

NAME: Vernon

RANK: Private

ORGANIZATION: Quartermaster Corps

OVERSEAS WARTIME SERVICE: European Theater of Operations

- The following excerpt is directly from an original wartime period letter written by Vernon. This is the only letter from Vernon in the site curator's possession.
- The following excerpt is presented under fair use provisions for educational purposes.
- No controversial material has been omitted from the following excerpt. No grammatical or spelling errors have been corrected.

Vernon, an African American soldier, writes some friends in the United States:

“April 30 1946

I'm in a bit of trouble now. I was to leave for home on the 23rd of January. I heard that I was going, so I went out and got pretty drunk. I came to in the hospital with a fractured ankle and a broken fibula bone. A couple of days later an investigating officer came to the hospital and told me that I had been in a stolen jeep and that a little girl had been killed. No, I didn't steal the jeep, in fact I didn't know I was in one. I stayed in the hospital a little of two months and now I'm being held for court-martial...I will write you again as soon as the court-martial is over. Vernon”

-
- Vernon made it through the Second World War but when he passed away is unknown.
 - **For visual context, this link connects to an original wartime period newsreel in the public domain that covers the above time period (viewer discretion advised):**
https://archive.org/details/1946-06-10_Allied_Victory_Parade
 - **For additional detail, this link connects to the Wikipedia article that covers the military history of African Americans (reader discretion advised):**
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_African_Americans