

50 Union St.
Auck.
18/2/43

Dear Albert,

Just received
your most welcome letter
and am pleased to hear
you have all arrived at
your destination, and
have once again settled
down to hard toil again.
Well you will know by the
above address that at last
we have arrived back home
and I don't want your mouth
to water but the old beer
is good after the rubbish
over the other side.

After you left we had no
idea that we were to be
sent home, and hung

around at Langrish for a fortnight and were issued with new battle dress, and then eventually we were told we were to spend a few weeks in America.

Left Liverpool and arrived in Boston after 6 days on the *Aueratania*, and from there went to a town 12 mls from N.Y. and spent most of the time touring through the towns. Went to ~~Adison~~ square Gardens Yankee Stadium and a host of other places and everything was on the house and did the

majority of us make use of their generosity, and I pleaded poverty and let the "Yanks" chuck their dough about and put over their skite. Then we went across the Continent to Pittsburg where we were in a camp for a week and only had one night in San Francisco where poor old Jack Edwards met his fate, being killed instantly by a truck. Roddy Read died suddenly in Rotorua about 3 days after our arrival in N.Z. damn hard after coming all the

way without mishaps. There was nothing startling coming by train except that the food and sleepers was great and we gave the oranges hell. The whole trip only took us 28 days and I wish you was with us. Alb. when we anchored at Auckland, to be told by Jones the Minister that we were finished with the army for the time being to go in essential work in the sawmilling. Just finished my 28 days leave and have settled down to hard toil in ^{the} Farmers Furniture

Factory at ~~the~~ Eden about
10 minutes bike ride from
home and am doing it
hard for the present.

I went to Tauranga and
met Ernie and we nearly
hugged each other and
he does not know when
he will be ready to go
overseas. The first chance
I get I will go and see your
people for I was only one
day in Rotorua and had
no time to visit them, and
I only hope you will soon
be home to join them.

Tell Ray that his father
and Rube Guiniven and

I had a party up home here
and Hoppy's only regret is
that he was not with us
so tell the young prick
to write to a civvy when
he gets a chance. I hated
leaving England after being
on with an "Aurrie Waaf"
and she was keen on getting
out home with me, but time
was too short and I have
missed again unless you
send Biss out and look
after Ginders and myself.
This show is alive with
janks and the only good
thing about them is that
I manage to get a surplus

7.

of cigarettes. Best regards to
 Webby, Dave, and all the
 boys, and tell them I feel
 lost here without them
 and miss all their love
 affairs especially Ken's,
 but time will decide. It
 is just a week off Xmas
 and I have decided to go
 to Dundee to visit my
 relations and dodge work
 for a while. Your letter was
 received quite a hit, a a
 I still don't know where you
 are but next time may give
 me a better idea. Well Albeit
 best of luck until we meet
 again from your best Pal. Brownie

Roderick Joseph
 Reid died
 7 Nov 1943 age 26

 Brownie returned 7
 ~ 4 Nov 43