

May 12 1944

Dolores Darling;

Surprised? I don't imagine you realized just what a bargain you were getting in a husband when you selected me did you? Yes ma'am, you certainly are lucky.

We started our seventh week of training for the third time today. Next we – as we start our fourth time we will all give the lecture [scratched out word] in unison with the lecturing officer. That mistake back there was caused [scratched out word] by my allowing myself to forget the limitations of this infernal machine

Some of the boys are scheduled to leave here in the not too distant future. I am quite certain that I will not be among this number tho [sic] since the C.O. says that he is quite sure they will be men with previous medical experience. He did say, however, that it is quite possible that we [scratched out word] will not finish our training here. The major got up this morning and was told that he was no longer in charge of our battalion and that he could [scratched out word] expect to ship at any time.

It has been hotter than the devil here today. I must have drunk a barrel of water today and as fast as I drank it I would sweat it out. I can't remember having minded the heat so much. It is so gosh darned muggy here. If it is that hot tomorrow we will all melt at that parade we are supposed to have. On top of that we have a hike Wednesday morning from 8 in the morning until noontime. I'm at least thankful that we are not having it in the afternoon. It would really be hot then.

Bob is C.Q. tonite [sic] so I came in here to keep him company and here I am writing you a letter Bob is sitting here quietly watching fellows come back from and is wishing audibly that he wasn't quite so poor so that we too would have sometning [sic] more than a quiet evening of chiseling at the U.S.O. to look forward to. We have discovered a new place to get food tho. [sic] It is the catholic U.S.O. I won't feel too guilty about going there because Dave Warren will go with us and since he is a devout catholic and undoubtedly has a legitimate right there we can consider ourselves his guests and ease our consciences that way. Then too, it is about time some of my investments in the Sunday baskets paid dividends. How easy it is to ease the pinch of conscience when the pinch on the pocketbook is even greater, and it most assuredly is. I'm still holding out famously tho [sic] and still have remaining to me at this late date \$1.30. Not bad, eh? They'd sure as heck better pay me soon because I am in the process of growing a splendid mane.

That hot sun gave me a headache which I have just succeeded in getting rid of it.

I wish it were this weekend that you were coming. Three weeks seems such an awfully long time to wait, but then I'd like to see you all the time. They army just doesn't understand this or doesn't want to understand I sometimes think that they don't give a damn whether I'm happy or not. A very despicable attitude to have.

Bob has just told me that what I should have done was double spaced this letter. The next time I'll have to try that except that I doubt if the next time I will use a writing machine. I'm really a pioneer at heart and like to rough it. This is fun until the novelty and a couple layers of skin on my index finger wear off and then it all assumes the gigantic proportions of work. I don't know just how much longer I and the finger can hold out but I feel that we are weakening fast so I'll call it quits tonite [sic] and will be back tomorrow with a letter in longhand. This typing racket is rugged.

Goodnite [sic] Sweetheart. I love you very much and hope I can see you very soon.

All my love and kisses

Freddie