

November 6, 1941

Mr. Jay Datus,  
Hq. 2nd Bn.,  
122nd Field Artillery,  
Camp Forrest, Tennessee.

Dear Jay:

The worst I can say of you, as a character witness, is that the only time I hear from you is when you want a character witness. However, I will let that pass. We are all proud that you are making progress in the stop Hitler program. How long do you figure it will take you to become a general?

The murals continue to attract enthusiastic attention. There are, however, exceptions to the rule. A lady (I am giving her the benefit of the doubt) came in a few days ago escorting a couple of friends from outside the state. Without looking at the murals, she inquired where the pictures were. She was directed to the murals, but refusing to look at them, she went instead into a storm. "I don't mean those things," she said, or something to that effect. "They are terrible," and more of the same. She neither looked at them nor would give her guests time to look at them. We assumed that she must be a friend or the friend of a friend of someone—probably a WPA artist—who was ambitious to do the job.

A different and much more pleasant note was struck a couple or three months ago when Lon Megargee came in, examined the paintings with interest and praised them highly. I appreciate that in view of the extreme effort he made to get the commission.

References enclosed.

Mrs. Good and Marjorie send their regards, and join me in wishing that as soon as you have won the war and covered yourself with glory and medals, you will come to see us.

Yours very sincerely,

MW:alp