

Tuesday Oct. 31, 1944  
27<sup>th</sup> P. Co., 5<sup>th</sup> Depot  
A.P.O. #711

Sweetheart;

Life is again wonderful. I just got three letters from you yesterday and it was the best morale booster I could ever have received. They were the 16<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> letters so I guess there must be a lot more in between. I haven't yet received the first. Eleven days from Lansing is wonderful service.

So you're out picknicking with Marion and the YWCA girls. Dey! My! I am going to fall into a nest of YWCA girls everytime I come in the house at this rate. With Marion leading them at that. You'll certainly be a busy little person, Darling. That picnic sounded exhilarating in your letter. Something like our picnics I imagine only I would prefer one of our picnics right now.

Be sure you send me those pictures you spoke of. I'll be waiting for them dump or not. I've gotten some of your photos which you claimed were not very good, but which impress me otherwise. I didn't know you had taken up the printing of photos. I should get a lot of pictures of you then, eh? Be sure to send me as many as you can. I want to be sure to keep up with any changes in costume or hairdress. Don't forget now, you told me you would. Gosh, Sweet, but I love you and miss you an awful lot. You're so very nice and loveable. I'll be the happiest fellow in the world when I can get back to you.

Maybe that will be soon. We are doing a swell job on the Japs right now and everyone out here seems to want to finish the Pacific ~~time~~ War before

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the European War. If things continue this way there's a chance that we will. I think all this talk of the wonderful job the troops are doing in Europe has got the boys here all hepped up to finish this and maybe help the boys against Germany. There's no one hoping any more than I do that we can win a very early victory against Japan. I want to be with you, dammit.

I took a wonderful shower yesterday. As soon as I got a chance I will draw a sketch of our improvised showers. They have to be filled with water from a well, which water feels very cool on the hot human body. It really was wonderful though. I went to work on my athlete's foot which is just about cleared up. I think that the best way of getting rid of it is by drying my feet well, sunning them for about ten minutes and then powdering my feet, socks and shoes well. If I can just keep my feet perfectly dry I'm positive all will be well. I would hate to be the cause of your catching it when I get back.

How are your mother and father. I mean mother and father. I have to get used to calling them that. I'll have to find another name for your father though because father is too formal. What do you call him? Give them both my best regards and tell them that I would like to be with them and their daughter very much. They have a wonderful and very beautiful daughter; you'd like her if you ever met her I'm sure. I'll introduce you to her. She's the best wife I will ever have.

Another thing I'll have to do today is some laundry. I'll boil a tub of water and let my clothes boil in it for a while with some Rinso to help them out. That should get them clean. I don't have many dirty clothes and it won't be a bad job.

Yesterday I traded in my two small leggings for some my own size and it turned out that I got two leggings for my right leg. I'll wear them until I get some others though. They should have a salvage and exchange day soon and I'll change them, get a new fatigue hat - mine has reached the point where I can't touch it without having it rip, and salvage a pair of fatigue pants - the seat of which ~~is~~ is non-existent. All part of the trials and tribulations of the soldier overseas.

Food here is good. The cooks know how to cook dehydrated foods so they don't look and taste like parboiled sea weed, which was the case aboard ship. Our scrambled eggs yesterday tasted like eggs and the other meals were well prepared. I expected an awful lot worse. We even had grapefruit juice yesterday noon and they gave us all we wanted. If this keeps up I guess I'll be moderately happy here. Of course happiness without you around just isn't possible.

There was a movie here last night but I got there too late to get a seat so I stood through part of the picture "Secret Command" with Pat O'Brien and got tired of standing. I then went to a tent where there was an exhibit of sketches of natives and some of their handicrafts - not very good. There was also a complete bulletin board of news regarding the war. They also

had a chart explaining that when it is noontime  
 Monday here, it is 11:00 PM Sunday in East  
 Lansing. That's a big time difference. About 35 hours  
 in all because we're the other side of the date line.  
 We lost a day on the way over here.

On back of our tent we have a wash  
 stand in which we can set our helmets as basins.  
 There's also a well a couple of yards away where we  
 can draw water for washing. All of our drinking water  
 is in sanitary lister bags which are kept filled  
 and chlorinated. Even Lansing water will taste like  
 spring water when I get back. Chlorine is the only  
 way we have of getting pure water around here  
 though.

Well, sweetheart, I'll close again today. I  
 hope I get a lot more mail from you today be-  
 cause they're wonderful boosters. Be a good girl  
 now and take very good care of yourself because  
 one of these days I'll be coming back to you and you  
 want to be in the best of condition. Why? Well you  
 see it's like this - no, that isn't quite it, it's just  
 that - oh well, can't you guess? I just love you  
 very much and ~~will~~ will

Always  
Freddie