S/Sgt. James J. Ley
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Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Ley
Wakota
Iowa
U.S.A.

February 17, 1944

Dearest Mom and Dad,

Received a letter from Aunt Ada today - she said that Aunt Kate was coming out to the house - but I imagine you've heard all about that. Also I received a flat fifty (cigarettes) from "Butter" Schroeder today. Certainly was tickled to think that old Herman did that - be sure to thank him for me, will you, Dad?

Not much new over here - still haven't received any Registers (lately) or Readers Digests. Am certainly looking forward to getting that box of candy you sent! I hope those pictures of the crew get there O.K.

The paper says that there has been a lot of snow and blizzards out in the middle west. I imagine Lakota

has been pretty well blanketed as usual. I remember those cold ~~wintery~~ wintry nights back home - used to hang out at the pool hall - Bill Schroeders - or the Drug Store - and eat ~~peanut~~ peanuts and drink cokes!

Say, Dad, I certainly want to thank you for the bond ($31.50 - $50.) I want you to know that I really appreciate it! I guess I'll have quite a little saved up by the time that I get out of the service. Personal financial status is pretty good now, too - $135. in the pocket.

I guess, I've said all for now. Sure do miss all of you.

Love,
Jimmy

P.S. Tell the boys hello for me.

- Hi David -