

A V.Letter but not photostatic.

Sgt. Joseph E. Shields,  
12124740  
310 Bomb. Group,  
379 Bomb Squadron,  
A.P.O. Postmaster, N.Y.  
June 8, 1943.

Dear Mom.

In North Africa.

Well at last I'm at my final destination. Just where I can't say, but it is in North Africa. My new A.P.O. is 310 B.G. 279 B.S. A.P.O., Postmaster, N.Y.

You can start writing Mom every day if you will. I'll try to do the same, but doubt if I'll be able to. I have'nt been on any missions yet, but I hope to go real soon. My whole crew is going on one tomorrow with the exception of the Pilot and myself. They broke our crew up for a while but we think we will be able to get back together again. This 379 is an old Sqd. but they are at a new location now, so that things are pretty unsettled but everything will be running smooth I hope. We live in tents and have to cart our own water for washing and laundrying. But the chow is good here, dam good, much better than we get all the way across. Will you give my address to every one especially Fel. Dot and Frank. I have'nt been paid yet Mom. Have you gotten the allotment for May. I'll send some money home when I get paid. Don't worry about me Mom. everything is swell and I'm having a grand time. This thing will probably be over a lot sooner than we think. Bye now and write soon.

Love to all, always,  
Joe.

Dot  
The A.P.O. is No 520. I forgot to put it in. Will send a copy to Jan as soon as I get an address from him. The censor's stamp was signed by a 1st Lt. P. Canale, looks like none of his old letters are with him. I sent him a Test Cable last night. Out of 100 payings you can pick 3 and group them, and the charge is only 60¢ - For a personal one of 25 words they charge 2.75 - Of course they don't guarantee delivery. It was just 2 months to the day he left. April 26 to June 26th - His V.Letter took 18 days to come up. I'm writing him tonight,



I called Ted and gave him his address. He  
said she'd write.

Cablegram and

Thanks for the letter, All well at home.  
Writing.

Am getting a letter off to him tonight -  
going to by air mail and see if that  
will be quick.

Love, the whole family.

Love, the whole family.

P.S. - You and Jan's name are finally  
in the Honor roll at St. Anselm's.

P.S. - Monday

Went to Peggy's last nite. Willie's oldest  
girl leaves for Pueblo, Colo, today to marry a St  
John's fellow - Been going around with him for 3 yrs.  
Got all the dirt from Irene before Peggy got home.  
From Willie's - what a family battle that was.  
Peg & Irene disapproved, so Willie & his wife opened  
fireworks - Irene won't talk to Bill, but of course he's  
still mama's boy. Bill came in while we were there  
and personally I think he's wackier than Grand.  
Just phoned me - no news from Richie in a month.  
Bye now - Mother