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Mr. + Mrs. Frank Mauro
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Capt J. H. Barden
ARMY EXAMINER

December 20, 1944

Dear Folks,

I am well, happy, and safe and I hope you all are the same.

I am happy to hear that you received my letter before you got the telegram. I consider it a very singular achievement.

I am still in the hospital, but I do not expect to remain here much longer.

The other day I ran across a book on how to read blueprints and since I've always wanted to be able to read a blueprint, I read the book. It was more or less of a schoolbook with drawings and problems which I enjoyed. It gives me great satisfaction to be able to read a print and although I won't say

I can pick up any blueprint and read it but I can make a good attempt at it.

I even took a hand at writing. Every once in a while I get in a mood in which I feel like writing a story so I just sit down and write. After I finish I read the story then throw it away.

I received a couple of more packages recently, but of all the packages I received (about 17) since I've been in the hospital, I haven't got a thing left to eat. I gave most of it away to an Italian who works here because I had no place to keep it.

Love & Kisses
Jew