

Tuesday

Dearest Dolores;

This morning it is raining to beat the devil. It started last nite [sic] and has just kept up ever since. I doubt if we'll do much of anything today – at least I hope not. We're supposed to change our tents today and they're going to try to get at least one non com in each tent so I guess I may have to part company with Bob and Manny. I hope not but maybe.

I am now an expert [scratched out word] bandager and can put on circular, spiral, oblique, recurrent, gauntlet and demi gauntlet bandages with the greatest of ease. I'll have to show you. Also pressure points – Hmmm! We're learning all this sort of stuff which is extremely boresome but which it is claimed is very good for us. It may be good but it's still boring.

This morning I just blinked my eyes tight and the lieutenant though I was sleeping, consequently I was told to stay awake. I explained that I only blinked my eyes to rest them and the next thing I

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knew I was invited up on the stage to help hold a chart he was using. I am being kidded by all the fellows now and am asked if my eyes are quite rested.

They announced today that all corporals and sergeants are eligible for guard duty and K.P. that is great. All the privates from M.S.C. are rubbing it into us corporals and sergeants, oh well! I've gotten away without working for quite awhile and have no complaints.

Today was moving day. I am now in a six man tent – in charge of the tent, a position of responsibility you know – with fine fellows whom I do not know at all, but who – with the exception of one – seem to be nice fellows. Three of them are quite young and eager and only have a couple of months in the Army. The other two have had almost a year in. One is in his thirties and the other in his late twenties.

Your cookies just came. I haven't opened the package yet. I'm waiting to open them after I eat so I can have them as dessert. Thank you very much Darling.

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It's hotter than the devil again today. I think that summer has set it for good. I'd love to spend it with you too. As you said, it is too bad there can't be two of me, one for the Army and one for you but after all you have my heart and that something the Army never had an never will have. Then when the war is over we'll really appreciate one another all the more. It's one heck of a price to pay tho [sic] because I'd appreciate you as much without this period of separation.

Just got two letters from you Sweetheart. It is nice, very nice to receive letters from you. I certainly do want to see you a week from Saturday, in fact I'd like to see you today if I could. I think that I may be able to get into Lansing then. I'll look up all train and bus schedules to Chicago and back, would you please check all busses and trains between Lansing and Chicago and also between Jackson and Chicago if you can. I'm quite sure I could spend all day Sunday with you in Lans

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ing, then after I get paid you could meet me in Chicago. I think this would work out much better. I can have one of the boys make a reservation for you in a hotel in Chicago next week end [scratched out word] in case the connections aren't good enough – altho [sic] I'm quite sure they will be – and I can cancel it when I go thru [sic] Chicago on my way to Lansing. I can get a train out of here at 6:00 P.M. for Chicago which I think gets there at about 8:30 or 9:00 P.M. I can call you to make final arrangements next Wednesday nite. [sic] O.K.? You tell your mother than I extended a permanent invitation to you to try to meet me whenever and wherever possible will you and that when you wrote about coming to meet me in Chicago you were only acting on my instructions and that if you hadn't written I would've twisted your arm the next time we met and I love you – how's that for all in one breath?

Rumors and reports! Reports and rumors! The latest one – straight from somebody who knows somebody who

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probably has a friend who own a Ouija board – is that we take a full fourteen weeks of basic training at the end of which we have a three week furlough, then – who knows!!! I love to think of that three weeks furlough as being within the realm of possibility but feat that such a fantastic tale can only have emanated from the depths of a marijuana dream, altho [sic] in reality the whole thing really came from a company commanders [scratched out word] meeting held this morning.

My showers the past couple of days have all been taken in ice cold water. I wait till just about everyone has had a shower and then go in to bathe undisturbed. It's much better altho [sic] much colder. At this rate your future husband will be competition for the El Street Brownies – a group of bathers who go for a dip in the ocean every day of the year even in the dead of winter when the temperature is way below zero.

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So you have doubts about going to California eh? You and Neva would probably not get along too well if you went out there together. I don't know just how you'd like working in Boston itself. It's a swell place to visit and stroll thru [sic] but is rather a rough place to live in, especially for a person from another part of the country. If you lived in the suburbs and commuted it would be much better. You might even live in Lynn which isn't too far from Boston. But maybe before you ever start thinking of where you'll go when you graduate I'll be back with you so don't make any definite plans Honey. I do so hope I am with you before then.

We are wearing sun tans here now. They certainly are welcome in this heat. I have five sets of them counting the ones I bought myself. They should be sufficient unto my needs I hope. Two pairs of trousers have to be taken in as

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the waist and two of the shirts have to be cleaned and have stipes saved on them. You never have seen me in sun tans have you? I should lose enough weight in the next couple of weeks to fit comfortably into my best suntans.

Mac pinning Jere certainly was a surprise to me. Do you know when they intend to be married? I just can't imagine it and neither can Bob. He's really flabbergasted. Some people do the strangest things.

I thought Mac was practically impervious to women too. You never can tell about those things tho [sic] can you? I know.

This letter has really been written piecemeal – I write a little whenever I get a chance and sometimes it may seem rather disjointed and nonsensical but I hope that thruout [sic] the hole thing I have been able to leave you with the idea that I love you very much and miss you more than I could ever describe paper because I do love you Darling. Very, very much.

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I must close this letter now and go to bed. I'll see you in a dream darling so until then I send you

All my love

And a hug and kiss

Freddie