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432 Sqdn., 17th Bomb. Gp.  
A.P.O. 650, 9<sup>o</sup> Postmaster-N.Y.C.



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Censored by:  
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U.S.A.

432 Sqdn., 17th Bomb. Gp.  
A.P.O. 650, To Postmaster N.Y.C.  
June 25, 1944

Hiya Folks,

Here 'tis, another week so guess  
I'd better start another letter! - As usual,  
have been intending to start this all  
day, - but the same old story. Don't know  
why things are so easy to put off  
do you? Looks like people would go  
ahead and do 'em just to keep 'em  
from hanging over their heads.

Got Sister's V-mail today - of June 13th.  
Know you all must have had one  
swell time with Brothers, Melba, & Janet's  
visit. - Can just see Daddy taking  
Little Janet to his office and showing  
her off. - tho I suppose "Little Janet" is  
an inapt name!

How does it feel now that your

46<sup>th</sup> anniversary is past? - Thought about it several times yesterday, and supposed it was appropriately celebrated. How does it really feel to be married for so many years? Many Happy returns of the day, or something.

Have just been told that come early morning I will have to take a trip. - No, not the kind you think - another one for the squadron. - Will be a crowded time - so don't expect too much pleasure from it.

Wednesday June 28  
Didn't think but what I would get to finish this Sunday - but due to unforeseen circumstances here I am on Wednesday on the very same letter.

Didn't get a chance to work on

this again Sunday night. - Got up real early Monday morning - and by 7 A.M. was buzzing down the runway, taking off for Naples! ~~Hanno~~ there over night - finished up our business yesterday morning - so took off from there for Sicily. - Only had a few hours work there, so I managed to transact all of it and landed here just before dark! (and it doesn't get dark here now until around 9:30 P.M.) See, I hit the "sack" last night and don't believe I even wriggled my little toe! - Been doing nothing all day - and am still tired.

Got regular mail service over here lately. - Found a V-mail from Brother (Rich hitting for Sister!) dated June 15<sup>th</sup> awaiting me - and today a regular

one dated June 20! - Think this  
last one must be about the fastest  
I ever received! - Why the mrs was  
still hot!

Naples has changed a lot since  
I was there in March - but still presents  
a hustled, jumbled, dirty beat up  
appearance. Still like Catania in  
Sicily much better. Some of our  
boys have gotten to go to Rome for a  
few days - and from the pictures  
they paint on their return - that is  
really the place to see. They say outside  
of the people speaking Italian, it is  
comparable to any city back home  
in almost every respect. Would  
like to see it myself, soon - before  
I go back home. Don't think I would  
let the chance of it stand in the way.

of my going to the U.S., however!

And speaking of going home, I surely hope something breaks for me within the next couple of weeks. - If not regular rotation, for which I'm due, I think Doc will ground me from combat and let the medical board send me home. It is past due for something to have been done, so if necessary Doc says he will step in. - I surely hope so, tho for a matter of pride, I'd prefer the normal rotation. - However - don't think I'll turn either down at this point, for in all truth, "I've had it," as the expression goes! I only pray that I'll not have to fly any missions in the mean time. It wouldn't be more than one or two, at the most, in my case - but hope & pray it won't even have to be any more at all. -

So keep your fingers crossed more than ever. - This is no time to let up. -

Recently a new directive has come out, so I've been told, and I can now tell the number of sorties I've flown to date. - That being sixty three. - During this time I've flown upwards over 300 combat  
~~misses~~ hours alone. That all totals to quite a few times - and experiences!

Some of the boys came back today with some lobsters - so after supper, we went down to the mess hall and boiled them. - Managed to squeeze up some lemon & melted butter and had a real change of diet! - It was awfully good.

Well, I think I'll stop now - and save the rest for next time. Will try to write again tomorrow or the next day. Remember - and with lots of love,  
 Frank