To Miss Sallie Loving 5817 – N. Washington Blvd. Arlington, Va.

From Pfc. W.H. Bloomingburg (33, 639, 693) APO # 7790 c/o P.M. N.Y./ N.Y. June 2 – 1944

Dear Sallie,

I think we went around the world 3 or 4 times and finally ended up here in N. Africa. Where we are its right pretty country. The homes around camp here are mostly very elaborate looking villas, yet the people all look very shabby. I haven't been to town but hope that we can do a little sight-seeing while here. Everything looks so old, the houses are of stone usually and are very bright. They all have a lot of shrubbery, flowers etc. so that you can hardly see them from the road. We've been doing some hiking and in that way we get to see the countryside and the people. They have all kinds here, Fr., Ital., Span., and Arabs plus whatever you get when all these are mixed. The kids usually know enough Eng. to beg candy, chewing gum etc. while we're hiking.

(Later) I didn't finish yesterday because we got our first pass and went to town. We walked around and it was very interesting. You see such a mixture of soldiers and sailors. It tickles me seeing these Arabian women trying to keep their faces covered and walk down the street at the same time. We saw them stand Retreat in a park and lower the Brit., Am., and Fr. flags, playing all 3 national anthems. We met Wilbert Miller just before we left the States for the 3rd time. He's in the infantry now. If you still publish that news item we'd like to get it.

Love,

Wendell