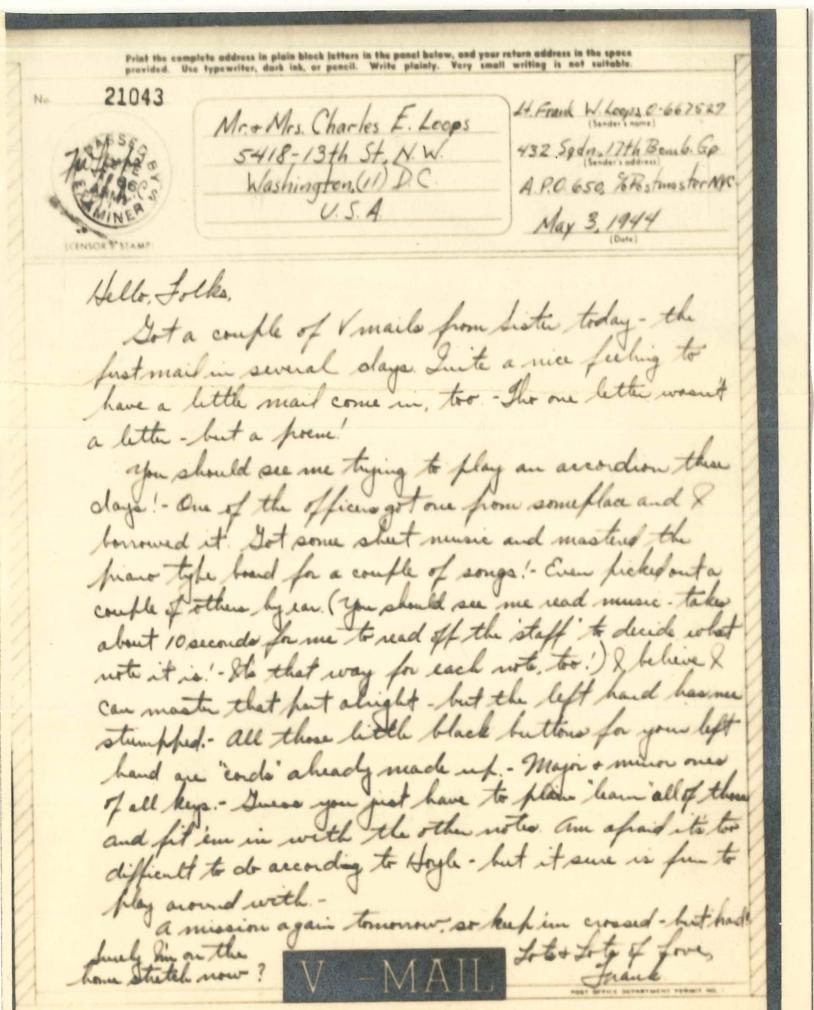




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Censored by:
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432 Sqdn., 17th Bomb. Gp.
A.P.O. 650, 9th Postmaster N.Y.C.
April 24, 1944

Hiya Folks,

Was going to write you yesterday from the Red Cross in Algiers - and really don't know why I didn't! Didn't do much all day to count. Spent most of it at the airport and then went into town.

When I got in, there was a dance in progress (still dwelling on the R.C.), a tea dance, if you please! Hell - just made myself an interested spectator and watched. See, Khyo - such veg cutting you never saw. - All the officers have been around there so long that the local population jitter bugs with the best of em! There is

21

also a snack bar thus of great attraction. - They are opened in between regular meal hours and besides the usual spam, cheese, peanut butter, etc, they always manage to have cake or cookies. - And that's where I really shine! - In fact I had a real ice-cream sundae at the officer's club and some ice-cold cokes! - Now what more could a feller ask after having been away from civilization so long?

This afternoon we returned to base and I guess I earned every last nickel of my pay, - at least for today! You have never seen so much of instruments & as I did for a couple of hours! Think it was the first time I

3! was ever caught in such weather
stuckly on my own. - Every other
time I've either had an older,
more experienced pilot along, - or
been co-pilot - never was the
full weight resting on me! -
Must admit I was calling for a
little aid just as over the target,
and together We "drod" it!
Sue was glad to set my feet
on some terra firma - I kid
you not!

A high point in my trip is
always the coming home and
finding lots of mail awaiting
me - well then - just one letter!
Had about 6 V-mails. - From Sister,
Uncle, + Brother! - After all, I was
away for 5 days so I should
have had a collection! - Glad
Sister + Mama got their Easter

flowers O.K. - They had several kinds I could have sent, but most of them I couldn't ~~find~~ remember what they looked like from their names! - That just goes to show you the length of time I've been away from such things! Anyhow, I did remember what geraniums looked like, so for once I knew what I was sending!

Had quite an odd experience in Algiers yesterday. He wanted to go to Church in the A.M. - so looked around for a place on the bulletin boards. Finally, the only thing we could find, and that in the Stars + Stripes, was a place at such and such an address where "protestant services for English speaking troops were given"! - after much roaming around.

5!
— an inquiries among the Arabs,
we found it. — It turned out to be
a Methodist Missionary place,
complete with the missionary and
his wife! — They were very nice—
and had a good service for about
the 5 or 6 who came! — Everything
was just as you read about in these
stories of foreign missionaries. And
with little imagination you could
picture yourself in any one of a
hundred places you had read
about! —

Well, I'm back at the field, as
I said before, and back down to
the hard realities of war! — Please
jamb all over — tomorrow I go out
on a different kind — according to
the schedule. — I like to think
each one takes me one mission
nearer home — so keep your
fingers crossed for awhile longer. You

6!
--' never can tell but what
I'll be ringing ye olde church bell,
but soon!

Lots of love
Frank