The Rich Family. **Top:** William A. Rich, age 21. **Bottom:** The Rich Children in December 1944 when Bill Rich was home on leave; from left to right: Jack (Harvard Naval ROTC uniform), Mary, Peter, Elizabeth and William (New Zealand Officer’s Uniform favored by A.F.S. volunteers).

[Credits: (top and bottom) private collection]
The North African Desert. This photograph of Rich was taken by his good friend and fellow A.F.S. driver George Holton. This particular photo was run in *Life* magazine. Holton worked on A.F.S. publicity projects when he was not in the field. He became quite an excellent photographer and after the war worked in Hollywood. Holton presented Rich with a large collection of his prints in an album, this being one of them. [Credit: Holton, George, private collection]
The A.F.S. as Tourists. **Top left and right:** While in Lebanon and Syria, without much other work to do, the A.F.S. spent a good amount of time visiting the Greco-Roman ruins that dot the area, especially at Baalbek, where these were taken. The right photo is of the Temple of Jupiter. **Bottom left:** An A.F.S. ambulance in Libya. **Bottom right:** Rich in the foreground of Lucera Castle in Italy.

[Credit: (all photographs) Holton, George, private collection.]
At sea with the A.F.S. Top: A.F.S. driver-turned-publicist George Holton took this photo as Rich’s section crossed the Mediterranean from Tripoli to Italy with their ambulances. The drivers left to right: Ted Railsback, George Meirstein, Red Murray, Bill Rich, wearing sunglasses, and Bill Congdon. Bottom left: the ambulances being loaded for Italy. Bottom right: Rich wearing his life jacket during his first Atlantic Crossing, October 1942.

The A.F.S. at Work in Italy. **Top left:** Stretcher-bearers load wounded patients into A.F.S. ambulances at a Polish ADS at Cassino. **Top right:** A.F.S. ambulances parked in a courtyard at Cassino. **Bottom left:** A.F.S. ambulances evacuating patients to ‘Inferno Gully’, a concealed set of Polish dressing stations. **Bottom right:** The remains of an ambulance that drove over a mine. The driver, Vernon Preble, a friend of Rich’s, was killed in the explosion.

[Credit: (top left, bottom left and right) Holton, George, private collection. (top right) A.F.S. archives]
The Mud. Top: 313th Engineers of the American Fifth Army try to free a jeep from the mud. Bottom: Sometimes, even oxen were employed to free the ambulances. Even the four wheel-drive Dodges got stuck sometimes.

The Life of A.F.S. Drivers in Italy. **Top left:** “D’ Platoon engaged in a volleyball game outside of Venafro, near Cassino, after the fighting ended. **Top Right:** A.F.S. ambulances parked outside of a villa that served as a billets in central Italy. **Bottom:** A.F.S. drivers relaxed at their ‘clubhouse’- a converted villa- outside of Naples.

[Credit: (top left and bottom) Holton, George, private collection. (top right): A.F.S. archive]
'D' Platoon drivers at Belsen Concentration Camp. **Top left:** A mass grave at Belsen, Camp 1. **Top Right:** The burning of ‘Horror Camp’ huts to prevent the spread of typhus-May 18, 1945. Rich’s friend, Joe Fogg, is in the foreground. **Bottom:** Another view of the burning huts.

The Letters. **Top:** One of the letters Rich wrote home from Belsen. The top left hand corner states his name and rank, his company and that he was posted with the ‘British Liberation Army (BLA)’ at that point in time. The letter was written on a special air-mail form in hopes that it would travel more quickly back to the States. Rich, however, wrote most of his letters on stationary or tablet paper. **Bottom:** An envelope on which Helen Rich recorded the date the letter was sent and the date received. A censorship stamp is seen in the bottom left-hand corner.