May 1, 1945

Dear Howardite: Please accept my thanks for the most interesting letter sent to alumni everywhere. This battalion debarked upon Utah Beach, France, complete with equipment and personnel. The battalion started to move with the third U.S. Army in hot pursuit of the fleeing German forces and marched over 180 miles in face of armed resistance, occupying thirteen positions. From the positions at Flacourt and at Mantes, medic units occupied the infantry outpost line, over 100 tons of ammunition was expended in helping the 79th Division establish a bridgehead on the Seine River. This action sealed off the last escape route for the Seventh German Army, which had been encircled by the swift advance of the Americans. During this time every night, the Seine was lighted by the heaviest concentration of artillery ever assembled.

After this offensive, positions were occupied near Chambley and Gorze. Before reaching these positions, the battalion passed through Verdun, battle site of World War I. From these positions, which were beyond a doubt the hottest for our ground offensive and with a cease fire was placed on the Seine River, the battalion then moved north, supporting the 39th Division and the 9th Armored, whose offensive pushed the Germans back across the Meuse River, taking a period of general support near Lureville, the battalion again found in the pursuit and destruction of retreating German forces. Culminating in the capture of the important city of Saverne and finally the Rhine City of Strasbourg. In one of these positions, Baker Battery was the most forward and heavily shelled by the Allied Armies. Near the front, 2500 rounds were expended in one of the most daring and spectacular advances made by the Allies.

Next came the battle of the Colmar pocket, won by aggressive American and French forces.

Since this time the battalion has crossed the Rhone River twice.
Gentlemen:

Thank you very much for the University's Bulletin. It is good to hear of the University's activities and its contribution to the war. Over here we are near the Rhine River and expect to cross it soon. I can't say I am doing fine but have been touched with some of the good luck of a soldier.

I send best wishes for the continued service of Howard University.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Name]

[Address]