

Dearest Dolores;

Sunday morning! I'm sitting out in the company area getting a nice sun tan – I hope. It's a wonderful summer day there today, a perfect day to hold a picnic in East Lansing and I have to waste it out here miles from nowhere.

I went into Rockford last nite [sic] to see what it was really like. It is quite a large town, much larger than Lansing and isn't too bad a place. We didn't do much of anything except visit a couple of bars and have a few glasses of Canadian Club. We left here at 8:30 – after waiting a half hour for a bus – and got back here at 1:00 A.M. There were some week end passes given out and these were till 5:30 A.M. Monday. I hope they do

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this every week. I'll check up on connections and see if I can take that 8:00 or 8:30 bus out of Lansing and make it back here in time. I hope so. That would make it a lot better for me to get to Lansing on weekend & be able to spend some time with you.

As you can see from the address, I have moved to a new battalion and am supposed to start seven weeks of basis training tomorrow. It'll be bothersome but should not be too hard. We'll have to go on some fairly long hikes before we're thru [sic] and will have to fire rifles after all. We're still living in tents but are in another part of camp. We are stationed at the extreme far end of camp. There's nothing beyond us except the guard gate and the highway. That's the main reason why it takes so long to get a bus. It's also going to be hard getting to a P-X or to the camp library and theaters. They're all at least a mile away. The whole length of the camp to be exact.

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I hope your father does go to Chicago. It would be nice if he went after pay day because I am almost broke now. I could get the money from some of the boys but I don't like to do that if I can help it. Let me know if you can go to Chicago tho [sic] won't you Darling, because if you do I certainly want to be there to see you. This is the first week end we haven't seen one another in about four months, do you realize that Sweetheart I miss you a terrible lot Honey. God I wish we were together again, for good.

Bob Kennedy, Manny, Dave Warren & myself are all living in a very large tent with about twenty other fellows. As soon as they can get the tents we are supposed to erect some more tents, then the four of us are going to get Shugerman

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to move in with us so we'll have a tent-ful [sic] of boys we know. It's much better that way.

Our first sergeant and commanding officer both seem like darned nice fellows and the battalion commander a major and fairly young – watches over us like a mother hen with her brood. Our C.O. has a very unusual name – it is Fajen. I've never heard it before.

Oh yes! There's a fellow in our company named John Maurice. I'll have to look him up because he is the first one I've ever run across. We're very rare articles you know. Don't smirk, it's true – and not in the way your [sic] thinking either.

Bob also has taken up the worship of the sun god. I guess this is the first Sunday he hasn't gone to church in a long time, but he's just lying out here in the sun with me forgetting all his intentions of getting up early and going in town to church.

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It's a wonderful day. The sun is out nice and warm, birds are singing in the meadow just outside the camp bounds and cars are humming down the highway toward Rockford, the sky is nice and blue with only a small cloud here and there to provide contrast. The grass is green and smells very nice, but over to my right, to spoil the whole picture are rows of tents. Even they look nicer than usual tho, [sic] the sunlite [sic] brightens them up. You would brighten things up an awful lot more tho [sic] Darling.

Say, I was just thinking, you know, I believe Reid was right when he said that your hair looked much nicer when it was up. I picture you and I can always picture you much better with your hair up. I think I developed a

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liking for pigtails when I went out with Mary and liked to see them for that reason. You look very cute in pigtails but I still think your hair looks better when it's up. You look a lot more sophisticated and – I don't know just what word I'm looking for but it's nice. I think I love you an awful lot Darling. I'll be very glad when we're married. You'll have a very hard time getting me out of your sight, ever. You won't mind will you? I've got to eat dinner now so goodbye Sweetheart.

All my Love and Kisses

Freddie