

Jan. 16, 1945

Dear Mom & Dad,

I sure have slipped up in the last few days. I am really sorry for not writing.

Mom in your letter of Dec. 28th you were concerned about the packages you sent.

I am pretty sure I have gotten them all by this time. I want to thank you very much for them.

By the sound of your letters all the children sound as if they are almost grown up. Even Randy talks. I'm starting to feel like an old man.

No mail from Virginia yet.
 I wonder what is the matter.
 I've written about three to her,
 the mail has been very slow
 lately perhaps the letters will come
 soon.

Everything remains the same
 here in Italy. The mountains are
 still as high but they look beautiful
 covered with snow. We have had
 about a foot and a half of snow.
 In fact in snows about every two
 or three days. We got hold of some
 skis and I did a little skiing. It's
 lots of fun and there sure ~~of~~ are
 plenty of hills. In fact it's hard
 to find a hill that isn't too
 steep or doesn't have a cliff at
 the bottom.

a lot of the men have gotten sick lately. I've been trying my best but I guess I'm too healthy. I sure could stand a few weeks in a hospital. If it means a break I want it so I might as well forget about it and just content myself with the fact I'll be here sweating out the shells till the war ends.

You should see the pets we have now, a cat, dog and a sheep. The sheep is the tamest of them all. It follows us wherever we go. The C.O. is out now looking over the positions and the sheep is with him.

Well folks that's about all for now I really wanted to let you know I am still going strong.

Love & kisses

P.S. Have about some more sundries, clove
candy, shrimp marshmallows and I
need a fountain pen.