

# Richard Hartman

## 590th Field Artillery BN

### 106th Infantry Division

*click on image for enlarged view.*

*If your cursor changes to a "+" sign, click again for a full sized image*

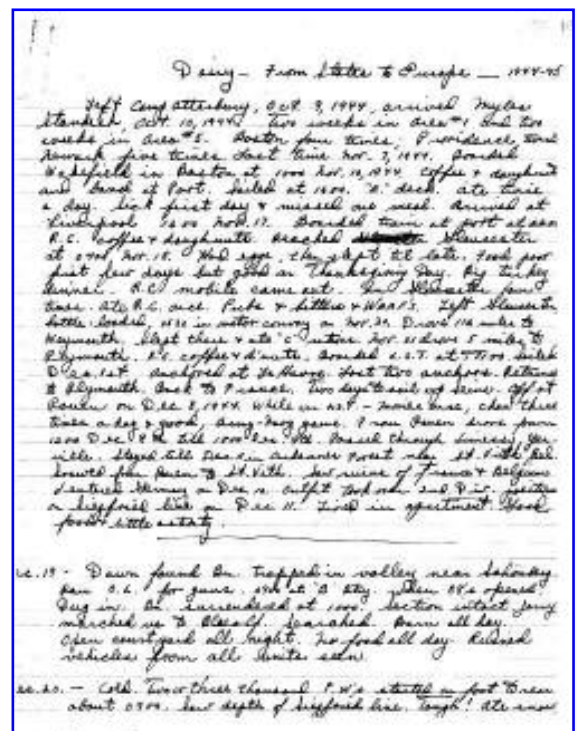
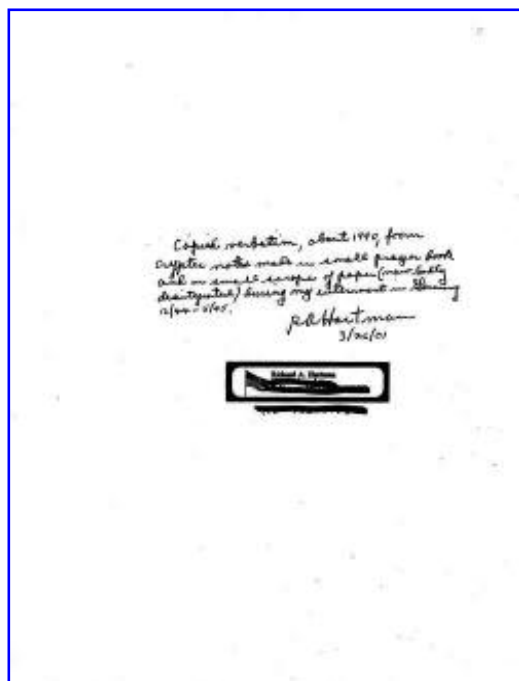
#### Library of Congress

#### Experiencing War - Stories from The Veteran's History Project

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cocoon/vhpstories/loc.natlib.afc2001001.00067/>



**Four days into the Battle of the Bulge, in December 1944, Richard Hartman and his unit were forced to surrender to the Germans. He spent a miserable Christmas Eve confined to a crowded boxcar on his way to a stalag. He and his fellow prisoners would cheer when they saw familiar planes overhead or heard a report on the camp's concealed short-wave radio of an Allied advance. They also dealt out swift punishment to anyone who committed the great sin of stealing. Nearly five months after being taken prisoner, Hartman was liberated, wearing exactly the same clothes he was wearing on the day of his capture.**







Mar. 17 - Two years since I washed down Bellows Ave. & turned & walked for last time. Day & night rain. Rain and frost & snow.

Mar. 18 - Cool, clear. Threw the G.M. Parole today because of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Two calls! Before noon. Took class workers into  
woods as forgotten. \_\_\_\_\_ again. Taking \_\_\_\_\_ off  
Hunting starting. \_\_\_\_\_?

Mar. 19 - Routine reader.

Mar. 20 - Plenty of this. New next to me has gone crazy. & I move  
to \_\_\_\_\_

Mar. 21 - \_\_\_\_\_ 75 x avg.

Mar. 22 - Warm, \_\_\_\_\_ to hospital. \_\_\_\_\_ Birds around  
the clock.

Mar. 23 - Beautiful day. Conference. I \_\_\_\_\_ New stopped to wait!

Mar. 24 - Warm. Big stamp? Stopped & walked \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ show & done. This all over me. Hair & clothes. Body \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ of purple! Return cut to 5 cm long & 3 pellets per cm  
forth & flight are ahead \_\_\_\_\_ one, that done.

more authority back & they may come, I  
swear them, Jerry.  
Buts are taking on appearance of a circus.  
Everything the ship can carry ~~is~~ being brought  
in. Food, medicine, blankets, furniture,  
two rabbits, flour & apples, by rail.  
Russians could have conducted us through  
Odessa but Colonel Oakes said "No. Russians  
have elapsed now. Food getting low. We should  
like, in a sense, fix my birthday. They wish  
to make it day for me. I want about 5000 about  
feminine pancake flour.

May 1-4 - Work to barracks, as service to  
go out on foraging parties. Russian guard  
apples, caviar, pigs etc. Several live  
poultry taken off 120000 pounds captured in  
this area. Liberation proceeded for 12 days  
after our liberation. Russians got anxious  
to see Americans. Some Russians (Whites) from  
Stalingrad. Some Greek here but I  
couldn't get out to talk to him. Ask note put in  
his case. Plan to leave tomorrow.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Personal Home 1: Personal Address Birthplace (Country-City-State):																		Working or Employment <b>NB 312303</b>					
Name: <b>NORTHMAN</b> Surname: <b>RICHARD</b> Addressing and care: <b>A. J. A. NEWYLAND</b> Address: <b>RR</b> Telephone No. Home: <b>NEWYLAND</b> Social Security No. (State): <b>NEWYLAND</b>																		Country: <b>U.S.A.</b> Citizenship: <b>YES (10/10/00)</b> Employment: <b>ART</b> Employer: <b>NEWYLAND</b> Health Insurance: <b>YES</b> Other Insurance: <b>NEWYLAND</b> (If other, name and address)					
FINGERPRINTS																		RECENT DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPH (Attaching Photograph)					
Photo of Subject																		Photo of Subject (If subject is not present, attach negative)					
(1)  (2) 																		METHOD <b>NEWYLAND, N.J.</b> <b>U.S.A.</b>					

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