432Bomb Sadn. 17th Bomb Gp Lt. Frank W. Loops,





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Mr. Charles E. Loops, Jr.

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Lynchburg, Virg inia 907 Chowan Ave.

U. S. A.

A.P.O.520, %Postmaster

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[CENSOR'S STAMP]

MR. CHARLES E. LOOPS, JR. MISTRESS JANET D. LOOPS 907 CHOWAN AVE.

YNCHBURG. VIRGINIA

U. S. A.

Lt. Frank W. Loops, 0-667527 (Sender's name)

432 Bomb Sqdn., 17th Bomb Gp. (Sender's address)

A.P.O.520, %Postmaster, N.Y.

July 4, 1943

Dear Brother and Janet, (you too, Melba, this is just a coverup cause their birthday is due) Happy Birthday and all that sort of stuff; 'Cou rse I know yourbirthday will be a thing of the past when you get this, but just the sam e you will know that I thought of both of yoursbeforehand, so maybe I wont be thought so har d of! 'Course too, I suspect that my emisary has taken care of all necessary details, but here I am in got my own behalf. what am I doing making excuses for writting you, anyh ow?

You will have to excuse this poor ald typewritte r, 1st, because an Army one is nonetoo good to start with, and when you have a typewritter in the field, getting all sorts of abuse, well, there you are. Second, the writer is not used to tickling the keys of said gadget as it is in no way akin to the two throttles his mitts a re used to caressing! A third reason for the typewritter is that it gave me a chance to pul 1 my rank, as no one was in the orderly tent cept a sargeant, and afterall, as I'm writing to 2 of you, I can say more by this means and it saves an extra page of VMAIL that I don't have to start with: And as I said before. Phooey on excuses!

There's not an awful lot that I can write about that I haven't already said in the letters to the folks. As far as trips aver enemy tar gets, we either go, or we don't, just depends on the schedule. If we do, then all of our h earts are in our mouths till we get back, and if we don't, well, we just figgure what oth er sort of mischief we can get into to keep life from getting too dull! If you ever want to find out what we do, and our reactions, sometime when you get the opportunity, get me pie-eyed, draw up a nice comfortabe chair. and relax. Until then, we will both look foreward to the day!

Gee, it sure is beginning to get hot around thes e parts. For awhile it started out being hot just in the day time and beingkf real nice and cool at nights, but now, it gets so hot during the day it doesn't get the chance to cool off during the night. Just imaging Temperatures around 120-125 in the shade. And then, go a little farther, no ice, no cold drinks, no airconditioned movies, in fact no movies! You just sweat. and I man Sweat. The natives here abouts are very consoling, they tell us that August is really the hot month of the year!

Hey, Janet, have I been leaving you out of this discussion, axaxxor are you just tagging along anyhow? Everytime I get to go to a town I look for a little present to send you, but as yet, I haven't found a thing. One of these days, tho, I will, and when I do, you can just bet your bottom dollar there will be a package on its way to you! Don't start looking for it tho, cause even after I find it, it will take a pretty long time for it to reach you. I sure would like to see you now. Every now and then, I get your picture out of the bag and look at it and think how much you have grown since I last saw you. Your picture is the only one I have with me of anyone, and some time I kid som e of the boys who see it and tell them it is a picture of my little girl! They don't believ e me tho, they say you are too pretty to be my daughter.

Melba, sometimes I look around at Africa, and think to myself, "well, Georgia does have some advantages, I Guess!" Take it easy, kid, remember I'm getting shot at already!

I'll be glad when my mail finally gets straighte ned out. the last letter I got from anyone was dated the 3rd of June. That's carrying thing s too far.

I'm at the bottom of this thing now so I'd best sign off. Be good and eat lots and lots of ice cream for your birthdays, cause I just sit ove r here and dream about the darn stuff. 'Bye for now, and let's have a Lots of Love. letter some time.

Frank