## Opening note from Stan Smith, Editor (Retired), Audie Murphy National Fan Club:

The text found on the next page of this document is from a letter by Audie Murphy written to:

P.F.C. Avery F. Dowdy A.S.N. 18083657 – Ward 106 Ashburn General Hospital McKinney, Texas

The envelope (with .6 cents postage) was mailed June 21, 1944 and had the following return address:

S/Sgt A.L. Murphy, 18083707 Co. B, 15<sup>th</sup> INF. A.P.O #3 c/o P.M. N.Y.N.Y

I will assume the "P.M" stands for "Post Master" The letter was subsequently forwarded to:

J.R. Dowdy 2311 Cedar Springs Ave Dallas, Texas

The three-page handwritten letter was dated: Italy June 18-44 and its text includes many misspellings and grammar errors. I have added notes of clarification within braces. Please remember the notes are my own and not part of the original letter.

Stan Smith Editor (Retired) Audie Murphy National Fan Club Dear Pal.

Just a word to say hello hope you are about well I am fine Dowdy you didint tell me where you were hit leg arm or where. Red thare isent much to tell about [Note: "Red" could possibly be Carloss T.] from what I can learn about him when last seen he was taking some prisoners to the rear and got cut off by the Jerrys. and captured I dont think he was killed. Now about yourself whats this about you wanting to come back

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to Italy I cant hardly bleave youd rather be here. As close to home as you are but I guess things have changed a lot since I left the states.

It isint so bad here now have had two passes to Rome. but was disgusted with the place its nothing like I expected. I wonder if Paris will be a disappointment to. hope I get to go to

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France since I came this far I may as well see them all.

well Red thare isint much to write at present time So will have to sign for now I will look forward to a long letter from you [Unreadable ... possibly LIz] wrote and said she thinks a lot of you I told her to take care of you."

Best of luck Pal Murph

[end of page 3 and the letter]