



1942

[1942-03-25]

Postcard

March 25, 1942

(Letters to T. E. Goodin)

Tuesday p.m.

Dear Dad,

Just got your letter - and some day I'm going to lose my disposition!! I told you specifically to please stay out of my desk, as I knew my glasses weren't in there. If I get home again, I'm going to get me 14 boxes at the bank for personal stuff that no one can get into. It's not what's in it, but the principle of the thing. Among your few faults - curiosity and too great an interest in some things are your biggest.

I'm sending back our check - as you probably have my card by now that I found them here. (It still makes me mad that you do the very thing I ask you not to.), and won't need the money for glasses. I have a lot of incidental expense here, but until I need it - I won't ask for it. My cleaning (just one week) was \$1.25.

I spent this morning blowing up trees, and rails with dynamite & TNT - more fun than when we used to blow up stumps. I'm also learning how to tell how much weight a bridge will stand, and the functions, parts, and nomenclature of rifles. The days sure fly here - and I hope June comes quick.

I knew about the shooting Wednesday (it was in the Louisville paper). Sorry to hear about John Miller. Good nite, but things happen down there.

Tell Bill Simpson I'm sorry I didn't get to see him - but I had girls on the brain!! By the way - remember that Sat. nite trouble?? Both boys got fined very heavily - and the little girl wasn't mixed up in it - which was all I was worried about.



Gotta close - thanks for the check - but don't need it right now.

Love,

Johnny

[1942-04-06]

Envelope to:
Mr. & Mrs. Thos. E. Goodin, Sr.
RFD #1
Erwin, Tennessee
APR 6 1942 LOUISVILLE, KY

[letter is typed: Talks about having difficulty learning the machinery]

[1942-05-21]

Envelope to:
Capt. T. E. Goodin
c/o Hotel Morgan
Spartanburg, South Carolina
MAY 21 1942 FORT KNOX KY

May 21, 1942
Fort Knox, KY

Wed. nite

Dear Dad,

Guess I've kinda neglected you lately - but I have enjoyed your letters and hope you realize I'm busy. I could write on the weekends, but I'm usually trying to get my mind off of my work and relaxing, so that about 6 weeks ago I quit writing on the



weekends even. I only have 3 1/2 weeks or so more to go & then I hope to be home for a while before leaving for God knows where!!

Sis sent me some pictures today of you & Glenna & Jean & her & Mother. She sure had a good time while she was there, I guess.

By the way, mother intimates you are raising sand about her "Unaka" camp or whatever it is. Gee, Pop - can't you or won't you ever understand that she'd go crazy if she didn't have something to do?? Don't we all know that when you - the sanest of people - lay off for 4 days that you're pacing the floor like a caged lion on the 3rd day?? As long as she's interested in anything, for Heavens [sic] sake, encourage her, and don't discourage her - if she even wants to fly to England. It's hard enough on her losing everything she has without adding on to it. With all the freedom you've always had - you can't realize what living in one place week in & week out means. If I had to stay here over the weekend - with the same people (which is ten times better than no people at all) - I'd be ready for the nut house. So - ease up a bit on her & let her do what she wants to do as long as she's not hurting you.

I took Virginia Woodward on a boat trip up the Ohio River Sunday afternoon - \$1.05 for the both of us - me being in uniform. Had a good time. It's kinda funny talking to her now that she's growing up like she is. Reminds me a lot of Anne Carter.

Well, I gotta get to work. I hope to have a few days off & be home in about 3 weeks (around the 15th of June). So - if the gas ain't rationed - hope the Oldsmobile is rearing to go - for it might be my last fling at home for a long time.

Love, as always,

Johnny

[1942-05-21]

Envelope to:
Mrs. Glenna H. Goodin



R.F.D. #1
Erwin, Tennessee
MAY 21 1942 FORT KNOX KY

May 21, 1942
Fort Knox, KY

Wed. nite

Dear Mom,

Sure enjoyed your letter - I still say when you do write, you make it well worth while.

I've gotten 2 letters from Sis - the first of which bubbled over about 6 pages about how nice the house looked, how well you had things going, and things in general pleasing her through & through. And what those girls had to say & did. She's worried about getting home now. Confound it - I told her to leave the car there while she was there. But that "I'll get by" of hers.

I'm still plugging. Have flunked 2 exams, still have more demerits than merits, and time is growing short. 3 1/2 weeks, & I hope to be home. I may meet Sis in Virginia (I can meet her & drive on home in the time it would take me to get home) if she decides on coming on in. She's worried sick that there's not much way for her to come but to drive. Sent me some pictures - Glenna sure looks skinny to what she did - but she's growing.

Go ahead & finish your Unaka plans. I may live through this mess & want some place to keep my mistakes!! Seriously, go ahead. It'll always come in handy.

Took Virginia on a boat trip Sunday afternoon up the Ohio River - she really is growing up. We had a good time, lost our glamour and self-restraint - got ice cream all over us, & I blistered my feet dancing. Came back, ate a quart of ice cream & talked for 2 1/2 hours before I had to leave.



Had a date with my "Kitten" on Sat. nite, took her to dinner, and made her wait while I spent \$95 on a uniform. Still gotta buy some shoes, & odds & ends.

And - with my usual aptness for getting involved, I'm falling in love with Anne Carter's roommate. Fortunately - most of my loves are purely platonic and no serious difficulties arise. Besides - it's fun getting out of scrapes, altho [sic] I don't realize it!!

Well - write when you can & hope I see you before another month is up.

Love,

Johnny

P. S. Tell all our neighbors hello for me!!

[1942-07-01]

Envelope to:
T. E. Goodin, Sr. & family
Erwin, Tennessee
R.F.D. #1
JUL 1 1942 CAMP POLK, LA

[letter is typed]

From Camp Polk, La.

Officer's School

[1942-08-28]

Envelope to:
Mr. & Mrs. Thos. E. Goodin, Sr.



R.F.D.#1
Erwin, Tennessee
AUG 28 1942 BARSTON CALIF

[letter is typed]

Rice, California

Aug. 28, 1942
Dear Folks,

"I'm now working in headquarters."

[1942-09-25]

Postcard to:
T. E. Goodin, Sr. & Family
RFD #1
Erwin, Tennessee
SEP 25 1942 BLYTHE CALIF

Hi Folks,

On maneuvers - got a break. Got my mail today - first time in a week - in town tonite. Gets better - I even got to fly some. More Tenn. & Va. people floating around in the desert. It's O.K. tho. Will write sometime soon!!

Johnny

[1942-12-29]

Postcard to:
T. E. Goodin, Sr. & family
Erwin, Tennessee
DEC 29 1942 CAMP PICKETT VA



Postcard

Mon. nite.

Dear Folks,

Arrived O.K. - tho had to stand up to Roanoke. Sat in Lynchburg, ate supper with Bertha (she had sent me a bracelet for Xmas and caught a special bus (had to stand up) into Blackstone & got here at 11:30.

If you find my cap - send it up along with my address book which is in with my cards, also the typed list of names & addresses. Santa Claus stopped here: shaving materials, 2 identification bracelets, a duffle kit, a book, and 73 Christmas cards & letters (P.S. - some bills!!) Also send me Eloise's picture. Saw Jean in Bristol - another Santa Claus. Had a swell time coming up. By the way - can't deny that I had the bestest Christmas ever while at home. Will write you all more later!!

Love,

Johnny