

Saturday

Good Morning Darling;

Our first week here is all over and we have all been classified which is fine except that I think they are discovering that the medical training schools are all being closed and we cannot go to them. I don't know what they'll figure out to do with us but I'm not worrying. I got credit for 13 weeks of basic training and I only took a few days of it actually. The interviewer recommended me for a transfer to the Air Corps but I doubt very much if it will go thru. [sic] I'll just hope it does but fear it doesn't. If we do by any chance go to schools later, after our basic training, I chose X-ray school, Chem Lab school, and dental school. All of them are rather soft jobs so I guess I won't kill myself working.

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They've split us up already. Gold, Nevin and Gemmell moved out of our tent, which leaves Bob, Manny & [scratched out word] me in undisputed possession. Knipple also has gone to another battalion. I hope the rest of us go out together.

Yesterday we had to run the obstacle courses in the hot sun. It wasn't very bad but was quite long & had a lot of obstacles. Later we have to run over it with packs on our backs. One of the obstacles was a wide ditch which we were supposed to cross by swinging across on a rope. I grabbed the rope too high and just barely got my toes on the opposite bank where I teetered for a while and then went over backward into the ditch. I'll know better the next time.

We underwent our first serious thunderstorm last nite. [sic] We had a downpour of rain accompanied by litening [sic] and thunder. This was

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great for Manny who is deathly afraid of litening [sic] and thunder. He stayed [scratched out word] awake all nite [sic] long. We discovered just how many leaks the tent has. It has two serious leaks and a couple more which may develop into something serious later – One of the bad leaks is right over the bed I formerly occupied. As soon as Gemmell moved out I moved right into his bed. There was a leak over Manny's bed and he was considerably wet. I expected the tent to fly away at any minute. It's rather a terrifying experience.

At the present time the three of us are goofing off thru [sic] no fault of our own. We came into our tent to sweep it out while the rest of the comp-

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any was policing the area and when we finished we discovered that we were the only ones left in the company area, the others had all gone out to drill. Now we are just sitting tite [sic] with the entrance of our tent closed and are hoping that we aren't discovered. Not that they'd do anything if we were but it's still best not to attract attention of an unfavorable kind if you can help it.

Gosh I'm awfully sleepy. I'm falling asleep as I write this letter.

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One of the sergeants just came in and got us out to help adjust the tents for inspection. We're having inspection in about fifteen minutes I wish it was over.

The colonel around here is a horticulturist so as a result we are going to have one of the most beautiful regiments in the Army. He wants us to plant flowers around all the tents.

5.

I hope they let us plant a rambling rose bush in front of our tent to form an arch over the entrance. I think that would be very nice. Bob would like a potted ivy to hang in the middle of the tent. Yessir, we'll sure have a pretty area here.

Tonite [sic] we make our first excursion into Rockford. I'm anxious to see what it is like, I've heard so many conflicting reports about it that I'm curious. I'd so much rather spend the week end in East Lansing tho. [sic] I miss you and awful lot Darling and hope I can see you very soon. They should have left me at Custer, I was really much happier there since I was much closer to you. I love you Darling – an awful lot. I hope you don't mind my telling you. I really like to hear you tell me you love me Dorothy Dix or no, I still like to hear it.

6.

So you're becoming the shining lite of knowledge in your classes eh? That's nice, but you realize that if you get good marks I'll be blamed for your not having had better marks before. That's all right with me tho. [sic] You just go ahead and get some very good marks this term.

I wont get paid until the supplementary payroll comes out next month – just about in time for your birthday. I think you must've fixed it up with the Army. I'll really [scratched out word] have to behave myself till then since I have no money. Don't gloat, maybe there'll be a nice rich gal with a big car, etc. I still don't think you'll have competition tho [sic] Sweetheart. It would take an awful lot of competing for any one [sic] else to even start to rival you. I still think I'm in love with you to a tremendous extent. You don't mind do you?

7.

I just finished reading the cartoon book "Barnaby" by Crockett Johnson. It's a carton strip that appears in the P.M. daily paper and is very amusing. I got quite boot out of it. I also perused that book on living on a farm without farming and they had a million and one jobs that a person could do to earn money in the country. It sounded pretty good. We'll have to try it in the hills of New Hampshire. It'll be a lot of fun.

Everyone is waiting around for inspection to start now. I wish it would so we could get it over with and of four minds. I want to rest in peace for a while before dinner. This morning for breakfast I had four fried eggs, a lot of bacon, some pineapple juice,

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a large bowl of cereal and two cups of milk. I waited till the very end before I ate so I had a lot of stuff to eat. That's the best system.

One of our boys was just turning on a faucet last nite [sic] when litening [sic] struck somewhere nearby and he got a shock in his hand and arm which paralyzed his whole arm and fingers for about fifteen minutes. He was one scared boy.

Well, here comes the inspection so I'll end this letter Sweetheart. Goodbye for now. I got a letter from you yesterday, one that you wrote Monday. It was swell to hear from you again. It'll probably take a few days before I start getting letters directly here. They'll all get here tho [sic] so keep on writing I love to hear from you.

All my Love and Kisses

Freddie