

Stanley Stonek (D/31AR) Letter from Camp Polk, Louisiana 1 July 1942

[www.7tharmdiv.org/docrep/X-31AR-D-Stonek, Stanley-Letter from Camp Polk-1942-07-01.pdf](http://www.7tharmdiv.org/docrep/X-31AR-D-Stonek,Stanley-Letter%20from%20Camp%20Polk-1942-07-01.pdf)

In 1942, the newly-created 7th Armored Division (cadred from 3rd Armored Division) trained at Camp Polk, Louisiana with the 31st Armored Regiment as an organic element. Stanley Stonek trained with Company D of 31AR. In September 1943, armored divisions numbered 5 and higher reorganized into “light” organization. At that time 31st Armored Regiment was broken up into three separate tank battalions. D/31AR became Company A of the 31st Tank Battalion. The Division sailed for Europe 7 Jun 1944. After further training in England, they went ashore in France in August 1944. They pursued retreating German forces eastward across the flat country of central France. But in September 1944, they reached the very different terrain of the Moselle River valley and the fortifications surrounding the city of Metz, France (although Germany had re-annexed the area in 1940 and considered it part of Germany). On 20 September 1944, with A/31 in the area about 1 mile east of Arry, France, Stanley Stonek was killed in action. His final resting place is the Long Island National Cemetery.

While at Camp Polk, Stanley Stonek wrote the following letter. His niece Jennifer Wolff sent a copy of the letter to 7th Armored Division Association Historian Wesley Johnston, who transcribed the letter.

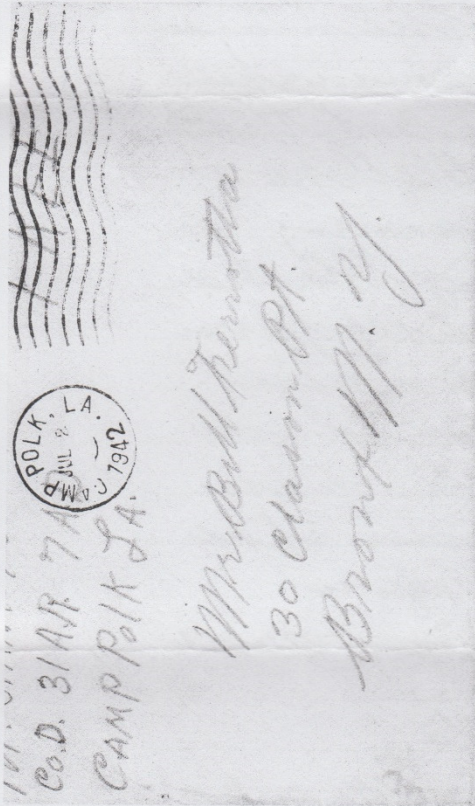
Camp Polk La
July 1 1942

Hello Folks

Well a bright
if you dont want to
write or have you all
got broken arms.

Ever since I been in this
camp I did not get a
letter from you although
I wrote you a letter with
my address. Anyway here
hoping I get an answer
to this one.

Well how is everything
in N. Y. is it as hot there
as it is here because the
temperature down here is
never below 98° and that
is just warm to these
people that live here.



I got blisters on my cheeks
and poison oak on my
arm so today I was
supposed to go to the
woods again but I went
to the dispensary and
when I got back they put
me on K.P. but anything
is better than the woods.
Sorry I can't send you the
money in this letter because
I didn't get paid on the
last of the month but I
will get paid on the 10th
and will send you the money
then. That's all for now
more later

Regards
Stanley

Camp Polk La
July 1 1942

Hello Folks,

Well alright if you don't want to write or have you all got broken arms.

Ever since I been in this camp I did not get a letter from you although I wrote you a letter with my address. Anyway heres hoping I get an answer to this one.

Well how is everything in N.Y. is it as hot there as it is here because the temperature down here is never below 98° and that is just warm to these people that live here.

I got blisters on my heels and poison oak on my arms so today I was supposed to go to the woods again but I went to the dispensary and when I got back they put me on K.P. but anything is better than the woods.

Sorry I cant send you the money in this letter because I didn't get paid on the last of the month but I will get paid on the 10th and will send you the money then. That's all for now more later

Regards
Stanley