

Thursday

My Own Dearest Darling;

Didn't I say I'd write to you tonite. [sic] I don't think you believed I would. Gosh, I hate this damned camp. It personifies the army system perfectly. There's no rhyme or reason for anything they do. It's all a waste of time, men, and money, all of which are very precious. God, if only this war would end so I could settle down to leading the life a human being should live. Why must people persist in fighting futile wars when they know that all they will do I spill a lot of blood and set civilization back another hundred years. This business of satisfying the conscience by blaming the wars on one particular nationality of people is no better than the Nazi ideology of blaming the majority of the

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troubles in the world to the Jews. All that this accomplishes is soothing of the ego but it does not get at the real root of the trouble. Every person in the world is equally to blame for wars. It's everyone's responsibility and yet nobody will realize it and after this war they will be satisfied with a little superficial blood letting and taxing of the vanquished and go merrily on their way paving a path for future wars etc. It's all so damned hopeless. I hope to God that this one does end soon tho. [sic]

Your husband is a would be philosopher, Darling. I'll leave off my ranting and raving tho [sic] to tell you how wonderful it was to hear your voice tonite. [sic] It makes it seem like a very long time since I saw you last when I think of the ten days ahead and the ten days ahead seem like an eternity the end of which lies years and years away. I'll be so glad when it ends and I can

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get a pass to go to Lansing again.

Gosh, but it's hot here. I just about melted in that telephone booth while I was talking with you. When I got out my shirt was completely saturated. I just wringed out my handkerchief in an ash tray and the precipitation floated the butts. It's terrific.

I guess they do have a program mapped out for us this next week because the first sergeant in charge of my platoon told me we'd have five nite [sic] problems as well as classes all thru the day. He also told me that Colonel McKonkee was in charge of us personally and that he'd probably move us out into the country for a few days. I hope not because they say the woods are full of chiggers and I wouldn't care to tangle with any of them if I don't have to. The best feature

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of being here in the present area is the fact that we have latrines with hot water so we can shower. If we go out into the woods we won't see a bath for the time we're there. I imagine that if the weather keeps us one could get quite mellow in a few days. I wish they'd just [scratched out word] cut out these classes and substitute exercises for them because we've had all these classes over and over ever since we got here.

The major in command of us and his adjutant – the captain I told you I knew are swell eggs. If only McKonkie stays away. This morning the captain was talking to me while I rolled my pack and the Major [scratched out word] came over stalked with me also. When they started to walk away they were

joined by a second lieutenant. Just then I remembered that I wanted to ask the Captain something so I called him, asked the question, got my

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answer and left without saluting – I just never thought of it because he's so easy to talk to. The poor second lieutenant couldn't figure out how I got away with it I guess because he was just open mouthed. It was quite funny to see him.

I'd love to kiss you right now, Sweet, If only you were near this bivouac would be nice. As it is it is nothing but a barrier between you and me which I resent very much. It must be that I love you quite well.

I'm going to tread the straight and narrow during the bivouac tho [sic] because I don't want to be endanger my chances of a pass. Just to be sure I didn't succumb to temptation I did not leave my sun tans in Bob's tent but am going to turn them in

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tomorrow as I'm supposed to. Greater love hath no man. Since I came back here to write to you I was unable to get that copy of "Won and Peace. I'll have Bob get it for me. I'll be able to read it if I get any spare time. Of course, since I'll get to bed at about 9:00 P.M. every nite [sic] I won't have an awful lot of [scratched out word] time in the evening. I can write letters in class so that will save time.

The thought of sleeping on that hard cold ground isn't very cheering. Of course, as I said, if you were there to sleep with me it would seem like the most wonderful thing in the world. Isn't it odd how circumstances alter situations. I guess that in this case, however, it's more natural than funny. That's the way it will be always when we can get married wont it Honey?

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I guess I'd better close now because the pen is out ink so good nite [sic] Darling. I love you Sweet. Always. Sweet dreams!

Your Constant Lover

Freddie

Friday Morning:

Good Morning Darling! I slept fairly well last nite [sic] and since I slept in my fatigue pants and put the bottoms of the pant legs in my stockings. The ground was very hard but I only woke up once during the nite. [sic] Of course I did have nitemares [sic] and dreamed that they were calling me out at about 2:30 A.M. to see if we had all our clothing. Such gruesome dreams I have. It looks as if it might rain today, I'll have

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To dig a little drainage trench around the tent so it doesn't wash away. Goodbye Darling. I love you with all my heart

Forever

Freddie