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Letter from Somewhere in France, August 20, 1944

Ralph Mouw

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Air Mail

20 August 1944

Somencher in France

Dear folks

Sorry to hear that you had a little summer flu Dad but hope it is all over by now.

At present we are having our first day of rest in seventy days and it's a grand feeling. The war news is most encouraging.

Today was a memorable one for us as a Bn. The Corps Commander, a Major General, came and complimented us on our ability under Battle conditions. Our Corps Artillery Commander, a Brigadier General, told us we had proven beyond a doubt our ability in combat and he was proud to have his name associated with us. To know you have proven your ability under battle conditions is indeed gratifying.

We have been able to attend
a concert in one of the nearby towns.
When our band played the "Marseillaise"
the national anthem of France
the thrush actually cried for joy,
and one old man fainted. It's
truly a great sight to see - a people
liberated from tyranny - it is
worth the hardship we endure.

I am getting along just fine. Oh
yes, I have been transferred again
and am now in command of C Bty,
which means more hard work and
increasing worries, but I'll still do
my best and with the aid of
God we will go forward.

Hoping these few words find
you in best of health so it leaves
me

your loving
son

Ralph