

HEADQUARTERS

BATTERY D-129 FIELD ARTILLERY 35TH DIVISION

Aug. 14, 1922.

Mr. James A. Burkhardt, H.A.Cpl.,  
Springfield, Missouri.

Defer "Abie":

I am ashamed of myself for not having answered your good letter sooner, but I have had to be at the election commissioner's office to see whether my late 'Rabbit' opponent was going to file a contest to ray election. There was a great deal of talk that he was going to, but he didn't. I had to be there to file one of my own so that he wouldn't have the best of me on the count. This is the last day and I am sure they wont file.

It is a pleasure to hear that you have been promoted to the rank of H.A.Corporal. We are now two of a kind. You can appreciate what the heart of a two striper is like. Be sure you have you warrant framed so you son can'point with pride' in future years, when he talks of his dad.

I am going to let you have one of my most highly prized treasures. Eddie is going to ship you my trusty 45 that I carried all through the late unpleasantness with Kaiser Bill. All I ask is please dont lose it but if you do come and see me Just the same because I value your friendship higher than a U. S. army gun.

My hard boiled cousin has the best heart in the world and when you scrape the rough off you'll find a real diamond. I'm not saying it because he is related to me but because I want you to get along with him and make good on the job. He has some regard for my judgement and I dont want him to be foiled and I know he wont. I have blown the horn pretty strongly for you and Bloomer.

Give my best to the "Padre" and Bloomer. Write when you feel like for we have a real bond of sympathy now.

Sincerely,

Harry S. Truman.