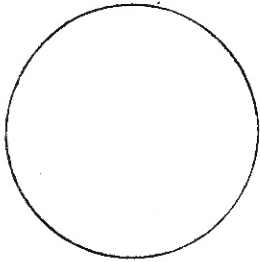


Print the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. \_\_\_\_\_



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

To Richard C. Hodge  
35 Orton Ave.  
Binghamton, N.Y.  
USA

From

Lt. Col. F.W. Hodge  
(Sender's name)

248th FA Bn.  
(Sender's address)

APO # 782, US Army  
9:0 PM: NYC

29 July 45  
(Date)

Dear Dick,  
I was glad to get your letter to-day. I had just been reading in Newsweek that the Hastings girl was from Oswego and not Oswego. The town must have had quite a parade for her. A couple of months ago Jim Arnold showed me a copy of a letter that went through his office for translation from the Italian govt asking permission from the Army to "confer a Knighthly distinction" on me, and yesterday I was made a Commander of the Order of the Crown. So now all the Italians around here are calling me Commendatore as well as gentilissimo Colonello. I received a very resplendant medal of enamel and gold on a red + white silk ribbon to wear with evening clothes and a red + white ribbon with a gold crown to wear on my uniform and I believe I have some sort of a diploma coming later. I'm glad to hear that the fishing is better now. I'm still planning to try to do some myself next week. It's pretty hot around here now but the beach makes a good spot to cool off. For the past few days there have been a lot of big jellyfish in the water - 15-18 inches in diameter, and they sting like nettles.

lots of love,  
Dad

FOLD SIDES OVER AND THEN FOLD BOTTOM UP AND SEAL  
NO OTHER ENVELOPE SHOULD BE USED

V...-MAIL