

Transcribed by Ray Roger's Nephew, Don Henderson, 11/13/2009

I have tried to write the letters exactly as Uncle Ray wrote them, grammar, spellings and all; His hand writing has gotten cold after more than 70 years. Not only that, part of the time he was in a foxhole. The first letter is written in April 1939 to my mother, Gladys Rogers Henderson Powers and me, shortly after my Dad, Albert was killed in a car accident. It appears to me that Uncle Ray was in the service until he was killed, April 27, 1945. According to the 1945 Malakoff News article, Ray was in the CC corp. Perhaps this is what he was doing in Benson Arizona.

Four letters are transcribed. **SCROLL DOWN TO READ ALL FOUR LETTERS**

- The first, August 22, 1939 (Mother did not marry Paul until 1940.
- Next Letter April 5, 1945 written to The Powers in Pt. Neches
- Next Letter April 11, 1945 written to The Powers in Pt. Neches
- Next Letter April 22, 1945 written to The Powers in Pt. Neches

Tuesday Night  
 August 22, 1939  
 S.C.S.19-a Co3840  
 Benson, Arizona

“Dearest Shaddie and Don,

How are you by now fine I hope,  
 This leaves me ok I guess you think I am never going to answer your sweet  
 Letter, Shaddie I am working in the kitchen now and don't have much time, work  
 Some at night, But I am taking time off  
 Now to write to you. Just had give me this  
 Time and I want Do it again.  
 I thanks this camp is going to move  
 Next mounth I don't know far sure yet  
 Yes Shaddie I am goying to stay another  
 Six months, Daddie says he might not  
 Can send the kids to school if I don't  
 Stay and you know I don't want them  
 To miss school. I know what a good  
 Schooling will do you. I hope I will  
 Be satihade the next six months as  
 I have this six I know I will stay  
 Yes Shaddie I would like to see all if  
 If you I sure do get lonesome to see you (over)

But if its God will maby we can see  
 Each other nixt april when I get out  
 I wanted to come home on a leave but  
 It costest to much. So I don't gess I  
 Will, It costest about \$40 to go and come  
 Back my that is a lot of money isn't it  
 Shaddie you said some about if me and  
 You could get us a job when I get out and  
 Rent us a house and live together. My Shaddie  
 That would with me if we can get us  
 A job, I would be willie to do it  
 But Shaddie I don't know weather I will  
 Have any money when I get home or  
 Not. I have wrote home and said have  
 Them to send me some money and  
 Most ever time they say the owe it all.  
 So you know if they spend  
 It all this time at this year, you know  
 They will this winter, so it I don't have  
 My money when I get home. I am going  
 To get the last check You see I will  
 Beat the last check home and I can  
 Get it maby, and I could pay down  
 On me a bed room suit.

### III

That is if can and you can get  
 Me a job Shaddie it would just tickle me  
 To do it. I sure hope we can. I just hope  
 We can. You said litter Don was all  
 Most walking. I sure wish I could see  
 Him my will I be glad when next  
 April comes. I will be looking for  
 Picture of Gauld?? But Shaddie I don't have  
 Any of myself now but I will have some  
 More made and send you the next one of  
 Them, I wish I could hear from sister and Andy  
 I haven't heard from them  
 In aabout two months, I wish if you see  
 Sister tell her to write me, I am glad to  
 Here that Gran Shaddie is better. Tell Mrs  
 Henderson and all hello for me and tell her  
 I am going to stay another six months  
 Well Shaddie iss yourself and little  
 Don for me and be good. Don't wait as

Long as I did to answer. With all my  
Love to my dearest sister and child.

Begood and answer soon xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Love to you two                      Ray Rogers

**2nd Letter written to Mother, Paul and Vivien when they were living in Pr. Neches  
4/5/45**

Okinawa Island

Sgt Ray Rogers  
Inf U.S.A. Army  
A.P.O. % P.O. Master

To: Mrs. Paul Paul Powers  
Box 1574  
Port Neches, Texas

Dear Darling Sister, Paul & Viv,

This finds me sitting out on the battlefield of Okinawa Island trying to write you. Sis guess you have already heard where I am at by now haven't you? Well the Island I am own is in the Ryukyua Islands. The Island is not so bad I like it better than any where we have hit yet. Its pretty cold though at nights. But sis don't worry I am having? Fire. Sure I will keep my chin up sis & keep smiling for you. We had a mail call & I got a letter from you & one from Glee? Sure was nice to get some mail. Tell Glee it was sure nice to hear from her. I am going to write her also today.

Sis tell Paul little Viv & all sweet hello for & I am doing fine. I wrote Mama also.

Bye for now darling & write me often. May God be with us always.

Your bro

Love to all Ray

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> letter from Ray was sent to Mother, Paul and Vivien in Pt. Neches**

4/11/45

Dearest Darling Sister Paul & Viv,

Just a few lines to say helo & to let you know I am still doing okay.

You have probably gotten my other letter by now so you know where I am. Sis its not much I can write but I want you to listen for the news. Don't worry darling for I will be okay. How is Paul & little Viv now? Tell them hello & I send my love. I wrote mother a

letter also today. Tell Glee hello & to be good. When is this other girl going to write me? Well sis I have got to say bye for now. I will write you again as soon as I can. Bye for now & may God be with us until we are together again.

All my love to all,  
Your Bro Ray

**The 4<sup>th</sup> letter is dated 5 days before Uncle Ray was killed. I don't know for sure, but I would guess that the last letter came after he was dead.**

April 22, 45

“Dearest Darling Sis Bro & little niece”,

Well here I am again to say helo & to let you know I am still okay thank God. Hope this will find you all well. I am writing in a Jap dug out trying to write you so it might not be so nice. Sis I want you to write Sister & Pete & tell them what I am in & what I had written so they will know what outfit I am with. Will you do that? Thanks. Well darling guess you listen to the news so that's not much to say except ?? & to let you know I am still in one pickle? Tell Paul & little Viv sweet helo & be good. Say helo to everyone for me. Write me when you can darling & I will do the same. So long for now & may God be with us until we meet again. My love to all of you  
Your bro Ray