

Wednesday

My Dear Little Darling;

I realize more and more everyday just how terribly much I really do love you and it is an awful lot Sweetheart. More than anyone ever loved anyone else. You're absolutely the nicest and sweetest person in the whole world. You wonderful Darling and I realize now that the love I have for you is one that will just keep growing forever. It is one that has no bounds because each day it grows. It does seem rather awesome tho [sic] when I realize how much I do love you. Awesome and rather impossible that I or anyone could ever love so much. It's very nice to think about tho. [sic] And to tell you about so you'll realize just how dearly beloved you are.

2.

It was very nice speaking to you this morning altho [sic] I imagine my conversation was rather weird and disjointed. You see, I called you up to ask you if you would marry me next week if I could get a three day pass, but at the last minute I decided against it. I did finally decide against it because of a few factors. When we're married I want you to have a real wedding with a wedding gown, etc. We could not have had this if we had decided to get married right away. I want a picture of you and I before an altar and you in a nice wedding gown. Sounds rather odd coming from an old atheist such as I am doesn't it. I can't explain just why I feel this way about it except to say that that is the picture I want to carry forever when I think of our wedding day. It would be very wonderful don't you think.

3.

I love you very much now and a wedding ring would not make me love you more, I couldn't. Right after we're married I want to leave on a nice long honeymoon with you and a three day pass would scarcely allow for this. I think that regardless how nice it would be to be married now, it would still be much nicer if we waited till after the war. If only I hadn't been so darned foolish and has married you on my furlough as I should have. Gosh, how I love you.

I guess I'll go on with my installments of life on bivouac now. Yesterday I had to exchange some sleep so I went over to the supply room and they made me take the shoes off and lie down while they took the shoes over to the Quartermaster warehouse to exchange them. I had a nice four hour

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sleep in the meantime. In the afternoon I went over and visited with Bob Kennedy because the company has all gone out on bivouac and [scratched out word] left me alone. It was very nice. Last nite [sic] we had off but it rained to beat the devil so I spent the nite [sic] keeping the rain out of the tent. Our tent, small tho [sic] it may be, is relatively water proof. Much more so than the pyramidal tents I have been sleeping in. The ditch around the tent filled rapidly and started to overflow so I sat inside the tent trying to keep the raincoat anchored over the entrance with one hand and digging a connecting ditch away from the tent to let the water drain out. I was much busier than a one armed paper hanger ever dreamed of being especially since there was a heavy wind which was really raising hell with that raincoat and driving the rain right into the tent.

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When the downpour started one fellow stood out in the pouring rain in his undershirt and, shaking his fist at the blackened sky, yelled, "Rain, Goddam it, rain! I hope it downs every goddamned ant in Camp Grant." Another tried to cover the entrance of his tent with a raincoat only to have the tent spring a leak near the center of the top. He just cussed, pulled some blankets around himself, put on the raincoat over everything and just sat in the center of the tent letting the water leak in thru [sic] the hole and stream in thru [sic] the front. It really was a very bad storm and yet I doubt if it rained enough to do the crops around here much good.

This morning I went on sick call to have my feet painted and

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to have a blister taken care of. That took up the whole morning and at about 11:00 A.M. all of us who had been on sick call marched out three miles to where the company was – at a [scratched out word] very leisurely pace too you may rest assured We got there just in time to eat. After eating we put on a problem where we had to take some wounded men from the front lines back to a collecting station. I was one of those selected to be a casualty and had to lie down on the river bank for a couple of hours until they came along with a stretcher and carried me back about a half mile to the collecting station. It was a wonderful way to kill an afternoon. I listened to an old first sergeant, who had been retired from the army and called back to service, tell me about being in Nicaragua with the Marines, and in Burma with Stilwell. He was with Stilwell on his retreat [scratched out word] from Burma.

7.

Friday or Saturday we are scheduled to go out about five miles to another bivouac area. I'm just as glad because it will help pass time. Time hangs very heavy on my hands now. These last two weeks have been eternity. It will be so good to be with you again. I miss you more every day. You letters are a great help tho. [sic] I got quite a boot out of the letter I received today because you seemed very sore about the way that your assistant was always loafing and reading books. Why don't you get her on the ball. Maybe she's one of those people who have to be told everything.

We were supposed to have a beer and coke party with lite refreshments tonite [sic] but it was cancelled and we're going to have it Saturday nite [sic] instead. It's just as well because we'll need it more then than

8.

we do now.

I'm now reading the book "War & Peace" by Leo Tolstoy. It was recommended to me by several people and I thought I'd read it in the few spare moments I may have around here. It's very good so [scratched out word] far. I've finished 100 of the 1100 pages. I'll get thru [sic] it yet.

Goodbye for now Sweetheart. We'll be together in a dream and a little while from now we'll be together in reality. I love you

Forever

Freddie