

Saturday
Sept. 16, 1944

Sweetheart;

As you can see, I am once more in my favorite hamlets appropriating paper for free. They have a very nice place here. The writing room, which I am in at present is air conditioned and is a wonderful place. I must see more of this if the weather gets hot again. Today is rather a nice day. It's the first day we've had clouds in the sky since I've been here hence it is nice. When the sun is not beating down unmercifully - isn't that a beautiful chick? - this isn't too bad a place.

I got a pass to Sacramento, but since I find myself in dire financial straits I decided to limit myself to Manville.

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS • THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICE
THE SALVATION ARMY • THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
THE JEWISH WELFARE BOARD • THE NATIONAL TRAVELERS AID ASSOCIATION

USO IS FINANCED BY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THROUGH THE NATIONAL WAR FUND

2

Honard Gold and I came in here just a couple of minutes ago and are both writing away like fiends now.

This cold I have shows no sign of clearing up and I really feel miserable today. I do so hate having colds, there's nothing that annoys me quite so much and yet I can always plan on having about 3 or 4 of them every year.

We had our inspection this morning and I passed all right. I wasn't sure whether I would or not because I didn't shave but the captain didn't notice it. I still have not shaved. I'm getting very lazy. Anyway, you're the only person I care about looking nice for and since you're not around I just don't give a darn. I have to laugh at Gold and Thomas, they're always worried about whether they need a shave or not and when I ask them why, they



say that you can never tell who you'll meet. I kid them about that because they're both married and should care less about other women even than I do since I'm only engaged. Even though they are married, I still love you very much more than either of them could ever love his wife. I love you more than anyone was ever loved before Darling, and will be the happiest couple in the world together. That, I am very sure of.

After inspection this morning I was told that, as of Monday morning, I was to go to work for the post engineer here at Brale until I ship out. Some of the fellows who have been here quite a while say that the job is very easy and that the hard part about it is finding something to keep you occupied during the day. A dozen of us are on the detail and I know three of the other fellows quite well, so the

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS • THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICE
 THE SALVATION ARMY • THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
 THE JEWISH WELFARE BOARD • THE NATIONAL TRAVELERS AID ASSOCIATION

job should be quite a good one. At least it will give me something to do until I leave here. Our orders should be in here early in the week. Then begins the job of processing out. What would the army do if it couldn't process us?

I should be getting mail from you about the first of the week, Sweetheart. It will certainly be wonderful to start getting letters from you regularly again. That's the worst part of shipping, I don't get any mail for a while and I don't like that at all. You probably went about a week without hearing from me didn't you? When I leave here you can keep right on writing to me here until you get my new address. The letters get to me sooner that way than if you wait until I can send my new address. That one letter I did get from you through Grant was wonderful. I read it over when I



don't get any mail. It sounds good every time I read it.

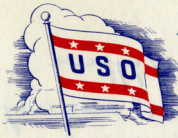
Something which amused me here was the fact that in almost all restaurants here the dinners are all ala carte instead of there being regular dinner combinations. I don't care much for this because it's very deceptive when you order a meal. You never know how much it will be. At least I don't. I can never keep everything straight. Oh not dull am I, Darling? You don't have to answer that if you think it's an incriminating question.

I don't know just what will do here in town today but I do know that we won't do very much tipping because the only thing I can afford is beer and I can never drink very much of that. Maybe it's

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS • THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICE
THE SALVATION ARMY • THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
THE JEWISH WELFARE BOARD • THE NATIONAL TRAVELERS AID ASSOCIATION

just as well, don't you think. If I get paid here I'll buy you a carton of Luckies if you'd like some. If you have sworn off, and I'm quite sure you haven't, you can give them to your father. I won't get them if I don't get paid though because of my aforementioned financial position. They sell cartons of cigarettes and chewing gum here and yesterday they had a whole lot of film here. It's a wonderful place as far as anything like that is concerned. They feed the condemned men a very hearty meal.

This cold is giving me a headache now. I blow my nose so much that I have a nice headache and my nose feels very raw. I'll be glad when I get rid of it. Howard is an equally sad sack because he has a very bad case of the flu and went on sick call today. The doctor gave him some ephedrine sulphate



~~tablets~~ capsules and they make him very dizzy and make him feel sleepy. We make a very nice pair I guess.

I think that when I finish this letter I'll sink into a nice easy chair here and read some magazines till dinner time. It's about 2:30 now and I think I'll eat at about 4:30. I have a feeling that I won't stay in town very late tonite but will be back in bed quite a while before midnight. Maybe sleep is what I need to cure the cold.

I don't know why most of the fellows want to go into Sacramento on a week end for. From what some of the fellows who went there tell me, there isn't anything doing there and it's impossible to get a room there. With everyone gone out of town, Marysville is very uncrowded and I can do just

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS • THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICE
THE SALVATION ARMY • THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
THE JEWISH WELFARE BOARD • THE NATIONAL TRAVELERS AID ASSOCIATION

about anything I want to here.

I just saw a family of gypsies cross the street outside. I haven't seen any gypsies in a long time. I remember what a furore it caused at home when the gypsies came. All of us kids would go down to see them. I remember that on several occasions I saw some gypsy mother suckling her child on the street and was absolutely stupified at the sight - naive child that I was. All of us kids would look forward to seeing them and all the older people would try to keep us away with stories of how they kidnapped little children and made gypsies of them. I always used to think that would be rather exciting to have happen to me. I remember my aunt unlimbering the rod on my "derriere" several times when she found out that I was near the gypsy camp.



Some of the boys in the barracks read an article in a magazine - I believe it was "Colliers" - in which the buying of wives on some South Sea Island was described. It seems that on this island the families marry their daughters to American soldiers for \$16.50, the only stipulations being: ① that the soldier's commanding officer approve the wedding ② that the soldier observe the tribal laws pertaining to marriage ③ that the soldier agree not to take the girl with them when they leave the island - a ~~first~~ term which I am sure all the soldiers greatly approve of. By fulfilling these terms and paying over \$16.50 in American money the fellow can get himself a nice, slightly yellowish bride, to have and to hold for as long as he remains on the island. Howard says

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS • THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICE
THE SALVATION ARMY • THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
THE JEWISH WELFARE BOARD • THE NATIONAL TRAVELERS AID ASSOCIATION

that he read about the people of Arabia and of how the Arabians rent their horses to American soldiers. Along with the horse the soldier gets the services of the whole family. The family waits on him hand and foot and the daughters are at his disposal whenever he desires them. Quite a system, don't you think? Ouch! I was only fooling, Honey, Can't you take a joke? You know I only love you.

Well, goodbye again Sweetheart. I'll settle down to a little reading now telling you again that

I love you with all my heart;

Freddie