

WAR DEPARTMENT

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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New York,

N.Y.



Coblenz Thurs. Feb. 27.

Lo Rufelus,

I'm sitting in an office that once belonged to some Prussian official, and in a wonderful building that was the seat of the government of the Rhineland. now it's the Headquarters of the 3rd army, and this room is occupied by Capt. Miller who is Photographic officer of the army. just below is the Rhine and the famous Bridge of Boats over which the 1st Division crossed on the morning of Dec. 12 - the first allies to cross the Rhine.

There is a great deal of traffic on the river now - barges pass constantly - four or five behind a tiny tug - and passenger steamers too, turned over to the Americans for pleasure trips on the Rhine. Several boats leave daily for the Lorelei Rocks some 60 Kilometers up the river.

"Ich weis nicht was soll es bedentent" (Something like that) I'm going to take the trip someday soon.

across the way is the Fortress of Ehrenbreitstein - a wonderful ~~works~~ on a great hill. now it flies one of the largest and most beautiful american flags I ever saw.

This Bridge is a wonderful affair. It's a pontoon - about forty boats laid side by side all pointed up-stream, and along their tops the roadway. Two sections are detachable, and equipped with steam tugs so that when a boat is to pass they can be towed out making a break in the bridge. Last week it was taken out because of ice floes in the river. It was replaced in about two hours - not a bad achievement that - spanning the Rhine in two hours. One could hardly swim it in that time.

yesterday, ~~say~~ I came down to bring a bunch of men from the 1st Div. to go on leave. came up to see Miller and he insisted I stay over for a football game today. Incidentally he's to make a portrait of me this morning, and

I'm going to arrange a trip as
courier to Berlin. I hope I can
make it. miller's turn comes
pretty soon - but he's going to
England on a leave - so I'm to get
his detail - maybe!! It's a good
bet tho'.

There's a Scout here now -
a photographer - who was sent
to Berlin to get some pictures
about a month ago. From Berlin
without orders he took in
Vienna, Constantinople and a few
more parts - ~~swent~~ broke in Vienna
and left his detail - 3 men - and
all his photographic stuff in
hock. now he's doing his darndest
to pull out of the scrape. He
declares it was worth it, at
that.

miller is a great scout. He
was with the 1st Div. for several
months till they boosted him
along. He's clever and witty and
capable - very much so. Just asked
him if he had any message for my
wife. Said he'd have to deliver it
himself 'cause he knows I wouldn't
write it. must be something good
hub(?) ~~mebbe~~ so -

me? Now the fine - just
fine - fat and without to get
away. This style of warfare went
withdrawing at all and we are the
down pretty well, more than the
lack of transportation than any
other reason. In making the

history last as long as possible
as of always have some more to
free each on - but I really would
finish it. Tomorrow all of a sudden
there'll come a letter - or an
order rather - to beat it to some
other outfit due for an early
return and then I'll have to
pick up in a hurry. "I'm not about
to leave today - the time they
go the outfit never to coming
regular - no looking - come - today.
back as I.

They want give me any more
paper - and explain the collecting
terribly so the outfit what more
can do and kept in outfit
lovely - and tomorrow - and waiting
to come home to some better
and hanging from your. I'll
right! So long sweetest. Loving
you lots. XXXX Love Don xxxxy