

To: C.O. Co "G" 2nd Bn. 60th Inf.
 SUBJECT: Length of time in Combat.

4-OCT. 1944

Dear Sir:

We four men who are lucky enough to still be here since the landing in French Morocco, Nov 8, 1942, through the entire Tunisian Campaign, the Sicilian Campaign, the hedgerows of France, through Belgium & now somewhere in Germany we ask if it would be possible to relieve us from active combat duty.

all of us have been wounded at least once & feel that you could do something to help our cause.

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The application for relief as reproduced on the reverse side was found in "No-Mans-Land". At this writing nothing can be said regarding the fate of the four soldiers concerned.

How big is your Chance?

Every soldier can reckon approximately how long he will last on the front. Since D-Day very conclusive statistics have been made in regard to American losses.

Accordingly the average "Length of Life" on the front is:

Soldiers	64 days
N. C. O's.	59 days
Platoon leaders	51 days
Com. commanders	48 days

These figures indicate that the average soldier in his respective rank group remains in active front service 48-64 days before he is either killed wounded or taken prisoner. The calculations are based on facts gathered from among American units on the German front. (Furlough and details to the rear have not been taken into account).

In military circles it is expected that the coming Winter-Offensive will decidedly increase the hazards thus cutting these figures to a still lower minimum.

Therefore one is seriously concerned that the example of the 110 US Inf. Regt., where 17 men gave themselves up voluntarily at Aachen will repeat itself on a much larger scale.- The confusion caused by large scale attacks greatly facilitates the running over and the enabling of many to seek details in the rear. -