

Thursday

My Darling;

Another day of unearthly heat finds me wishing it to a close and wishing that I could be with you canoeing on Red Cedar or doing some other such, much more pleasant than staying around here, activity.

This morning I went on sick call to have my feel looked after. They treated a couple of blisters but did nothing at all about my right foot which is bothering me. It always does when I walk any distance on a hot pavement as I did yesterday. I'll live thru [sic] it tho. [sic] I always have heretofore.

A couple more of the boys are going to military intelligence at Camp Ritchie. One of them is Domergue, who is quite unhappy about the whole thing since his wife has come here to Rockford and he has an apartment here. I don't blame him at all.

In the afternoon we had a class in bandaging in which I did a quite thorough job of [scratched out word] bandaging Dave Warren's jaw. He could hardly open it to speak & got slightly panicky so that [scratched out word] I had to practically hold him down while I put on the last of the bandage. After that we were marched back to the company where we got shovels & axes and were marched a mile away from the camp to a nice sunny field where we had to dig foxholes six feet deep by three feet in diameter. All this

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excavating was done with the shovel just about the [scratched out word] size of a good sized soup spoon. As the field was right out in the sun I really perspired. I'm wasting away to a shadow so you had better curb your weight Honey. Don't worry about my getting my arms around you tho. [sic] I'll manage that, quite well thank you. Just as long as you're around for me to put my arms around. That's all that I'm interested in.

Our laundry won't be in until Saturday of this week. This'll mean that I'll probably have to [scratched out word] washout some clothes – as much as I hate to work in this heat – and as soon as Pay Day comes I'll have to buy myself a lot of new clothes. That pay day really will come in handy for a lot of things. It's just about in time for your birthday too.

Poor Dave Warren has K.P. again only this time it's nite [sic] K.P. He has to work from six o'clock tonite [sic] until six o'clock in the morning peeling potatoes, washing pot and pans, tending fires, etc. He does get all day tomorrow off tho [sic] but it is really quite well worth it. That is a tough job. I feel rather guilty about not drawing any details but I'm not going to do anything to alter the situation at all. I'm quite happy without them altho [sic] they do give us plenty of tough training.

I missed mail call tonite [sic] because I didn't get in to eat till late. There was a letter for me – from you I hope – but I won't

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be able to get it until tomorrow noon.

I think I drank too much when I got in from that foxhole digging detail. I was completely dehydrated so I had a couple of cokes, a couple of nice long drinks of water at supper time and topped it off with a beer on my way here to the Service Club. I think that the beer was just too much. It's amazing what an enormous thirst I have acquired with the advent of this hot weather.

I'm awfully anxious for the week end when you will be here. It will be so wonderful. I hope we can spend a lot of our time alone. I want to just see you and hold you again. It seems so long since the last time. You'll never know how much I miss you Darling. Honest, [scratched out word] cross my heart.

Bob got a letter from Joh Maynard yesterday. John is getting along quite well and likes his work. He is even on good terms with Sergeant Grechi, the mad Russian. The other day there was an inspection out on the field and the C.O. told Sam [scratched out word] Schwartz his hat was on crooked. Grechi turned around and in a loud clear voice said "Schwartz, that is two times today you goof off, for that you will pay." In his beautiful Russian accent. Poor San just murmured almost inaudibly. "It's only the first time". A glare from Grechi wiped out all further opposition. I haven't gotten a reply yet from my letter to Mac.

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I'll bring this letter to a close now Sweet because it's much too hot too [sic] sit here for too long.

Goodbye now Darling.

I love you.

Freddie