

Fighting Men Express Themselves On Things Over Here, Over There

Colorado Officer Says Prisoners Treated 'Humane'

Writing Mrs. T. A. Simons, Jr., to tell her that he had roomed with her son, Lt. Capen Simons, for 11 months in a German prison camp. Lt. Eugene L. Beville, Denver, says the treatment received by our boys in Nazi camps is "humane," and that Lt. Simons is in good health and spirits. His letter follows:

5 March, 1945

Dear Mrs. Simons,

I am writing in regard to your son, Capen, whom I knew quite well at Stalag Luft III in Germany, rooming with him for about eleven months of my stay in Germany. I last saw Si on the fifth of January, the day I left the camp at Sagan for repatriation. Si was in excellent health and in good spirits, and, of course, very anxious to return to "A Spot That Is Forever Texas." I do hope he shall be back with us soon.

Although the Red Cross has done a wonderful job in keeping the families here in the States posted as to conditions and treatment "over there," I do want to add my reassurance that the German treatment of Allied Prisoners is humane. After talking to some of the families here, I feel that most of them have a much harsher picture of conditions than is actually the case.

The Red Cross parcels, together with the German food issue, provides sufficient food, not that the boys aren't a bit hungry most of the time, but they do have enough food to remain in good physical condition and do not suffer from lack of food.

In regard to clothing, the Red Cross maintains stores which insure that every man has serviceable clothing sufficient to keep him warm in cold winter weather.

Si's personal parcels were coming thru quite regularly and were very satisfactory as to contents, so I shall offer no suggestions. I know he would be very appreciative of additional snapshots and pictures of the family and "Eddy."

The Y. M. C. A. has done very well in supplying sports and recreational equipment, alleviating the difficulty of having too much time on the boys' hands. The "Y" also supplies musical instruments, popular and classical recordings and plays, all of which help a great deal in making things more liveable over there.

If you have any questions, I would be very happy to answer them for you.

Joining you in the hope that Si shall be back with us before many months.

Sincerely,

Lt. Eugent S. Beville

720 Logan

Denver, 3 Colorado

LT. CAPEN SIMONS, is in good health and spirits in Stalag Luft III. The news comes from Lt. Eugene Beville, Denver, Colo., who writes Mrs. T. A. Simons, Jr., that he roomed for 11 months with Capen in the German prison camp. The Denver officer was repatriated, leaving the German camp on January 5. He lauds the Red Cross and the YMCA for what they are doing for the boys and says "German treatment of Allied prisoners is humane."