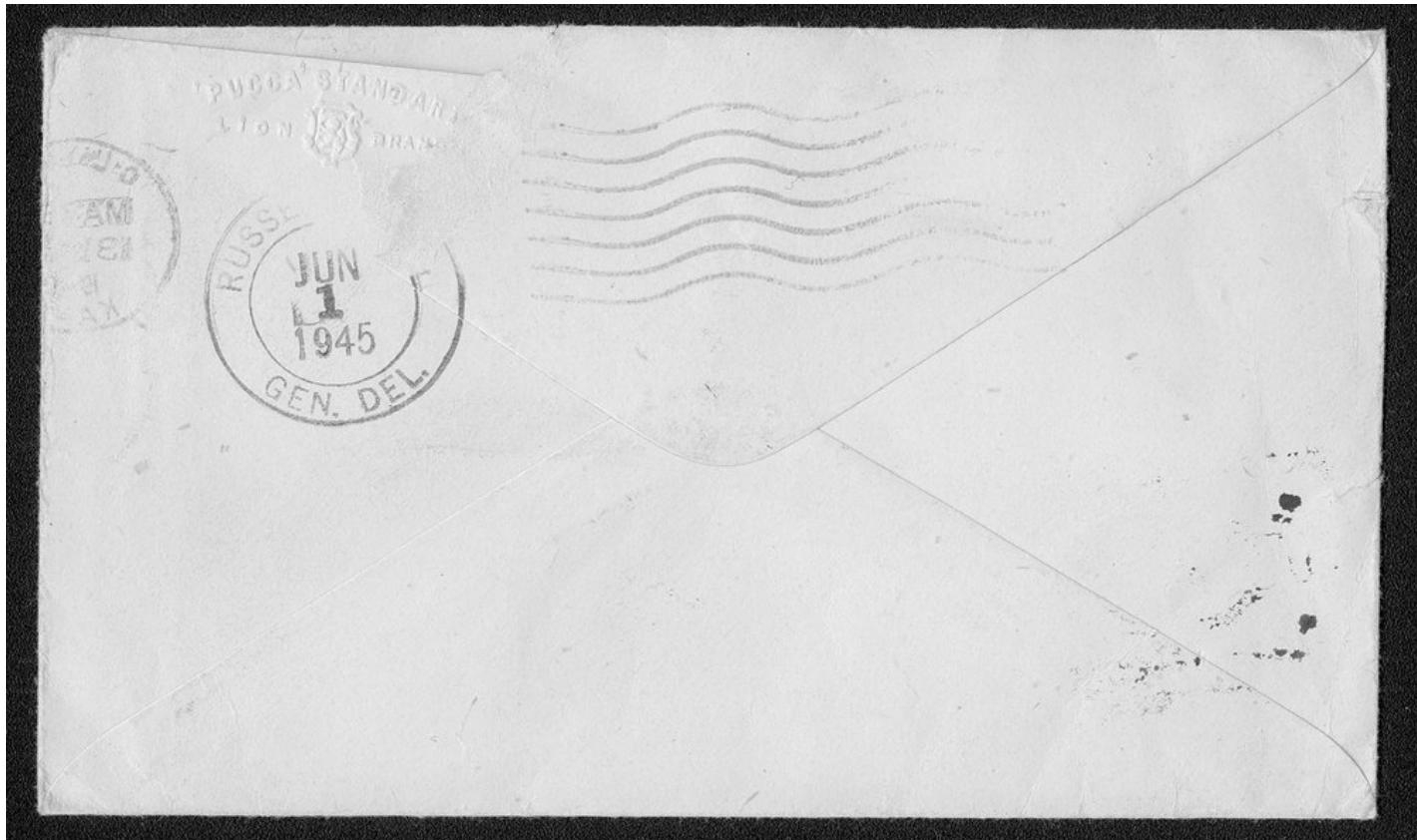
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India

Dear Fluffy:

May 24, 1945

Just had supper & not much to do so will write a few lines. am still ok & feeling fine. Sure think I have been lucky not being sick in all the time I have been here.

Had two letters from you since I wrote the last time, the latest was may 11 & you were still at Clyde.

They made some announcements on the rotation ~~for~~ plan yesterday eve.

The bunch that left the states when I did were scheduled to leave here sometime in june. Due to the increasing number of men going to the states it has been changed & now we leave here some time in august. That is if they dont change it again before that time according to that I shouldn't be here over three more months at the very most. I hear they have the age

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limit down to 40 years now so by the time I get back in the states it should be down to 38, I hope.

Say. you should have seen the show last night. It was, "Tonight & ever night," with Rita Hayworth. Talk about beautiful women & the costumes they wore sure displayed them at their very best. as old as I am it even gave me young ideas, can you imagine that? (ha) It was a good show so if you have the chance be sure to see it.

Well bid it is pretty hot to be writing & not much new so will close.

Will be seeing you all sometime in Aug. or Sept. Hope this finds you all well & write often as the last days go by pretty slow.

With lots of Love
Your Husband. Bob.

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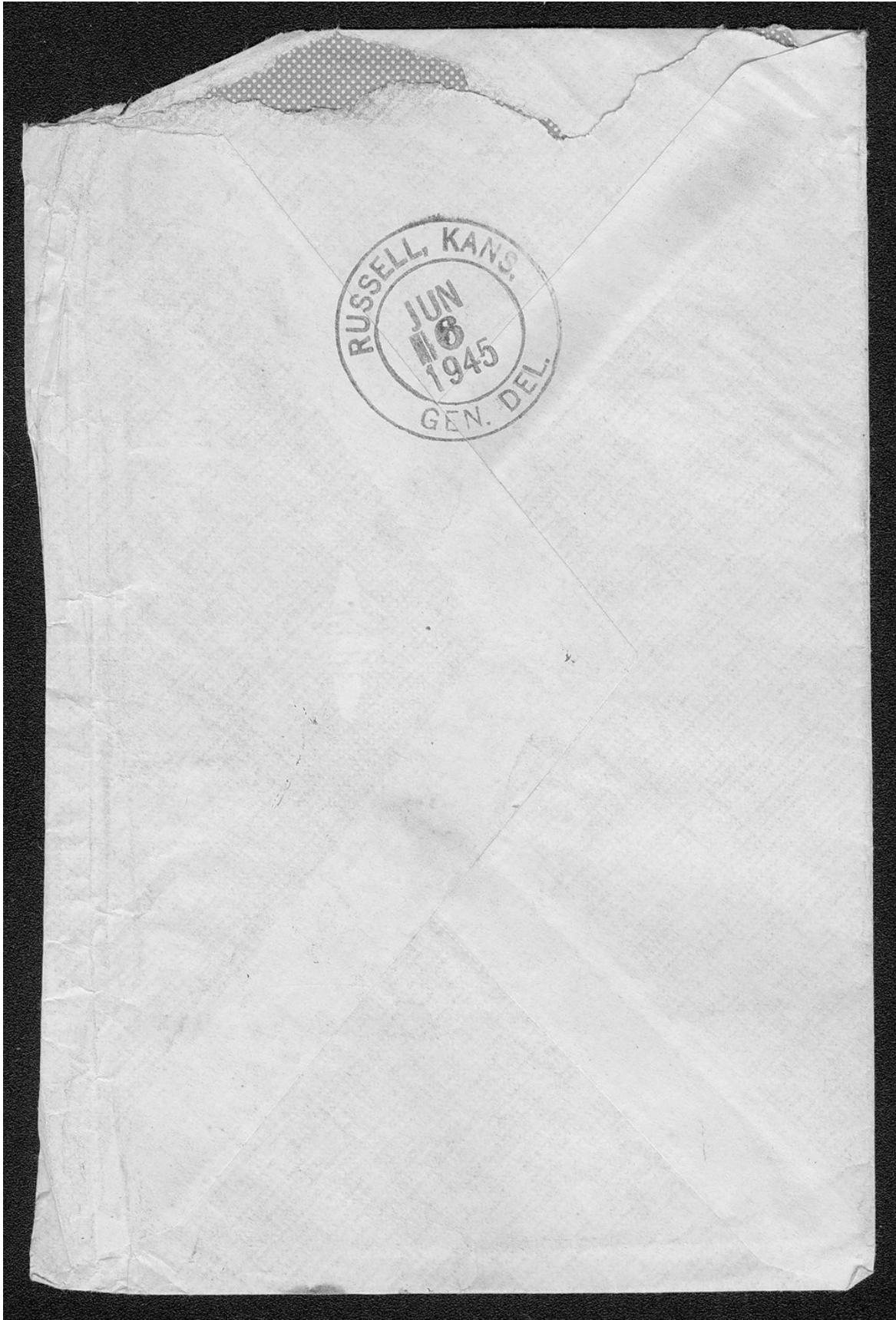


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India

Dear Fluffy:

June 7/1945

Guess I better write a few lines to let you know I am still alive & have arrived at the new camp. They called us down to the passenger terminal Tuesday morning & said we would leave that day. Well we sat there all day Tuesday & Wednesday but no plane.

Finally caught one this morning about ten thirty & got here at noon. There is a lot of boys here that was at the other camp saw quite a few of them this afternoon. I have to report to the mess captain sometime tomorrow & find out where & when I will work.

Haven't seen much of the camp but don't like what I have seen as well as where we were. Have big long barracks here that will hold 40 or 50 men & they aren't near as good as the ones we had before, also no lights. I sure don't enjoy this moving business & only hope,